Charge exchange in C^{5+} + H collisions

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Solar Wind Charge Exchange

- solar wind ions collide with neutral H, He
- electron is captured into an excited state of the highly charged ion
- x-ray is emitted through a K-shell transition
- Applications
 - heliospheric x-ray emission
 - Martian and Jovian (magnetospheric, not solar wind) x-ray emission
 - cometary x-ray emission
 - x-ray emission from forward shock of supernova remnants (?)

Molecular orbital close-coupling method

- gives triplet-singlet ratios; fully quantum
- total wave function is expanded in terms of adiabatic molecular orbitals:

$$\Psi = \sum_{j} \psi_j(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{R}) F_j(\mathbf{R})$$

 molecular orbitals are solutions of the electronic Schrödinger equation for fixed R:

$$\left[-\frac{1}{2\mu}\nabla_s^2+V-E_j(R)\right]\psi_j(\mathbf{s},\mathbf{R})=0$$

• coupled equations in adiabatic basis:

$$\left\{\frac{\partial^2}{\partial R^2} - \frac{\mathbf{J}_i^2 - \Lambda_i^2}{R^2} - 2\mu(E_i(R) - E)\right\} RF_i(\mathbf{R}) = \sum_j [V_{ij}^R(R) + V_{ij}^C(R)]RF_j(\mathbf{R})$$

- performed two 14-channel calculations including all Σ⁺ and Π channels for n = 3 and 4, for both singlets and triplets
- 5s state also included to represent n = 5 manifold
- covered energy range E = 0.01 to 1000 eV/u
- CTMC and AOCC calculations performed by D. R. Schultz and Y. Hui (ORNL) for energies E > 100 eV/u

Potentials and couplings

${}^{3}\Sigma^{+}$ potentials



 n = 4 channels form dominant capture manifold due to series of avoided crossings with entrance channel





Total cross sections



- 4s dominates across entire energy range
- increase in n = 3channels at ~ 10 eV/u as approach of 4s to n = 3manifold becomes energetically accessible
- sharp increase in 5s at 7 eV/u

Comparison with previous data



- good agreement for MOCC results below 100 eV/u
- MOCC results diverge for E > 100 eV/u
- AOCC fits well for E > 5000 eV/u
- CTMC fits well for E > 50000 eV/u

n-resolved cross sections



- MOCC, AOCC, and Kearns et al. agree in ordering of n = 4, n = 3 cross sections
- MOCC alone in showing dominance of n = 5 over n = 3 above 300 eV/u

I-distribution (1000 eV/u):



Triplet-singlet ratios:

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Recommended fits



- MOCC: lowest energies $\rightarrow 10^2\text{-}10^3$ eV/u
- AOCC: $10^2\text{--}10^3~\text{eV}/\text{u} \rightarrow 10^5~\text{eV}/\text{u}$
- CTMC: all higher energies
- Triplet-singlet ratios extrapolated from MOCC beyond 1 keV/u to approach 3:1



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Future work

- construction of fits for n, I, S-resolved cross sections based on MOCC, AOCC, and CTMC data
- extension of MOCC calculations to other charge exchange systems
- modeling of x-ray spectra

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