

Highly charged ions at rest – The HITRAP project at GSI



Frank Herfurth, GSI Darmstadt, for the HITRAP collaboration.

The HITRAP Project



Precision experiments on HCI

Test of quantum electrodynamics in extreme fields

- g-factor of the bound electron
- Electron correlations and relativistic effects

Determination of fundamental constants

- Mass of the electron
- Future: fine-structure constant α

Recent highlights

• g-factor measurements on H-like carbon ¹²C⁵⁺

and oxygen ¹⁶O⁷⁺ with accuracy better than 10⁻⁹

Ultra-accurate mass measurements Determination of atomic and nuclear binding energies







Laser- and X-ray spectroscopy, reaction and surface studies with HCI

Laser spectroscopy of H-like ions:

- Nuclear properties (Bohr-Weisskopf effect)
- Atomic and nuclear polarization by optical pumping
- X-ray spectroscopy with HCI:
- Precision measurements of binding energies
- Isotope shift: nuclear charge radii

Reaction microscope:

Studies of reaction kinematics of slow HCI

Interaction of slow HCl up to U⁹²⁺ with surfaces:

• Strongly inverted systems ('hollow atoms')

















Univ. Frankfurt (U. Ratzinger)

- Ion optical simulations finished
- Tank being designed





RFQ - structure

0.5 MeV/u – 6 keV/u



Univ. Frankfurt (A. Schempp)

- Calculations done
- Design in the last stage





The Low Energy Beam Line & Trap



GSI/University of Mainz

- Ion optical simulations
- Trap magnet specifications defined







Cooling times for H⁺ and U⁹²⁺ without heating $(n_i/n_e \rightarrow 0)$

 $n_e = 10^7 \text{cm}^{-3}, \quad T_e = 4 \text{ K}, \quad B = 6 \text{ T}$

Ze





G. Zwicknagel et al.





Open questions

- Cooling faster than recombination?
 - Radiative recombination rate ν_{RR} depends on $v_r\approx (V^2+v_e^2)^{1/2}$

$$\nu_{RR} \propto \frac{n_e}{v_r} \sim \frac{n_e}{T_e^{1/2}}$$

- Recombination has to be calculated simultaneously with V(t), T_e(t)
- Instantaneous, isotropic thermalization?
 - Ion energy is transferred anisotropic to $v_{e,\perp}, v_{e,\parallel} \to T_{e,\perp}, T_{e,\parallel}$
 - Isotropization rate ν_{iso} : $\frac{d\vec{T}_{e,\perp}}{dt} = \nu_{iso} \left(T_{e,\parallel} T_{e,\perp} \right), \quad \nu_{iso} \sim \frac{1}{\bar{T}_e^{3/2}}$





HITRAP @ FLAIR



HITRAP @ FLAIR

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Technical proposal for FLAIR and SPARC submitted
PAC meeting ongoing



- Nov. 2001 Oct. 2005: HITRAP EU RTD Network
- Oct. 2002: HITRAP proposal
- Dec. 2002: HITRAP workshop
 - positive scientific rating, however, Technical Design Report requested
- Oct. 2003: Technical Design Report
 - with detailed financial plan
- Dec. 2003: Technical Design Report rated positively
- May 2004: evaluation of HITRAP within the HGF program 'Large-Scale Facilities for Photons, Neutrons and Ions (PNI)'
 - excellent ratings
- Oct. 2004: Recommendation of the HGF Senate includes HITRAP for additional funding.
- Jan. 2005: Start of construction.



The HITRAP Collaboration

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