Orbital electron capture decay of stored highly-charged ions

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- 1. Experimental setup
- 2. Many-ion decay spectroscopy
- 3. Single-ion decay spectroscopy
- 4. Outlook



Production & Separation of Exotic Nuclei



"Cooling": enhancing the phase space density

Electron cooling: G. Budker, 1967 Novosibirsk



Momentum exchange

with a cold, collinear e⁻ beam. The ions get the **sharp velocity** of the electrons, small size and small angular divergence









Broad-band Schottky frequency spectra



Two-body beta decay of stored and cooled highly-charged ions



Decay Schemes





Two-body beta decay

f scales as *m/q*

Two-body β decay: *q* does **not** change

Change of *f* only due to change of mass

EC Decay Rates

¹⁴⁰**P**r

 λ_{EC} (H-like)/ λ_{EC} (He-like) = 1.49(8)



Yu.A. Litvinov et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 99 (2007) 262501



 λ_{EC} (H-like)/ λ_{EC} (He-like) = 1.44(6)



N. Winckler et al., Phys. Lett. B 679 (2009) 36-40

Electron Capture in Hydrogen-like Ions

Gamow-Teller transition $1^+ \rightarrow 0^+$



I. N. Borzov et al., Phys. Atomic nuclei

Theory: $\lambda(H)/\lambda(He) = (2I+1)/(2F+1)$

Z. Patyk et al., Phys. Rev. C 77 (2008) 014306

| | Theory | / Measurement |
|-------------|---|----------------------|
| Ratio H/He: | $\begin{cases} {}^{140}\text{Pr} \rightarrow 3/2\\ {}^{142}\text{Pm} \rightarrow 3/2 \end{cases}$ | 1.49 (9) 1.44 (6) |

Single ion decay spectroscopy

Examples of Measured Time-Frequency Traces



Continuous observation Parent/daughter correlation Well defined creation time Detection of <u>ALL</u> EC decays Delay between decay and "appearance" due to cooling

Restricted counting statistics

First EC-decay of He-like ¹⁴²Pm ions measured in E082 experiment



¹⁴²Pm⁵⁹⁺

New resonator cavity (2010)124th

the same decay: improvement by a factor of about 100

¹⁴² Nd⁵⁹⁺

Old Schottky pickup (1992)30th harmonic

Folienquelle: Y Litvinov – Email am 17.04.2010



Old Schottky pick up Data provided by the Sony real-time spectrum analyzer in frequency domain representation Welch's overlapped segment averaging



Blackman–Harris window



New resonator cavity Data provided by the Tektronix real-time spectrum analyszer in time domain representation Multitaper method



discrete prolate spheroidal sequences (DPSS)



Comparison Wosa vs MTM for identical input

Welch's overlapped segment averaging (Wosa)











Binning: 1 frame (32 ms)

Binning: 10 frames (320 ms)

Example of one parent ion which decays to one EC-daughter ion



Example with 4 parent ions, 2 EC and 2 β^+ -decays



Another example with 3 parents and 2 EC-decays





FRS-ESR Mass - and Lifetime Collaboration

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¹⁴⁰Pr⁵⁸⁺ all runs: 2650 EC decays from 7102 injections



¹⁴²Pm: 2740 EC decays from 7011 injections



¹⁴²Pm⁶⁰⁺: zoom on the first 33 s after injection



Decay scheme of ¹²²I



Experiment: 31.07.2008-18.08.2008

Decay Statistics

Correlations: 10.808 injections ~1100 EC-decays Many ions: 5718 injections ~4900 EC-decays



Revolution frequency