Ultra sensitive laser spectroscopy of pure beams





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Outline of talk

- Sources of photon background (fluorescence detection, bunching technique)
- The need for pure beams (and how to obtain them...)
- Photon-lon coincidence detection (and its resurrection)



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Bunching for laser spectroscopy

Photon background dominated by continuous laser scatter





But complications arise...

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lons also cause background



Optical spectrum projected

Gate applied

(eg. 10µs of 100ms cycle)

Accelerating voltage (ie. frequency)

Isobaric contaminants have same TOF (m/q dep.) → Bunching doesn't help here → Need Z-selectivity to separate



Optical pumping in the cooler



Why in the cooler? (efficiency)

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- Focal point of slowly travelling ions -> efficient
- Can use broadband/pulsed lasers \rightarrow large λ range



Ionise 1+ ions to 2+ state

Simplest test cases first, eg:-





Pure beam of single A and Z
No contaminant will have m/q selected by magnet and m/(2q) selected by TOF (or other device)

Photon background suppression

- Background from laser → bunching ✓
- Background from ions → pure beams ✓

Immediately applicable...

...but can we improve upon bunching technique? (gates $> 5\mu$ s)

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Single photon-ion coincidence

Events with ~20ns timing resolution

So why do we bunch instead?

coincidence

Isobaric contamination causes "false" coincidences

Cooled beams \rightarrow ~5 ns resolution \rightarrow few atoms/s

Summary

- In-cooler ion resonance ionisation can be used to produce a pure beam of single (A,Z) ... isomeric purity?
- Pure beams reduce the photon background, increasing the sensitivity of HR laser fluorescence spectroscopy
- In the absence of isobaric contamination, single photon-ion coincidence will provide greatest sensitivity
- Propose tests in JYFL and ISOLDE.

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New laboratory at JYFL

Sub-ms, refractory elements...

Bunching for laser spectroscopy

Accelerating voltage