Electron Collisions: Experiment, Theory, and Applications Klaus Bartschat Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa 50311, USA



Allis-Prize Talk, GEC 2017





OVERVIEW:

Acknowledgements

- I. Motivation: The Need for Electron Collision Data
- **II. Examples of Experimental Progress**
- **III.** Examples of Theoretical/Computational Progress
- **IV. Examples of Applications**
 - V. Conclusions, Outlook, and Related Topics

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DISCLAIMER:

This talk is a (hopefully coherent) story. It is NOT a Review! I apologize in advance if your favorite experiment, theory, or application is not mentioned :-(

- **III. Examples of Theoretical/Computational Progress**
- **IV. Examples of Applications**
 - V. Conclusions, Outlook, and Related Topics

Acknowledgements: Why I am here today ...



Will Allis Without his pioneering work, there would be no Will Allis Prize.

Acknowledgements: Why I am here today ...



Bill Graham nominated me.

Will Allis Without his pioneering work, there would be no Will Allis Prize.

Acknowledgements: Why I am here today ...



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2016 Allis Prize Selection Committee: James Lawler (Chair), Gregory Hebner, David Graves, James Colgan, Morty Khakoo

Acknowledgements:



My parents and Joachim Keßler (my Diploma supervisor)

I used to be an experimentalist, but I was much better seeing the light with the eyes of a theorist than installing and using a photo-multiplier.

But there is more ...



Friedrich Hanne

let me work in his lab anyway. [(No) UHV and a GaAs crystal sealed my conversion to theory.]

And more ...



Karl Blum

co-supervised my Diploma and PhD theses. [He also showed me that a *real theorist* can do with just 0, +/- 1, and i. Everything else can be renormalized or be called $< T_{KQ}^+ >$.]



And more ...

Phil Burke (Allis Prize winner in 2012)

taught me about computers and especially the R-matrix method. According to a colleague, there was nothing to worry about in Belfast, because "Phil knows EVERYTHING!"



Don Madison

brought me to Des Moines and is ultimately responsible for my position at Drake University. Don also dragged me along to my first Gaseous Electronics Conference.

And more...



John Giuliani came to one of my GEC posters and said: "Why don't you do something useful?"

And more...

Oleg Zatsarinny has been a close collaborator at Drake University since 2003. Oleg produced a lot of high-quality data with his B-spline R-matrix code.





There are many more colleagues/friends who have played a significant role in my scientific career – experimentalists, theorists, data producers, and data users. I can't name you all, but

Thank You!

And it certainly wouldn't have been possible without financial support from: German Research Council, British Council, NATO, Drake University, Research Corporation, and the United States National Science Foundation



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Klaus, get well soon!

Many Thanks also for the Good Wishes!



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Nor would it have been possible without





Teresa Erika Nick



Thanks for listening so far. The rest of the talk is on physics.



PERSPECTIVE

SNAS

Electron collisions with atoms, ions, molecules, and surfaces: Fundamental science empowering advances in technology

Klaus Bartschat^{a,1} and Mark J. Kushner^b

Edited by David A. Weitz, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA, and approved May 16, 2016 (received for review April 16, 2016)

Electron collisions with atoms, ions, molecules, and surfaces are critically important to the understanding and modeling of low-temperature plasmas (LTPs), and so in the development of technologies based on LTPs. Recent progress in obtaining experimental benchmark data and the development of highly sophisticated computational methods is highlighted. With the cesium-based diode-pumped alkali laser and remote plasma etching of Si_3N_4 as examples, we demonstrate how accurate and comprehensive datasets for electron collisions enable complex modeling of plasma-using technologies that empower our high-technology-based society.

electron scattering | close coupling | ab initio | plasmas | kinetic modeling

Motivation: The Need for Electron Collision Data DIODE-PUMPED ALKALI LASERS (DPALs)

- DPAL is a class of optically pumped lasers that leverage inexpensive semiconductor diode lasers to pump alkali vapor.
- Poor optical quality, wide bandwidth of diode laser (DL) is converted into high optical quality, narrow bandwidth from alkali laser.



- DL pumps the $D_2(^2S_{1/2} \rightarrow {}^2P_{3/2})$
- Collisional quenching: ${}^{2}P_{3/2} \rightarrow {}^{2}P_{1/2}$
- Lasing on $D_1({}^2P_{1/2} \rightarrow {}^2S_{1/2})$
- Requires inversion of ground state.
- Collisional quenching agent N₂

(slide adapted from a presentation by M. J. Kushner, University of Michigan, Institute for Plasma Science & Engineering.)

Mark Kushner (Allis Prize 2010)



- Remote plasma sources (RPS) for microelectronics fabrication
- Separate plasma production, transport and processing regions.



• Schematic of RPS.[1]

- Produce dominantly neutral fluxes of radicals for etching, cleaning, surface passivation.
- Decrease damage by charging and energetic ion bombardment.
- Example: $NF_3/O_2 RPS$ for Si_3N_4 etching.

(slide adapted from a presentation by M. J. Kushner, University of Michigan, Institute for Plasma Science & Engineering.)

WOW! Modelers need a lot of data ...



Production and Assessment of Atomic Data

- Data for electron collisions with atoms and ions are needed for **modeling processes** in
 - laboratory plasmas, such as discharges in lighting and lasers
 - astrophysical plasmas
 - planetary atmospheres
- The data are obtained through
 - experiments
 - valuable but expensive (\$\$\$) benchmarks (often differential in energy, angle, spin, ...)
 - often problematic when absolute (cross section) normalization is required
 - calculations (Opacity Project, Iron Project, ...)
 - relatively cheap
 - almost any transition of interest is possible
 - often restricted to particular energy ranges:
 - high (\rightarrow Born-type methods)
 - low (\rightarrow close-coupling-type methods)
 - cross sections may peak at "intermediate energies" (\rightarrow ???)
 - good (or bad?) guesses
- Sometimes the results are (obviously) wrong or (more often) inconsistent!

Basic Question: WHO IS RIGHT? (And WHY???) For complete data sets, theory is often the "only game in town"!

Let's start with experiment: Total Cross Sections

PHYSICAL REVIEW A VOLUME 19, NUMBER 2 FEBRUARY 1979

Absolute total cross sections for electron-mercury scattering

K. Jost and B. Ohnemus

Physikalisches Institut, Westfälische Wilhelms Universität, Münster, Germany (Received 25 April 1978)

The total cross section for e^{-} -Hg scattering has been measured in the energy range between 0.1 and 500 eV. Absolute data taken at a few energies by means of a static target were used to normalize the relative cross sections, which were measured in the whole energy range by scattering from an atomic beam. This technique was used to help meet the high-angular-resolution requirements. The cross sections obtained are considerably larger than those obtained in most of the other measurements performed around 1930. Satisfactory agreement is found, however, with semiempirical cross sections (mainly based on recent measurements) and with a recent theoretical calculation. The most pronounced structure is a cross section maximum at 0.4 eV, which probably can be ascribed to a $(6s \, {}^{2}6p_{1/2})^{2}P_{1/2}$ shape resonance.

Nevertheless, there are surprisingly few measurements of the total cross section, ³⁻⁶ and moreover these are not very recent. These old data are now considered to be rather unreliable.⁷

Transmission Setup: *I* = *I*₀ exp(-nlQ)



(0.1-70 eV) with atomic beam target. Deflector plates are denoted by DP.



FIG. 3. Target cell for absolute measurements. This arrangement is used together with the electron optics of Fig. 1.

$$I = I_0 \exp(-n l Q) , \qquad (1)$$

where

$$Q = (nl)^{-1} \ln(I_0/I) \sim \ln(I_0/I)$$
(2)

is the total cross section. An absolute measurement of Q requires knowledge of n and l, whereas the relative shape of the cross-section curve versus energy E can be obtained even in an inhomogeneous target such as an atomic beam, if care is taken to keep the product of mean path FIG. 1. Electron optical arrangement for low energie length l and mean target density n constant during the measurement. In order to check the constancy

Swarm Experiments (Phelps, Crompton, ...)

THE MOMENTUM TRANSFER CROSS SECTION FOR ELECTRONS IN HELIUM

By R. W. CROMPTON,* M. T. ELFORD,* and R. L. JORY*†

Measurements of the drift velocity, the ratio of diffusion coefficient to mobility, and the "magnetic drift velocity" for electrons in helium have been made at 293°K in the range $1.8 \times 10^{-19} < E/N < 3 \times 10^{-17}$ V cm². From an analysis of the drift velocity data, an energy-dependent momentum transfer cross section has been derived for which an error of less than $\pm 2\%$ is claimed over the central portion of the energy range. The cross section agrees with the theoretical cross section of ...



Swarm Experiments and Their Interpretation

- Pioneered by "GEC Giants" such as Art Phelps and Bob Crompton.
- General Idea (thanks to Leanne Pitchford for enlightening me):
 - Pull electrons through a gas and measure macroscopic parameters such as:
 - transition times (\rightarrow drift velocity, mobility)
 - \bullet radial or axial spreading (\rightarrow diffusion coefficients)
 - current growth (\rightarrow ionization rates)
 - In "equilibrium conditions", these parameters depend on the "reduced electric field" E/N, the gas (composition), and the relevant cross sections. In low-energy elastic scattering, the momentum transfer cross section dominates.
- Absolute (momentum transfer) cross sections are determined indirectly as follows:
 - (1) Assume an initial set of cross sections.
 - (2) Calculate the macroscopic parameters.
 - (3) Assume that any deviations are due to errors in the assumed cross sections.
 - (4) Adjust the cross section(s) until things fit.
 - (5) Hope for:
 - convergence of the procedure;
 - uniqueness of the results in multi-parameter fits.

indirect measurement

Other Techniques (Incomplete List)

- Optical Emission:
 - State-Selective
 - Relative
 - Cascade Effects
- Time-of-Flight Setups (Metastables)
- Storage Rings (e-Ion Collisions)
- Integrate Angle-Differential Cross Sections from Crossed-Beam Setups
 - **State-Selective** (measure energy loss/gain)
 - Often Relative Absolute Normalization Attempts include
 - Mixed-Flow Technique with a Reference Gas
 - Generalized Oscillator Strength
 - Help from Theory (Yes, we are good for something!)



Angle-Differential Cross Sections

Michael Allan's high-resolution spectrometer to measure:

- specific angles
- specific transitions (energy selection)



The "Magnetic Angle Changer" (MAC), developed by Reid and Channing, makes it possible to measure the full angular range, including 180°.





This is how it really looks like!



Move on to Computational Methods

Choice of Computational Approaches

- Which one is right for YOU?
 - Perturbative (Born-type) or Non-Perturbative (close-coupling, timedependent, ...)?
 - Semi-empirical or fully ab initio?
 - How much input from experiment?
 - Do you trust that input?
 - Predictive power? (input \leftrightarrow output)
- The answer depends on many aspects, such as:
 - How many transitions do you need? (elastic, momentum transfer, excitation, ionization, ... how much lumping?)
 - How complex is the target (H, He, Ar, W, H₂, H₂O, radical, DNA,)?
 - Do the calculation yourself or beg/pay somebody to do it for you?
 - What accuracy can you live with?
 - Are you interested in numbers or "correct" numbers?
 - Which numbers do really matter?

Classification of Numerical Approaches

- Special Purpose (elastic/total): OMP (pot. scatt.); Polarized Orbital
- Born-type methods
 - PWBA, DWBA, FOMBT, PWBA2, DWBA2, ...
 - fast, easy to implement, flexible target description, test physical assumptions
 - two states at a time, no channel coupling, problems for low energies and optically forbidden transitions, results depend on the choice of potentials, unitarization

• (Time-Independent) Close-coupling-type methods

- $\bullet\,$ CCn, CCO, CCC, RMn, IERM, RMPS, DARC, BSR, \ldots
- Standard method of treating low-energy scattering; based upon the expansion

$$\Psi_E^{LS\pi}(\mathbf{r}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{r}_{N+1}) = \mathcal{A} \sum_i \Phi_i^{LS\pi}(\mathbf{r}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{r}_N,\mathbf{\hat{r}}) \frac{1}{r} F_{E,i}(r)$$

- simultaneous results for transitions between **all states** in the expansion; sophisticated, publicly available codes exist; results are **internally consistent**
- expansion must be cut off (\rightarrow CCC, RMPS, IERM)
- usually, a single set of mutually orthogonal one-electron orbitals is used for all states in the expansion (\rightarrow BSR with non-orthogonal orbitals)
- Time-dependent and other direct methods
 - TDCC, ECS
 - solve the Schrödinger equation directly on a grid
 - very expensive, only possible for (quasi) one- and two-electron systems.

Recall: This talk is NOT a review!

Inclusion of Target Continuum (Ionization)

- imaginary absorption potential (OMP)
- final continuum state in DWBA
- directly on the grid and projection to continuum states (TDCC, ECS)
- add square-integrable pseudo-states to the CC expansion (CCC, RMPS, ...)

Inclusion of Relativistic Effects

- **Re-coupling** of non-relativistic results (problematic near threshold)
- Perturbative (**Breit-Pauli**) approach; matrix elements calculated between **nonrelativistic wavefunctions**
- Dirac-based approach

Time-Independent Close-Coupling

- Standard method of treating low-energy scattering
- Based upon an expansion of the total wavefunction as

$$\Psi_E^{LS\pi}(\mathbf{r}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{r}_{N+1}) = \mathcal{A} \sum_i \Phi_i^{LS\pi}(\mathbf{r}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{r}_N,\hat{\mathbf{r}}) \frac{1}{r} F_{E,i}(r)$$

 $\mathbf{H} \Psi = \mathbf{E}$

• Target states Φ_i diagonalize the N-electron target Hamiltonian according to

$$\langle \Phi_{i'} \mid H_T^N \mid \Phi_i \rangle = E_i \, \delta_{i'i}$$

• The unknown radial wavefunctions $F_{E,i}$ are determined from the solution of a system of coupled integrodifferential equations given by

$$\left[\frac{d^2}{dr^2} - \frac{\ell_i(\ell_i+1)}{r^2} + k^2\right] \, F_{E,i}(r) = 2 \sum_j V_{ij}(r) \, F_{E,j}(r) + 2 \sum_j W_{ij} \, F_{E,j}(r)$$

with the direct coupling potentials

$$V_{ij}(r) = -\frac{Z}{r} \,\delta_{ij} + \sum_{k=1}^{N} \left\langle \Phi_i \mid \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_k - \mathbf{r}|} \mid \Phi_j \right\rangle$$

and the exchange terms

$$W_{ij}F_{E,j}(r) = \sum_{k=1}^{N} \langle \Phi_i \mid \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_k - \mathbf{r}|} \mid (\mathcal{A} - 1) \, \Phi_j F_{E,j} \rangle$$

Close-coupling can yield *complete* **data sets, and the results are** *internally consistent* (unitary theory that conserves total flux)!

Total Cross Sections for Electron-Impact Excitation of Helium K. Bartschat, J. Phys. B 31 (1998) L469



In 1998, de Heer recommends 0.5 x (CCC+RMPS) for uncertainty of 10% — independent of experiment!

Metastable Excitation Function in Kr

Experiment: Buckman et al (1983), multiplied by 0.67

Theories: 31-state Breit-Pauli R-matrix (Zeman & Bartschat 1998) 51-state Breit-Pauli R-matrix (Bartschat & Grum-Grzhimailo 2000)


We have a great program now :):):)

General B-Spline R-Matrix (Close-Coupling) Programs (D)BSR

• Key Ideas:



- Consequences:
 - Much improved target description possible with small CI expansions
 - \bullet Consistent description of the N-electron target and (N+1)-electron collision problems

record: 400.000

(1 MSU = \$50,000)

- No "Buttle correction" since B-spline basis is effectively complete
- Complications:
 - Setting up the Hamiltonian matrix can be very complicated and length **to do 50-100 times**;
 - Generalized eigenvalue problem needs to be solved
 - Matrix size typically **100,000 or more** due to size of *B*-spline basis
 - Rescue: Excellent numerical properties of *B*-splines; use of (SCA)LAPACK *et al.*

We also have to solve the problem outside the box for each energy (from 100's to 100,000's).

List of early calculations with the BSR code (rapidly growing)

hv + Li	Zatsarinny O and Froese Fischer C J. Phys. B 33 313 (2000)	
<i>hv</i> + He ⁻	Zatsarinny O, Gorczyca T W and Froese Fischer C J. Phys. B. 35 4161 (2002)	
$hv + C^-$	Gibson N D et al. Phys. Rev. A 67, 030703 (2003)	at least 100 more
$hv + B^-$	Zatsarinny O and Gorczyca T W Abstracts of XXII ICPEAC (2003)	
$hv + O^-$	Zatsarinny O and Bartschat K Phys. Rev. A 73 022714 (2006)	Since 2006
$hv + Ca^{-}$	Zatsarinny O et al. Phys. Rev. A 74 052708 (2006)	
e + He	Stepanovic et al. J. Phys. B 39 1547 (2006)	
	Lange M et al. J. Phys. B 39 4179 (2006)	
e + C	Zatsarinny O, Bartschat K, Bandurina L and Gedeon V Phys. Rev. A 71 042702 (2005)	
e + O	Zatsarinny O and Tayal S S J. Phys. B 34 1299 (2001)	
	Zatsarinny O and Tayal S S J. Phys. B 35 241 (2002)	Topical Poviow:
	Zatsarinny O and Tayal S S As. J. S. S. 148 575 (2003)	
e + Ne	Zatsarinny O and Bartschat K J. Phys. B 37 2173 (2004)	J. Phys. B 46
	Bömmels J et al. Phys. Rev. A 71, 012704 (2005)	(2013) 112001
	Allan M et al. J. Phys. B 39 L139 (2006)	
e + Mg	Bartschat K, Zatsarinny O, Bray I, Fursa D V and Stelbovics A T J. Phys. B 37 2617 (2004)	
e + S	Zatsarinny O and Tayal S S J. Phys. B 34 3383 (2001)	
	Zatsarinny O and Tayal S S J. Phys. B 35 2493 (2002)	
e + Ar	Zatsarinny O and Bartschat K J. Phys. B 37 4693 (2004)	
e + K (inner-shell)	Borovik A A et al. Phys. Rev. A, 73 062701 (2006)	
e + Zn	Zatsarinny O and Bartschat K Phys. Rev. A 71 022716 (2005)	
$e + Fe^+$	Zatsarinny O and Bartschat K Phys. Rev. A 72 020702(R) (2005)	
e + Kr	Zatsarinny O and Bartschat K J. Phys. B 40 F43 (2007)	
e + Xe	Allan M, Zatsarinny O and Bartschat K Phys. Rev. A 030701(R) (2006)	
Rydberg series in C	Zatsarinny O and Froese Fischer C J. Phys. B 35 4669 (2002)	
osc. strengths in Ar	Zatsarinny O and Bartschat K J. Phys. B: At. Mol. Opt. Phys. 39 2145 (2006)	
osc. strengths in S	Zatsarinny O and Bartschat K J. Phys. B: At. Mol. Opt. Phys. 39 2861 (2006)	
osc. strengths in Xe	Dasgupta A et al. Phys. Rev. A 74 012509 (2006)	

Our Apparatus — Supercomputers



Move on to Collisions ...

Metastable yield in e-Ne collisions

• Using our semi-relativistic *B*-spline *R*-matrix (BSR) method [Zatsarinny and Bartschat, J. Phys. B 37, 2173 (2004)], we achieved unprecendented agreement with experiment for angle-integrated cross sections in e-Ne collisions.



Resonances in the excitation of the Ne (2p⁵3p) states Allan, Franz, Hotop, Zatsarinny, Bartschat (2009), J. Phys. B 42, 044009



Expanded view of the resonant features in selected cross sections for the excitation of the 3p states. Experiment is shown by the more ragged red line, theory by the smooth blue line. The present experimental energies, labels (using the notation of Buckman *et al.* (1983), and configurations of the resonances are given above the spectra. Threshold energies are indicated below the lower spectrum.

Metastable Excitation Function in Kr





PHYSICAL REVIEW A 86, 022717 (2012) **Electron-impact excitation of neon at intermediate energies** Oleg Zatsarinny and Klaus Bartschat Department of Physics and Astronomy, Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa 50311, USA (Received 18 July 2012; published 30 August 2012) tion (10⁻²⁰ cm²) 3d[3/2] 3d[1/2] 3 12 **BSR-31** 2 8 BSR-46 BSR-457 Since then, we have shown that this is a general problem in electron collisions with outer p-shell targets (e.g., C, N, F, Cl, Ar). CU 3d[3/2], 30 80 3d[1/2] Section (10⁻²⁰ 60 20 THE REAL OF 40 10 SS 20 **Convergence and sensitivity studies provide a systematic way to** assign some uncertainty to theoretical predictions, which is becoming an increasingly "hot" topic. (PRA editorial 2011, IAEA/ITAMP workshop 2014, IAEA 2016, ...)





Ionization in the Close-Coupling Formalism

• Recall: We are interested in the ionization process

 $e_0(\mathbf{k}_0, \mu_0) + A(L_0, M_0; S_0, M_{S_0}) \rightarrow e_1(\mathbf{k}_1, \mu_1) + e_2(\mathbf{k}_2, \mu_2) + A^+(L_f, M_f; S_f, M_{S_f})$

• We need the ionization amplitude

$$f(L_0,M_0,S_0;\boldsymbol{k}_0\to L_f,M_f,S_f;\boldsymbol{k}_1,\boldsymbol{k}_2)$$

- We employ the *B*-spline *R*-matrix method of Zatsarinny (CPC 174 (2006) 273) with a large number of pseudo-states:
 - These pseudo-states simulate the effect of the continuum.
 - The scattering amplitudes for excitation of these pseudo-states are used to form the ionization amplitude:
 This detour and direct projection is the essential idea we'll see if it works.

 $f(L_0, M_0, S_0; \mathbf{k}_0 \to L_f, M_f, S_f; \mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{k}_2) = \sum_p \left\langle \Psi_f^{\mathbf{k}_2^-} | \Phi(L_p S_p) \right\rangle f(L_0, M_0, S_0; \mathbf{k}_0 \to L_p, M_p, S_p; \mathbf{k}_{1p}).$

PHYSICAL REVIEW A 90, 022710 (2014)

for full disclosure ...

Ionization amplitudes in electron-hydrogen collisions

I. Bray, C. J. Guilfoile, A. S. Kadyrov, D. V. Fursa, and A. T. Stelbovics ARC Centre for Antimatter-Matter Studies, Curtin University, GPO Box U1987, Perth, WA 6845, Australia (Received 3 June 2014; published 15 August 2014)

Recently Zatsarinny and Bartschat [Phys. Rev. Lett. **107**, 023203 (2011)] have given an ansatz for extracting ionization amplitudes from close-coupling calculations of electron-impact ionization of atoms. They applied it with extraordinary success to a fully differential cross section of electron-helium single ionization leaving the residual ion in an n = 2 state. By considering electron-impact ionization of atomic hydrogen we explain the origin of the ansatz and show that it forms an effective interpolation scheme for determining the amplitudes, so long as the pseudostate energy distribution is sufficiently dense.

In the Conclusions, it is stated:

[W]e believe the ansatz presented by Zatsarinny and Bartschat [13] is in effect a useful interpolation procedure for generating ionization amplitudes at any secondary energy, but it has no formal origin ...

Some Checks: Ionization without Excitation (compare to CCC and TDCC)

Total and Single-Differential Cross Section



- Including correlation in the ground state reduces the theoretical result.
- Interpolation yields smoother result, but direct projection is acceptable.
- DIRECT PROJECTION is NECESSARY for MULTI-CHANNEL cases!

So far, so good ... Let's go for more detail!

Triple-Differential Cross Section for Direct Ionization

experiment: Ren et al. (2011)







No More Spectators: Ionization with Excitation of Helium

All Three Electrons Change Their Quantum State

(Movie by Allison Harris, Illinois State University)

BSRMPS works great: PRL 107 (2011) 023203





Closing the Loop: Collision Input —> Modeling Output —> System Information Modeling a Cs-based DPAL



Modeling a Cs-based DPAL

Information: There is significant plasma formation after a number of shots. This reduces the length of the pump pulse due to depletion of the neutral levels.



Remote plasma etching using an $Ar/NF_3/O_2$ mixture

Input from J. Tennyson's group: Many cross sections, including those for e-NF₂ (not available from experiment)

Output (M. J. Kushner's group): Densities of various species



Remote plasma etching using an $Ar/NF_3/O_2$ mixture Information: These results are being used to choose the most effective feedstock gases. Then optimize their mixture and other plasma parameters.

Input from J. Tennyson's group: Many cross sections, including those for e-NF₂ (not available from experiment)

Output (M. J. Kushner's group): Densities of various species



Conclusions and Outlook

- Despite the field's maturity, significant innovations are constantly being made to study electron collisions with atoms and molecules and they are needed!
- There exist many fruitful collaborations between experimentalists, theorists, and users outside of AMO who need (and use) these data.
- Experimental benchmark data remain very important to test and push theory!
- With such benchmark data and comparisons between predictions from highly sophisticated methods in hand, we can finally estimate uncertainties of these predictions.

J. Phys. D: Appl. Phys. 49 (2016) 363002 (27pp)

Topical Review

Uncertainty estimates for theoretical atomic and molecular data See also:

The Editors 2011 Phys. Rev. A 83 040001

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Abstract

Sources of uncertainty are reviewed for calculated atomic and molecular data that are important for plasma modeling: atomic and molecular structures and cross sections for electron-atom, electron-molecule, and heavy particle collisions. We concentrate on model uncertainties due to approximations to the fundamental many-body quantum mechanical equations and we aim to provide guidelines to estimate uncertainties as a routine part of computations of data for structure and scattering.

Conclusions and Outlook

- Despite the field's maturity, significant innovations are constantly being made to study electron collisions with atoms and molecules and they are needed!
- There exist many fruitful collaborations between experimentalists, theorists, and users outside of AMO who need (and use) these data.
- Experimental benchmark data remain very important to test and push theory!
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- Although we usually need supercomputers to get a reliable answer, there is room for interpretation of the physics. \rightarrow Propensity in equal-energy sharing (e,2e).

PHYSICAL REVIEW A 92, 052707 (2015)

Propensity for distinguishing two free electrons with equal energies in electron-impact ionization of helium

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We report a combined experimental and theoretical study on the electron-impact ionization of helium at $E_0 =$ 70.6 eV and equal energy sharing of the two outgoing electrons ($E_1 = E_2 = 23$ eV), where a double-peak or dip structure in the binary region of the triple differential cross section is observed. The experimental cross sections are compared with results from convergent close-coupling (CCC), *B*-spline *R*-matrix-with-pseudostates (BSR), and time-dependent close-coupling (TDCC) calculations, as well as predictions from the dynamic screening three-Coulomb (DS3C) theory. Excellent agreement is obtained between experiment and the nonperturbative CCC, BSR, and TDCC theories, and good agreement is also found for the DS3C model. The data are further analyzed regarding contributions in particular coupling schemes for the spins of either the two outgoing electrons or one of the outgoing electrons and the 1*s* electron remaining in the residual ion. While both coupling schemes can be used to explain the observed double-peak structure in the cross section, the second one allows for the isolation of the exchange contribution between the incident projectile and the target. For different observation angles of the two outgoing electrons, we interpret the results as a propensity for distinguishing these two electrons—one being more likely the incident projectile and the other one being more likely ejected from the target.

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PACS number(s): 34.80.Dp



FIG. 2. (color online) Three-dimensional (3D) representation of the TDCS for (e, 2e) on He at equal energy sharing $(E_1 = E_2 = 23 \text{ eV})$ as a function of the emission angle θ_2 of one electron with the other electron's detection angle θ_1 being fixed to: (a) and (b) $\theta_1 = -35^\circ$; (c) and (d) $\theta_1 = -40^\circ$; (e) and (f) $\theta_1 = -45^\circ$; (g) and (h) $\theta_1 = -50^\circ$. Left column: experiment. Right column: CCC calculation.



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Physical Interpretation: Even though both outgoing electrons have the same energy, one can assign a propensity to which peak is made by the projectile!?!? If you do not believe this, please read the paper.

Conclusions and Outlook

- Despite the field's maturity, significant innovations are constantly being made to study electron collisions with atoms and molecules and they are needed!
- There exist many fruitful collaborations between experimentalists, theorists, and users outside of AMO who need (and use) these data.
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- Although we usually need supercomputers to get a reliable answer, there is room for interpretation of the physics. \rightarrow Propensity in equal-energy sharing (e,2e).
- Knowledge about electron collisions also helps to understand photon-induced processes, in weak-field, strong-field, steady-state, and time-dependent cases.

I only have time to show a few title pages, where BSR results were used as input data for such problems.

PHYSICAL REVIEW A 89, 033417 (2014)

Time delays for attosecond streaking in photoionization of neon

Johannes Feist,^{1,2,*} Oleg Zatsarinny,³ Stefan Nagele,^{4,†} Renate Pazourek,⁴ Joachim Burgdörfer,⁴ Xiaoxu Guan,³ Klaus Bartschat,^{1,3} and Barry I. Schneider⁵

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 ⁵Office of Cyberinfrastructure, National Science Foundation, Arlington, Virginia 22230, USA (Received 13 January 2014; published 14 March 2014)

We revisit the time-resolved photoemission in neon atoms as probed by attosecond streaking. We calculate streaking time shifts for the emission of 2p and 2s electrons and compare the relative delay as measured in a recent experiment by Schultze *et al.* [Science **328**, 1658 (2010)]. The *B*-spline *R*-matrix method is employed to calculate accurate Eisenbud-Wigner-Smith time delays from multielectron dipole transition matrix elements

for photoionization. The additional lase time-dependent simulations of a full stithe single-active-electron level. The re-

closing a potential loop-hole through accurate multi-electron dipole matrix elements parate, ion on nd 2*p*

emission lie well below the experimental data. We identify the presence of unresolved shake-up satellites in the experiment as a potential source of error in the determination of streaking time shifts.

relevant for current experiments at FELs

General approach to few-cycle intense laser interactions with complex atoms

Xiaoxu Guan,¹ O. Zatsarinny,¹ K. Bartschat,¹ B. I. Schneider,² J. Feist,³ and C. J. Noble^{1,4} ¹Department of Physics and Astronomy, Drake University, Des Moines, Iowa 50311, USA ²Physics Division, National Science Foundation, Arlington, Virginia 22230, USA ³Institute for Theoretical Physics, Vienna University of Technology, A-1040 Vienna, Austria ⁴Computational Science and Engineering Department, Daresbury Laboratory, Warrington WA4 4AD, United Kingdom (Received 24 April 2007; revised manuscript received 13 September 2007; published 15 November 2007)

A general *ab initio* and nonperturbative method to solve the time-dependent Schrödinger equation (TDSE) for the interaction of a strong attosecond laser pulse with a general atom, i.e., beyond the models of quasione-electron or quasi-two-electron targets, is described. The field-free Hamiltonian and the dipole matrices are generated using a flexible *B*-spline *R*-matrix method. This numerical implementation enables us to construct term-dependent, nonorthogonal sets of one-electron orbitals for the bound and continuum electrons. The solution of the TDSE is propagated in time using the Arnoldi-Lanczos method, which does not require the diagonalization of any large matrices. The method is illustrated by an application to the multiphoton excitation and ionization of Ne atoms. Good agreement with *R*-matrix Floquet calculations for the generalized cross sections for two-photon ionization is achieved. J. Phys. B: At. Mol. Opt. Phys. 42 (2009) 134015 (8pp)

doi:10.1088/0953-4075/42/13/134015

A time-dependent *B*-spline *R*-matrix approach to double ionization of atoms by XUV laser pulses

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Abstract

We present an *ab initio* and non-perturbative time-dependent approach to the problem of double ionization of a general atom driven by intense XUV laser pulses. After using a highly flexible *B*-spline *R*-matrix method to generate field-free Hamiltonian and electric dipole matrices, the initial state is propagated in time using an efficient Arnoldi–Lanczos scheme. Test calculations for double ionization of He by a single laser pulse yield good agreement with benchmark results obtained with other methods. The method is then applied to two-colour pump–probe processes, for which momentum and energy distributions of the two outgoing electrons are presented.

(Some figures in this article are in colour only in the electronic version)

PHYSICAL REVIEW A 92, 063427 (2015)

Numerical simulation of the double-to-single ionization ratio for the helium atom in strong laser fields

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We present calculations on the ratio between double and single ionization of helium by a strong laser pulse at a wavelength of 780 nm using the quantitative rescattering (QRS) model. According to this model, the yield for the doubly charged ion He^{2+} can be obtained by multiplying the returning electron wave packet (RWP) with the total cross sections (TCSs) for electron impact ionization and electron impact excitation of He^{+} in the singlet spin channel. The singlet constraint was imposed since the interaction of the helium atom with the laser and the

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These projects need e-He⁺ (next are Ne⁺ and Ar⁺) collision data.

to

hn

for high-energy photoelectrons. The laser field, which lowers the required energy for the electron to escape from the nucleus at the time of recollision, is also taken into account. The simulated results are in good agreement with the measured He^{2+}/He^+ ratio over a broad range of laser intensities. The result demonstrates that the QRS approach based on the rescattering model is fully capable of quantitatively interpreting nonsequential double ionization processes.

The very latest: Electron scattering for quantum state engineering

Entanglement and Bell Correlation in Electron-Exchange Collisions

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Elastic collisions between initially unpolarized electrons and hydrogenlike atoms are discussed, aiming to analyze the entanglement properties of the correlated final spin system. Explicit spin-dependent interactions are neglected and electron exchange only is taken into account. We show the final spin system to be completely characterized by a single spin correlation parameter depending on scattering angle and energy. Its numerical value identifies the final spins of the collision partners to be either in the separable, entangled, or Bell correlated regions. We emphasize explicit examples for the mixed spin system in order to illustrate the abstract concepts. The analysis of published experimental and numerical data reveals the possibility to create tunable pairs of collision partners with any desired degree of spin entanglement.

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Tunable entanglement resource in elastic electron-exchange collisions out of chaotic spin systems

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Elastic collisions between initially unpolarized electrons and hydrogenlike atoms are discussed aiming to analyze the entanglement properties of the correlated final spin system. Explicit spin-dependent interactions are neglected and electron exchange only is taken into account. We show the final spin system to be completely characterized by a single spin correlation parameter depending on scattering angle and energy. Its numerical value identifies the final spins of the collision partners to be either in the separable, entangled, or Bell correlated regions. The symmetry of the scattering process allows for the construction of explicit examples applying methods of classical communication and local operations for illustrating the concepts of nonlocality versus separability. It is shown that strong correlations can be produced violating Bell's inequalities significantly. Furthermore, the degree of entanglement can be continuously varied simply by changing either the scattering angle and/or energy. This allows for the generation of tunable spin pairs with any desired degree of entanglement. It is suggested to use such nonlocally entangled spin pairs as a resource for further experiments, for example in quantum information processes.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevA.94.032331





5-state close-coupling for e-Li scattering is good enough here!



FIG. 2: Differential cross section as well as the individual contributions from the singlet and triplet total spin channels for elastic electron scattering from Li atoms at a collision energy of 3 eV. The insert shows the parameter P in the region $70^{\circ} - 130^{\circ}$. The lines at -1/3and $-1/\sqrt{2}$ mark the borders between separable and entangled as well as entangled and Bell-correlated regions, respectively.








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- Knowledge about electron collisions also helps to understand photon-induced processes, in weak-field, strong-field, steady-state, and time-dependent cases.
- And maybe the field is just about to be (re)discovered in quantum information ...

Thank You for Your Attention!