Laboratory Spectroscopy for near-Infrared Astrophysics

SOLVAY WORKSHOP, BRUSSELS NOVEMBER 2019

by

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Collaborators and thanks

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LUMCAS, CompAS, Imperial College London, Mons group, NIST and Uppsala university



Gyllenstiernska Krapperupsstiftelsen



- The aim of our program is to provide evaluated sets of transition data with realistic uncertainties for selected atoms and ions with a range in wavelength, strength and excitation potential.
- Laboratory measurements and calculations can provide the data needed to analyse the expensively required astronomical observations.

Optical vs near-IR observations



Optical vs near-IR observations



near-IR stellar spectroscopy, 1-5 μ m

Motivations for near-infrared observations:

- Several orders of magnitude less extinction
- Atmospheric transmission bands
- Cool stars

Consequences:

- Astronomical observatories are designed for this region.
- Coming ELTs deigned to observe 1-2.5 μ m.
- The atomic data base above 1 micron is sparse.
- Numerous atomic lines in the stellar spectra

near-IR transitions from an atomic physicists point of view:

- High-excitation transitions; Rydberg states
- Lower excitation transitions in complex atomic spectra
- Resonance lines in heavier elements, e.g. third spectra of rare-earth elements



*Based upon ¹²C, 0 indicates the mass number of the longest-lived isotope, elements are excremental; see lupac.org for an exclamation and values. NIST SP 966 (September 2014)

High-excitation transitions



[†]Based upon ¹²C. () indicates the mass number of the longest-lived isotope,

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High-excitation transitions- Fe I



p elements



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Silicon



Low excitation lines - Sc I, Y I, La I



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Low excitation lines - Sc I, Y I, La I



Low excitation lines - Sc I, Y I, La I



The energy level structure for Sc I, Y I and La I are similar with the energy levels for $nd(n+1)s^2$ and $nd^2(n+1)s$

Sc I : 3d4s², 3d²4s Y I : 4d5s², 4d²5s La I : 5d6s², 5d²6s

Infrared transitions between $nd^{2}(n+1)s - nd(n+1)s(n+1)p$

The A-values is derived from the measured quantities branching fraction (BF) and radiative lifetime (τ) of the upper level.

$$A_{ul} = \frac{BF_{ul}}{\tau_u}$$

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Decay region	BF spread	lifetime
only optical	narrow	1-20 ns
optical + nIR	wide	1-20 ns
only nIR	narrow	1-10 μ s

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The Edlén laboratory



FTS Bruker IFS125 Coverage: 4000 Å- 5 μm HC lamp produces neutral and singly ionised atoms and ions. Resolving power 10^6

Lifetimes measured at Lund High Power Laser Facility (closed 2018).

FTS spectrum of Sc I



Results for Sc I



Results from Sc I: Pehlivan et al. (2015)

Lifetimes and branching fraction for YI and La I have been measured, and are being analysed.

The interaction with the nuclear spin splits the fine structure. More important for near-IR lines.



Spectrum of Sc I observed with the IRFTS at Edlen laboratory, van Deelen 2017.

Physica Scripta. Vol. 53, 28-32, 1996

Hyperfine Structure of ScI by Infrared Fourier Transform Spectroscopy

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 $F(q, 1. Observed and fitted byperfine patterns for the $61344q^iDyh^2Dig_{-} - 3d^2(^2F)4s^4F_{3/2}$ at $\bar{\nu} = 4539.227$ cm⁻¹. The theoretical components of the profiles with their relative intensities are also shown for comparison. The lower part of the figure shows the (observed–calculated) signal corresponding to the final it of the line profile.

Fig. 2. Observed and fitted hyperfine patterns for the Sc I 3d48⁽²DMp⁴D⁴)_{1/2} $- 3d^2(^2F)4s^4F_{3v2}$ at $\tilde{\nu} = 4533.502 \,\mathrm{cm}^{-1}$. The theoretical components of the profiles with their relative intensities are also shown for comparison. The lower part of the figure shows the (observed-calculated) signal corresponding to the final if of the line profile.

Omitting the inclusion of the hyperfine structure can result in significant deviations in the abundance.



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Simulations by Thorsbro+, ApJS (2018).

Approach for Mg, Si and Al

Approach to retrieve an evaluated set of infrared Mg I, Al I and Si I transition data:

Experimental data

FTS measurements combined with lifetime data

Theoretical data

ATSP2k calculations for additional states

Stellar spectra

For benchmarking and application

Combined with collisional data by P Barklem and J Grumer (Uppsala) to provide '*atomic data to the limit*'. Calculations by P Jönsson, A Papoulia, J Ekman.

Results for Magnesium



Studies for Silicon (Pehlivan Rhodin et al., in review) and Aluminium (Papoulia et al., 2018 and Burheim et al., in preparation). See Posters.

Note that the uncertainty in the data directly translates to an uncertainty in derived stellar abundance.

Uncertanties

Remember:

$$A_{ul} = \frac{BF_{ul}}{\tau_u}$$

where

$$BF_{ul} = \frac{I_{ul}}{\sum_l I_{ul}}$$

and

$$f \propto \lambda^2 \cdot A$$

Systematic and *statistical* effects contribute to the uncertainty.



Sources of uncertainties for experimental data:

- *Branching fractions*: calibration, self absorption (radiative transfer), unobserved lines. 0-30%.
- Radiative lifetime: statistical and systematic errors. 5-15%

Experimental *f*-values can be obtained with uncertainties down to 5%.

near-IR forbidden transitions

An important class of infrared lines are parity forbidden transitions (E2 and M1), observed in nebula and low density plasmas.

- Low transition rates ($\sim 1 \text{ s}^{-1}$)
- Long radiative lifetimes
- Sensitive to collisions

Have relied on calculated transition rates, but can now be measured using selective methods at storage rings (e.g. DESIREE @ Stockholm university, Sweden) combined with astronomical observations of low-density plasmas (Eta Carinae).





http://www.desiree-infrastructure.com

Summary

- near-IR atomic data is crucial to meet the demands from new observatories.
- Lab spectroscopy and calculations can provide evaluated sets of near-infrared atomic data with uncertainties down to 5%





Nailing fingerprints in the stars

Laboratory - based experiments are sorely needed to complement the rapidly proliferating spectral data originating from observations by the latest space telescopes.

hat are stars made of? After astronomers detected a brightyellow, unknown spectral line in sunlight in 1868, they named the new element helium after the Greek Sun god quantum mechanics. But heavier elements have many electrons that can participate in transitions — iron has 26, making the probabilities of possible transitions between levels too complex to calculate accu-

Periodic table - Rare earth elements



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NIST SP 966 (September 2014)

Rare-Earth Elements - La III

