

Upcoming Studies of Heavy Quasi-molecular Systems at the ESR

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Within the SPARC collaboration

First Step in ESR Studies of K-Shell Excitation and Ionization at Small Impact Parameters and in Symmetric Heavy Systems

Overall Goals

Extend ESR studies to new regimes, e.g., to study

- symmetric heavy particle interactions where the combined nuclear charge is >100
- K-shell excitation and ionization processes at small impact parameters (much less than K-shell radius, e.g. < 200 fm)
- excitation and ionization of quasi-molecules produced in slow collisions

First Step

- Measure K-shell excitation at small impact parameters for "symmetric" heavy particle system, e.g., ~~50 MeV/u He-like Cs - Xe~~
- Investigate signal rates and backgrounds and use present study as a stepping stone for future impact parameter studies of K-shell ionization, excitation, and radiative electron capture.
- Test possibility of using the ESR and internal gas target to measure MO radiation produced in very heavy quasi-molecules.

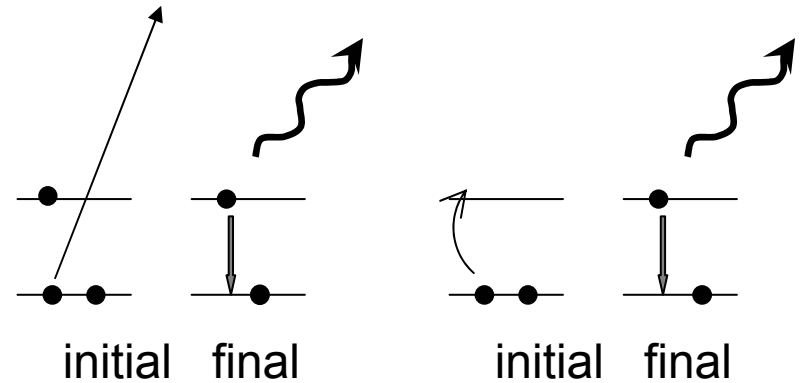
Inner Shell Processes in Few-Electron Heavy Ions

To date:

Fast, asymmetric interactions

(information about atomic states and transitions)

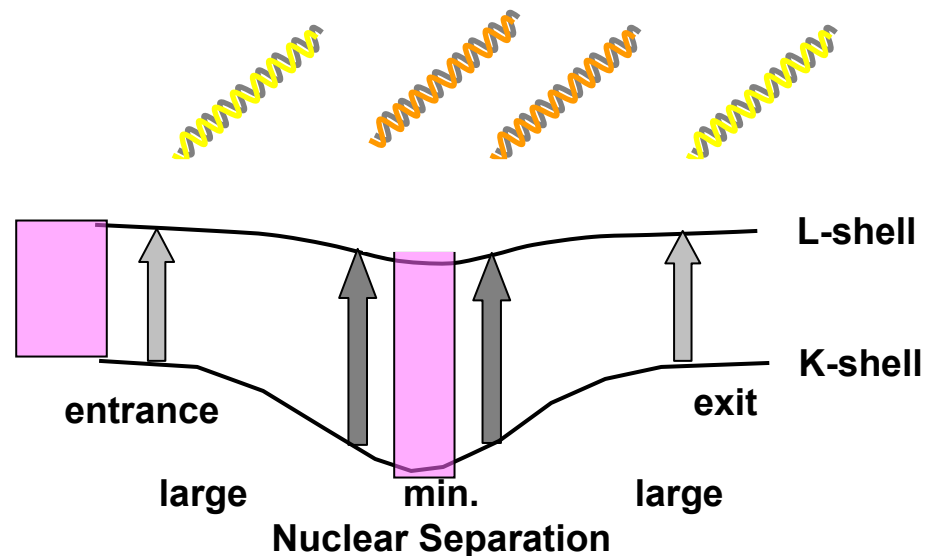
- Mechanisms
- Strong field effects
- Relativistic and QED effects



Future:

Slow, symmetric interactions

(information about transient quasi-atoms with very large Z)

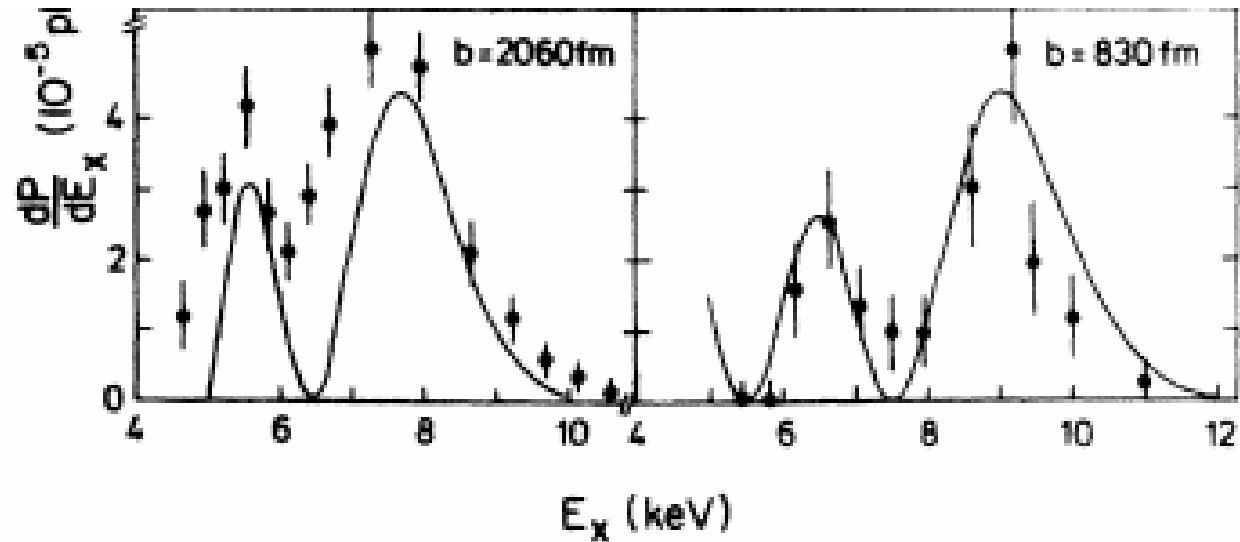


Impact parameter studies

IONIZATION

MO radiation

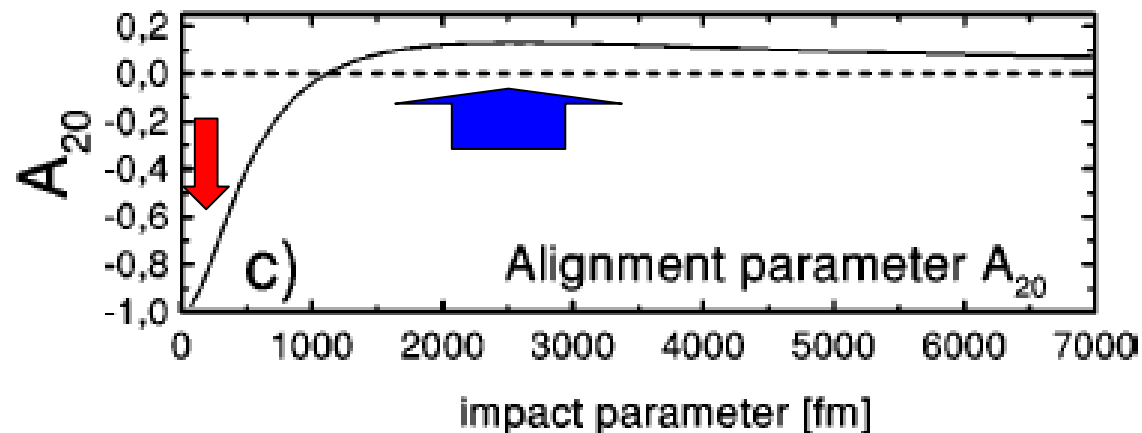
0.07 MeV/u Cl¹⁶⁺ - Ar
Schuch et al., PRA 37, (1988)



EXCITATION

Alignment at small and average
impact parameters

$2p_{3/2}$ excitation of U⁹¹⁺ at 223 MeV/u
Ludziejewski et al. PRA 61 (2000)



Early MO Studies Using Solid Targets

Single-pass experiments

1972: Mokler, Stein and Armbruster, "X Rays from Superheavy Quasiatoms Transiently Formed during Heavy Ion-atom Collisions" PRL 29.

X rays produced by 10- to 60-MeV I-ion bombardment on thick Au, Th, and U targets were analyzed with a high-resolution Si(Li) detector. The spectra can be understood in the framework of diabatic molecular orbitals. Radiative transitions in the quasimolecule formed during the collision are observed. These transitions between transient molecular orbitals may be interpreted as M x-rays of superheavy quasiatoms with nuclear charges of $Z = 132, 143,$ and 145 .

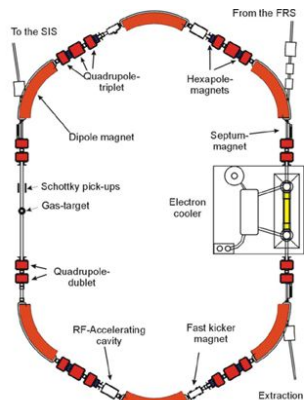
1974: Kraft, Mokler and Stein, "Anisotropic Emission of Noncharacteristic X Rays from Low-Energy I-Au Collisions", PRL 33.

1978: Liesen, Armbruster, Behncke, and Hagmann, 4.7 MeV/u Xe-Au impact parameter measurements of K-shell vacancy production, Z. Physik A 288.

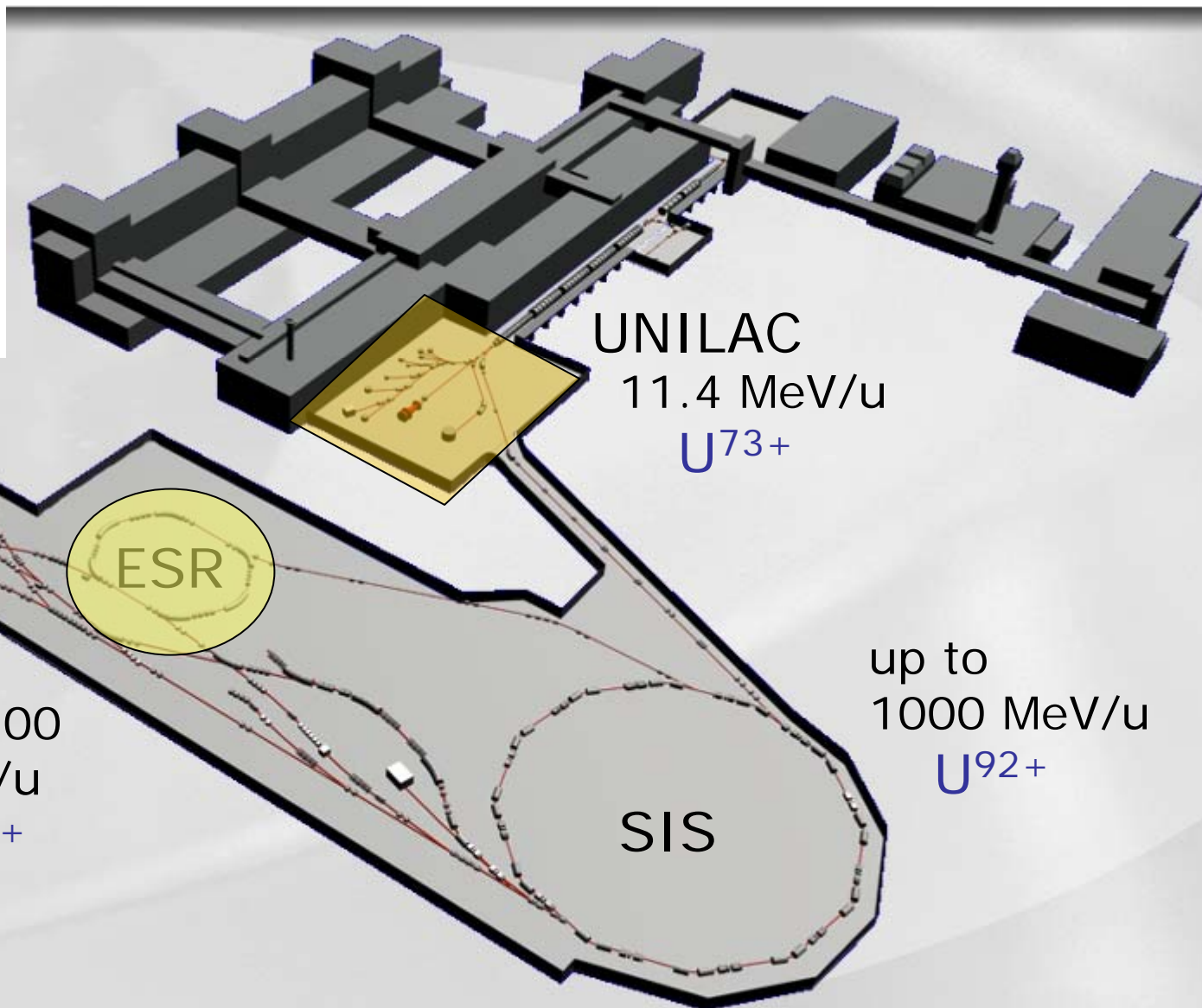
1979: Kozhuharov et al., 1.4 GeV U-Pb and Pb-Pb positron production, impact parameter measurements for $b < 40$ fm, PRL 42.

1983: Maor, Liesen, Mokler, Rosner, Schmidt-Böcking and Schuch, impact parameter measurements for 1.4 MeV/u Ni-Zr,Ag,Te,Au collisions, PRA 27.

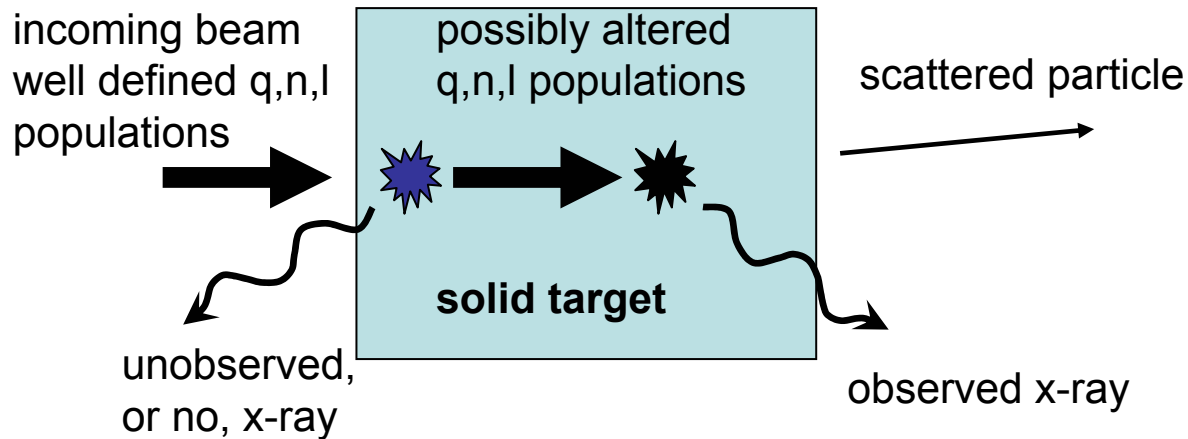
Upcoming ESR Based Studies



Internal Gas-jet Target



Advantages and improvements as compared to previous studies



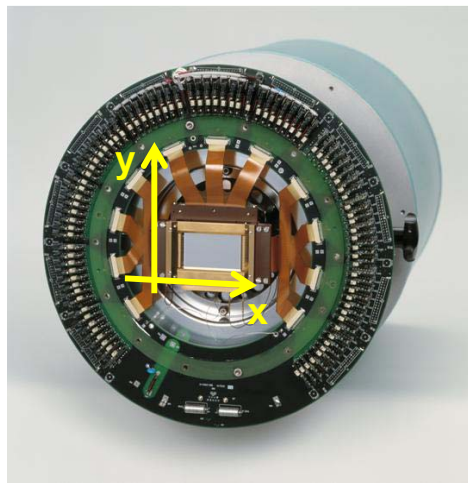
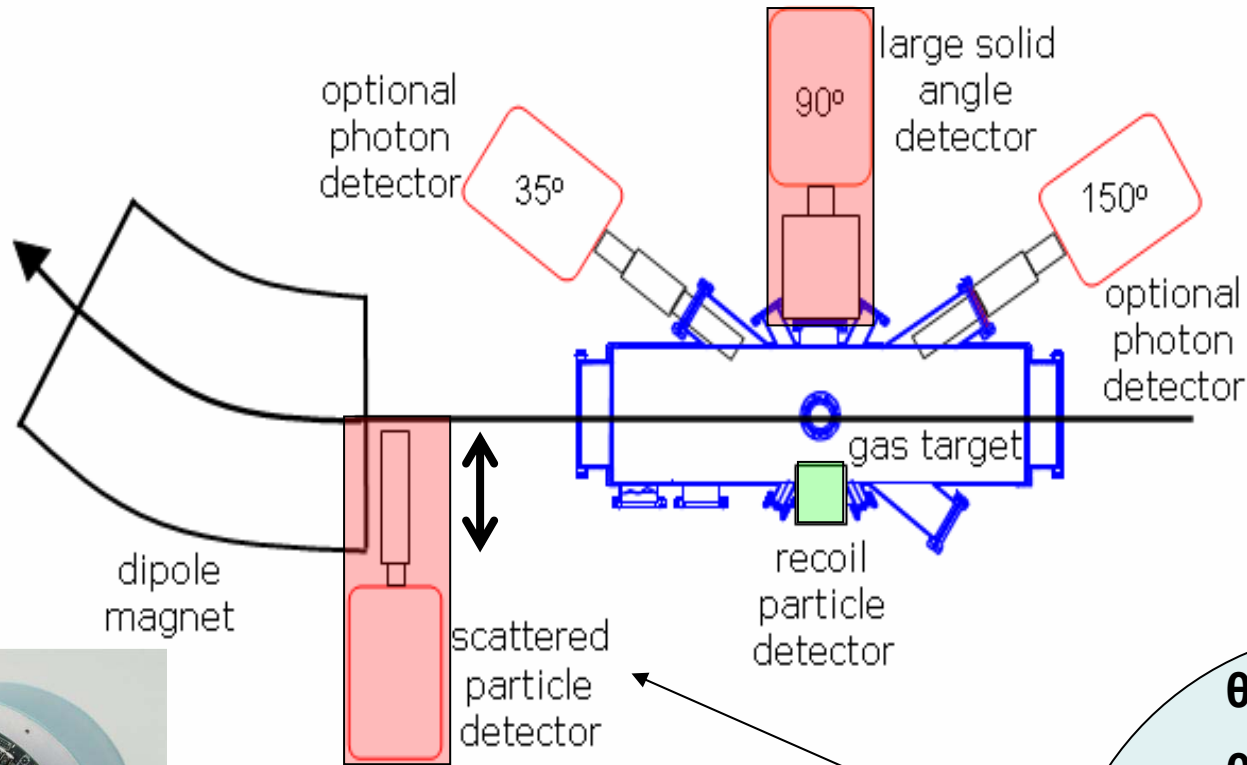
Advantage:
high signal rates,
very high Z_{targ} possible

Dissadvantage:
data must account for
possible alterations in initial
and final q, n, l populations.

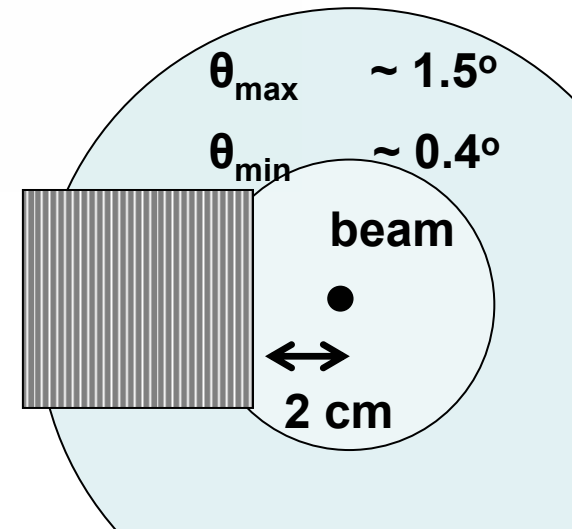
Advantages of using the ESR and Internal Gas-jet Target

- incoming ion in a well defined and desirable charge-state
- gas-target: single collision conditions
- outgoing ion charge-state undisturbed

Experimental Method

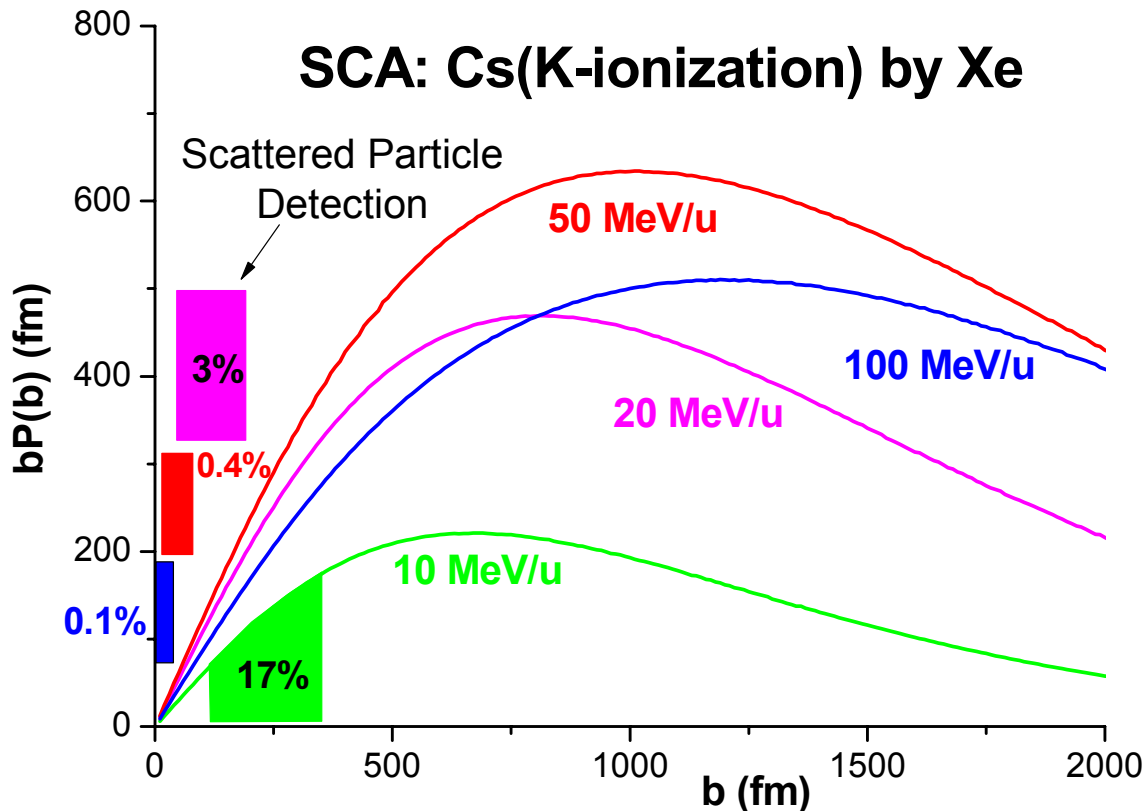


**5 x 5 cm
particle detector
~ 3 m downstream**



Rate Estimates for Cs K-shell Ionization and Excitation

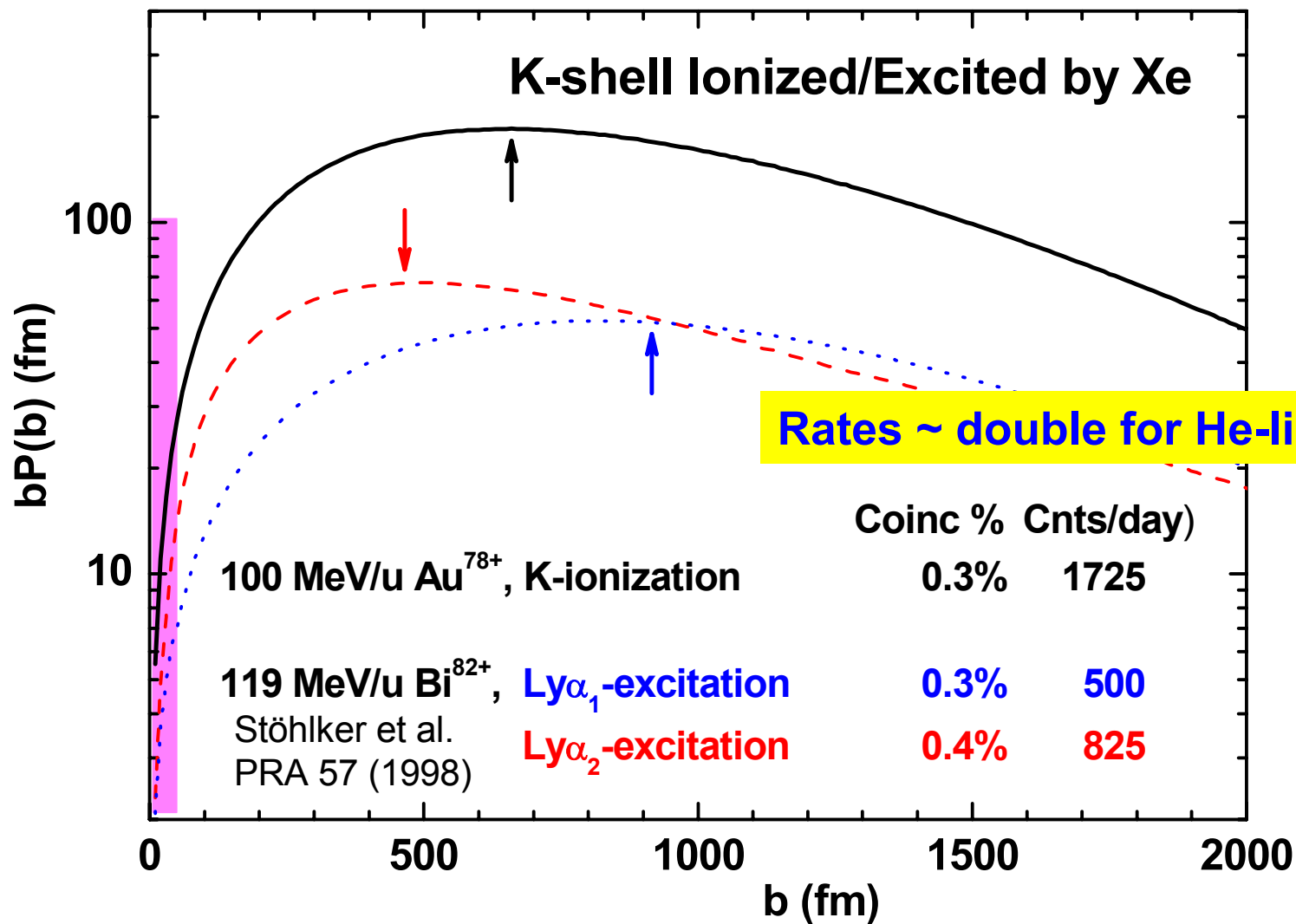
Energy (MeV/u)	1s-2s total cross section in barn	1s-2p cross section in barn	ionization total cross section in barn
10	11372	14288	20219
20	14580	32076	53247
50	11956	46656	87694
100	8165	46073	77294



Excitation collected percentage
 ~10 to 15 smaller
 (Estimated from 400 MeV/u U^{89+} - N_2
 data (Banaś et al.))

**IF can bring scattered
 projectile detector closer to
 beam, e.g., 1 cm, collected
 percentage, and rates,
 increase by factor of 2- 4.**

Rate Estimates for Au K-shell Ionization and Excitation



Summary

Outlined a new experimental ESR program based upon a new observable, the impact parameter. This will allow us to study K-shell ionization, excitation, and radiative electron capture in more detail than previously possible.

Described an upcoming experiment which will establish techniques, signal rates, and backgrounds for planning future studies.

Possible Future Studies

- extension to broader range of b and to lower velocities
- test higher-order theories (since $Z/v \uparrow$ as $v \downarrow$)
- MO interference in high Z quasi-molecules (**extreme/ critical fields**)
- anisotropy and alignment (population of 2p substates) for K excitation
- test theoretical predictions, e.g., new calculations by Prof. V. Shabaev (St. Petersburg State University) and Dr. A. Surzhykov (University of Heidelberg)