

Calculation of Electron Capture Cross-Section for Potassium (K) Due to Proton-Impact

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Abstract - A number of classical and quantum formulations have been developed to study the charge transfer process from a very low energy range to a very high energy range. However, there are some restrictions for lighter targets due to inherent mathematical complexities.

Keywords - cross-section for Potassium, Proton-impact

I. INTRODUCTION

Gryzinski¹ proposed a simplified Binary Encounter Model to account for the electron capture process. In this model a single Binary Encounter between the incident ion and the target electron may give rise to the phenomenon of electron capture by the projectile provided the energy transferred by the projectile to the target electrons between specified limits. Some attempts were made by Garcia *et al.*² and Variens³ to modify the energy limits for electron capture, as prescribed by Gryzinski, but failed to show any improvement in the results.

Roy and Rai⁴ specify the limits for energy transfer after the implication of Thomas's theory. Thomas⁵ model, a classical model for electron capture, was improved and extended by Bates and Mapleton⁶ Method.

Presently, Roy and Rai, before Tan and Lee⁷, based on Thomas's second condition for electron capture, have established new energy limits in Gryzinski's model.

The equation has given the expression for electron capture cross-section

$$Q = n_e \sigma_{\Delta E} (\Delta E) \quad (1)$$

Where Q is the cross-section for energy transfer E and n_e is the number of equivalent electrons in the shell under investigation.

$$f_{\Delta E} d(\Delta E) = \frac{2e^4 z^2}{mv_1^2} \left[\frac{1}{E} - \frac{mv_2^2}{2(\Delta E)^2} \right]; E \leq 2mv_1(v_1 - v_2) \dots \dots \dots (9)$$

And

$$f_{\Delta E} d(\Delta E) = \frac{ne^4 z^2}{mv_1^2} \cdot \left[\frac{m}{(\Delta E)^2} \left\{ \left(\frac{2\Delta E}{m} + v_2^2 \right)^{3/2} - (2v_1^3 + v_2^3) - \frac{1}{\Delta E} \right\} \right];$$

$$2mv_1(v_1 - v_2) \leq E \leq 2mv_1(v_1 + v_2) \dots \dots \dots (10)$$

Integrating the above expressions (in terms of s and t) over the Hartree-Fock velocity distribution for the target electron in the shell under consideration the electron capture cross section reduces to

$$Q^i(s) = n_e \int_0^\infty Q^i(s, t) f(t) U^{1/2} dt. \dots \dots \dots (11)$$

And, $E_i = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 + U_i + g - v(2mg)^{1/2} \dots \dots \dots (2)$

$$E_u = \frac{1}{2}mv^2 + U_i + g + v(2mg)^{1/2} \dots \dots \dots (3)$$

We now introduce dimensionless variables

$$s^2 = \frac{v_1^2}{v_0^2} \dots \dots \dots (4)$$

and $t^2 = \frac{v_2^2}{v_0^2} \dots \dots \dots (5)$

where U_i is the binding energy of the target atom in Rydbergs; v₁ and v₂ are the velocities of incident particle and target orbiting electron in atomic units respectively and v₀ is the root mean square velocity of orbital electrons. (See Catlow and Mc Dowell). In terms of these dimensionless variables E_i, and E_u, can be given below

$$E_i = (s^2 + 1) U_i + g - 2s(U_i g)^{1/2} \dots \dots \dots (6)$$

And

$$E_u = (s^2 + 1) U_i + g + 2s(U_i g)^{1/2} \dots \dots \dots (7)$$

Where,

$$g = \frac{2zs}{(r^2 + t^2)^{3/2}} \dots \dots \dots (8)$$

Here s is the charge and r is the modules of the position vector of the bound electron with respect to target nucleus and may be taken as the radius of the shell (in atomic units).

The electron capture cross-sections have been found by integrating Variens expression for two different ranges of energy transfer

Where $f(t)$ is the momentum distribution function constructed by making use of the Hartree-Fock radial function given by *Clementi and Roetti*⁹.

The atomic radii and shell radii have been taken from *Lotz*¹⁰ and *Desclaux*¹¹ respectively.

Table 1: Proton impact electron capture cross-section for K (in Units of cm²)

Impact Energy (KeV)	Present Calculation	Experiment Du Bois and Tobure
4.0	2.88,-15
6.0	7.88,-15
8.0	10.27,-15	1.25,-14
10.0	2.38,-14
12.0	1.73,-14
14.0	1.98,-14
16.0	1.67,-14	1.42,-14
40.0	5.24,-15	7.96,-15
200.0	3.7,-16	3.39,-16
1000.0	2.48,-17

2.88,-15 stands for 2.88×10^{-15}

II. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The cross-section for K due to protons have been shown in the above table. The present calculated capture cross-section is always within a factor 2 of the experimental values except in the energy range below 6 keV in case of proton impact.

The discrepancy in low energy may be partly attributed to the non-suitability of the Binary Encounter approximation. The range of agreement of our calculated cross-sections with experimental observations shifts in a higher energy range as the mass of the projectile increases.

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