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ELECTRON EXCITATION DATA FOR ALKALI-LIKE IONS

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1 - INTRODUCTION

Since the review of data at the workshop in 1987 /1/, research has proceeded on three aspects of excitation of alkali-like ions by electron impact: (a) direct integral cross sections; (b) direct angular distributions; and (c) indirect integral cross sections from inner shell excitation contributions to ionization.

2 - DIRECT INTEGRAL CROSS SECTIONS

A notable discrepancy still exists between the latest theoretical predictions /2/ and experimental data /3/ for the $2s \rightarrow 2p$ excitation cross section of BeII. Results in both a five-state ($2s, 2p, 3s, 3p, 3d$) and nine-state ($5+4s, 4p, 4d, 4f$) close coupling approximation including polarization effects are similar to previous calculations /4/ and give theoretical cross sections larger than measured ones by 18% (independent of energy). This is more than twice the quoted high confidence level (98%) uncertainty attributed to the experimental data.

For Na-like Al^{2+} , Mitroy and Norcross /5/ used a five-state ($3s, 3p, 3d, 4s, 4p$) and nine-state ($5+4d, 4f, 5s, 5p$) close coupling approximation including one- and two-body polarization potentials. They found that inclusion of core polarization effects caused a 10% decrease in the cross section. Their cross sections are within 10% for $3s \rightarrow 3p$ of those obtained by Dufton and Kingston /6/ who used a five-state close coupling approximation and 10% was also the difference between 5 cc and 9 cc calculations for $3s \rightarrow 3p$. However, for excitation of $3d, 4s$ and $4p$ levels from the $3s$ level, the 9 cc approximation gives cross sections 50% smaller than those obtained in a 5 cc approximation. Mitroy and Norcross /5/ conclude that calculations are not converged for excitations which are not dominated by long range interactions (i.e. high partial waves).

Pindzola, Griffin, and Bottcher /7/ examined K-like ions Ca^+ , Sc^{2+} , Ti^{3+} , Cr^{5+} and Fe^{7+} . They found that agreement to 10% or better between close coupling and distorted wave approximation calculations for excitations among ground and low-lying excited states is first obtained for Fe^{7+} . For Ca^+ , a unitarized distorted wave method brings significant improvement in cross section results for $4s \rightarrow 4p$ and $3d \rightarrow 4p$ over the normal non-unitarized distorted wave ones. For Ca^+ , Mitroy et al /8/ used a six-state ($4s, 3d, 4p, 5s, 4d, 5p$) close coupling approximation and found that addition of core polarization effects caused a 20% decrease in the $4s \rightarrow 3d$ cross section over that obtained without polarization by Msezane./9/ This brought the calculation into good agreement with measurements of Taylor and Dunn /10/, although inclusion of cascade effects which contribute approximately 20% removes the agreement. Msezane /9/ also points out the unusual situation for Ca^+ in that the $4s \rightarrow 4d$ excitation cross section is larger than the $4s \rightarrow 3d$ one probably due to a virtual double-dipole mechanism via the $4p$ intermediate level.

For Sr^+ , Chidichimo /11/ made some calculations in three-state no exchange distorted wave, Coulomb Born, and Coulomb Bethe approximations. For Ba^+ , Peart, Underwood and Dolder /12/ made some very accurate measurements in the threshold to 30 eV electron impact range and are now attempting to obtain similar data for Ca^+ .

3 - DIRECT DIFFERENTIAL CROSS SECTIONS

Differential cross sections for $1s^2 2s \rightarrow 1s 2s^2$ excitation of Li-like Be^+ , B^{2+} , C^{3+} , N^{4+} , O^{5+} and Ne^{7+} have been calculated by Srivastava and Madison /13/ using a distorted wave approximation with exchange. For near threshold energies, they find that there is a minimum near 60° and a peak in the backward direction. Contrary to expectations, the backward peak is not due to exchange; non-exchange calculations give angular distributions even more strongly peaked at back angles. For higher energies, the minimum disappears and the differential cross section become peaked in the forward direction.

New measurements underway in a merged beam electron energy loss experiment designed by G. Dunn (JILA) and colleagues should yield significant improvements in the data available to test theoretical models.

4 - INNER SHELL EXCITATION-AUTOIONIZATION

Significant advances have been made in the past two years in experimental technique for measurement of ionization cross sections. Data from the Giessen group of Müller et al /14/ is given in Fig. 1 for C^{3+} . It demonstrates the incredible accuracy and improvement in experimental data. Clearly shown are examples of resonance excitation auto double ionization represented by the excited complexes $1s 2s^2 2p^3 \text{P}$ and $1s 2s 2p^2^3 \text{D}$, and resonance excitation double autoionization given by $1s 2s^2^2 \text{S}$, ..., $1s 2s 2p^2 \text{P}^0$.

For Na-like Fe^{15+} , calculations in close coupling and distorted wave approximations by Tayal and Henry /15/ and Griffin, Pindzola, and Bottcher /16/ agree within 10%. The twelve-state close coupling calculation includes large numbers of bound terms of appropriate symmetry to account for the REDA process. The results are in fair agreement with crossed-beam measurements of Gregory et al. /17/ More recently, Chen, Reed, and Moores /18/ have included 10000 autoionizing states and obtained excellent agreement with Gregory et al as is seen in Fig. 2.

For K-like Ca^+ , Pindzola, Bottcher and Griffin /19/ noted that $3p \rightarrow 3d$ inner shell excitation cross sections have considerable LS-term dependent effects. An unresolved mystery is the lack of observed structure in the ionization cross section obtained by Peart and Dolder /20/. Calculations yield lots of structure due to inner shell excitation and subsequent autoionization but no consistency as to the position of the structure.

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Fig. 1

Fig. 2