ADAS-C(24)01

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# Cross sections, collision strengths and effective collision strengths as used in *adf04* and *adf06* files

08 April 2024

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#### **1** Electron impact excitation

For the reaction

$$A_i^{z+}(E_i) + e(\varepsilon_i) \to A_j^{z+}(E_j) + e(\varepsilon_j)$$

where  $\varepsilon_i + E_i = \varepsilon_j + E_j$  and  $\Delta E_{ij} = E_j - E_i$  where  $E_i$  is the excitation energy of state *i* and  $\varepsilon_i$  is the energy of the incident (*i*) or scattered (*j*) electron.

The reaction is described by the cross section,  $\sigma_{i \to j}(\varepsilon_i)$ , which is only energetically possible if  $\varepsilon_i \ge \Delta E_{ij}$ .

Define  $X = \varepsilon_i / \Delta E_{ij}$  where  $X \in [1, \infty]$ 

The collision strength is dimensionless and symmetrical between initial and final states,

$$\Omega_{ij} = g_i(E_i/I_H)(\sigma_{i\to j}(\varepsilon_i)/\pi a_0^2) = g_j(E_j/I_H)(\sigma_{j\to i}(\varepsilon_j)/\pi a_0^2)$$

with  $g_i$  and  $g_j$  the statistical weights and  $I_H$  the Rydberg energy.

To convert (measured/calculated) cross sections (sigma) to collision strengths (omega  $\equiv \Omega i j$ ) which are tabulated against incident energy,

omega = gi \* (delta\_e \* X / 109737.26) \* (sigma / 8.7972e-17)

where X is defined by the user and sigma (as a function of energy in  $cm^2$ ) is interpolated for X \* delta\_e.

A *type 1*, *adf*04 file tabulates  $\Omega_{ij}$  as a function of *X*.

A type 5, adf04 file tabulates  $\Omega_{ij}$  as a function of  $\epsilon_i - \Delta E_{ij}$ .

The default *adf04* output for AUTOSTRUCTURE (adas7#1) is *type 5* whereas Cowan (adas8#1) produces *type 1 adf04* files.

The Maxwellian distribution function for free particles is:

$$f(v) = 4\pi \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{3/2} v^2 \exp(-\frac{mv^2}{2kT})$$
  
$$f(E) = 2\pi \left(\frac{1}{\pi kT}\right)^{3/2} E^{1/2} \exp(-E/kT)$$

where *m* is the particle mass and *T* the temperature and  $\int_0^\infty f(v) dv = 1$ . Note that  $v^2 = 2E/m$  and  $dv = 1/(2mE)^{1/2} dE$ .

The excitation rate is then

$$q_{i \to j}(T) = \langle v_i \, \sigma_{i \to j}(v_i) \rangle$$
$$= \int_{\Delta E_{ij}}^{\infty} f(v_i) \, v_i \, \sigma_{i \to j}(v_i) \, dv_i$$

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$$= 4\pi \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{3/2} \int_{\Delta E_{ij}}^{\infty} v_i^2 v_i \exp(-\varepsilon_i/kT) \sigma_{i\to j}(\varepsilon_i) \, dv_i$$
  
$$= 4\pi \left(\frac{m}{2\pi kT}\right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{2}{m}\right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{1}{2m}\right)^{1/2} \int_{\Delta E_{ij}}^{\infty} \varepsilon_i \exp(-\varepsilon_i/kT) \sigma_{i\to j}(\varepsilon_i) \, dE_i$$
  
$$= \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{1}{kt}\right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{1}{m}\right)^{1/2} \frac{\pi a_0^2 I_H}{g_i} \int_{\Delta E_{ij}}^{\infty} \Omega_{ij} \exp(-\varepsilon_i/kT)(\varepsilon_i) \, dE_i$$

where the cross section is replaced by the collision strength.

When the integral is further transformed from  $v_i$  to  $E_j$  ( $\varepsilon_i = \varepsilon_j + \Delta E_{ij}$ ), and noting that  $\alpha c = (2I_H/m_e)^{1/2}$ , the excitation rate coefficient for electron impact excitation becomes

$$q_{i \to j}(T_e) = 2\sqrt{\pi}a_0^2 \alpha c \left(\frac{I_H}{kT_e}\right)^{1/2} \frac{1}{g_i} \exp(-\Delta E_{ij}/kT_e)\Upsilon_{ij}$$

where  $\Upsilon_{ij}$  is the effective collision strength,

$$\Upsilon_{ij} = \int_{0}^{\infty} \Omega_{ij}(\varepsilon_j) \exp(-\varepsilon_j/kT_e) d(\varepsilon_j/kT_e).$$

The limits reflect that this integral is defined over electron energies,  $\varepsilon_j$ , with respect to the final, excited, state. However  $\Upsilon_{ij}$  is symmetrical between excitation and de-excitation concordant with the collision strength.

A type 3, adf04 file tabulates  $\Upsilon_{ij}$  as a function of  $T_e$ .

De-excitation and excitation rates follow:

$$q_{j \to i}(T_e) = 2 \sqrt{\pi} a_0^2 \alpha c \frac{1}{g_j} \left(\frac{I_H}{kT_e}\right)^{1/2} \Upsilon_{ij}$$
$$= \frac{g_i}{g_j} \exp(\Delta E_{ij}/kT_e) q_{i \to j}(T_e)$$

and  $2\sqrt{\pi}a_0^2\alpha c = 2.1716 \times 10^{-8} \text{ cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ .

The offline code adas7#3/adf04\_om2ups.x can convert a *type 1* or *type 5 adf04* to a *type 3* file. The reverse process is not possible. The python library function, adf04\_om2ups.py, calls the offline code to enable a python workflow.

# 2 Ion impact excitation

The collision strength is the ratio of the cross section to the de Broglie wavelength squared and the generalized form (for ion impact is),

$$\Omega_{ij}^{ion} = Mg_i(E_i/I_H)(\sigma_{i \to j}(\varepsilon_i)/\pi a_0^2) = Mg_j(E_j/I_H)(\sigma_{j \to i}(\varepsilon_j)/\pi a_0^2)$$

where M is the reduced mass of the target-projectile system,

$$M = \frac{m_t m_p}{m_t + m_p}$$

in atomic units ( $m_e = 1$ ). The energies ( $\varepsilon_i, \varepsilon_j$ ) are those of the incident and scattered projectile.  $M \rightarrow 1$  for electron impact (*ie*  $m_p = m_e$ ), where the target is considered massive compared to the electron projectile. This is not the case where the projectile ion is a proton or a heavier particle.

The threshold parameter  $X = \varepsilon_i / \Delta E_{ij}$  is defined the same way as for the electron impact case.

A type 1, adf06 file tabulates  $\Omega_{ii}^{ion}$  against X. Note that this includes the reduced mass value.

The effective collision strength for ion impact is defined identically as the electron impact version, assuming a Maxwellian ion temperature,

$$\Upsilon_{ij} = \int_{0}^{\infty} \Omega_{ij}^{ion}(\varepsilon_j) \exp(-\varepsilon_j/kT_e) d(\varepsilon_j/kT_e).$$

A *type 3, adf06* file tabulates  $\Upsilon_{ij}^{ion}$  against  $T_{ion}$ .

The excitation rate contains an explicit mass factor,

$$q_{i \to j}^{ion}(T_{ion}) = 2\sqrt{\pi}a_0^2 \alpha c \frac{1}{g_i} \left(\frac{I_H}{kT}\right)^{1/2} \exp(-\Delta E_{ij}/kT) \left(\frac{1}{M}\right)^{3/2} \Upsilon_{ij}$$

The mass used in forming the rate coefficient is the actual mass,  $Mm_e$ , but since the collision strength is defined in atomic units the reduced mass M term appears. eg for p + Na, M = 0.958. The electron mass is included in the above equation in  $\alpha c$ , as in the electron impact case.

There is no ADAS code to convert between a *type 1* and *type 3 adf06* file.

The *adf06* file includes information on the masses of the target and projectile so forming the rate coefficient using the above equation is unambiguous. For ion-impact data stored as P-lines in *adf04* files this information is not stored. The population codes, *eg* adas205, adas208, run\_adas208.pro, run\_adas208.py etc., form rate coefficients using just the P-line data. The rate used in these codes may be scaled by a user supplied Z<sub>eff</sub> parameter to the code it is preferable that this step should not be required. Therefore the ADAS *adf04* data files archive  $\Upsilon_{ij}/M^{3/2}$  in the P-lines.

### **3** Electron impact ionization

The reaction

$$A_{\gamma}^{z+} + e \rightarrow A_p^{(z+1)+} + e + e$$

where the ion in its initial state,  $\gamma$ , is ionised to a residual state p. The final state may be metastable but often is not specified, being the sum over all possible final states. This direct ionisation may be augmented by indirect auto-ionisation channels which are manifest as steps in the cross section. An electron impact ionisation collision strength is defined in the same way as for excitation:

$$\Omega_{\gamma p}^{ionis} = g_{\gamma} \frac{E}{I_H} \frac{\sigma_{\gamma \to p}^{ionis}}{\pi a_0^2}$$

where E is the energy of the impacting electron and  $g_{\gamma}$  the statistical weight of the ionising level.

To convert (measured/calculated) cross sections (sigma) to collision strengths (omega\_s  $\equiv \Omega^{ionis}$ ) which are tabulated against incident energy,

omega\_s = gi \* (ip \* X / 13.6) \* (sigma / 8.7972e-17)

where X is defined by the user, ip is the energy of the level-parent gap (in eV, equivalent to ionisation potential for ground state ionisation) and sigma (cm<sup>2</sup>) is interpolated for X \* ip. Any steps, due to auto-ionisation, in the cross section are not scaled separately so the collision strength will retain the energy resolved structure of the cross section.

A type 1, adf04 file tabulates  $\Omega_{ii}^{ionis}$  as a function of  $X = E/I_{ionis}$ .

The ionisation rate coefficient, for a Maxwellian distribution, is:

$$S_{\gamma \to p}^{ionis} = 2 \sqrt{\pi} \alpha a_0^2 \frac{1}{g_{\gamma}} \exp(-I_{ionis}/kT) \Upsilon_{\gamma \to p}^{ionis}$$

where  $I_{ionis} = I_p(m) - E_i$  with  $I_p(m)$  being the ionisation potential of the parent metastable and  $E_i$  is the energy relative to ground of the level being ionised. The effective collision strength  $(\Upsilon_{\gamma \to p})$  is defined the same way as the excitation case.

The *type 3 adf04* file stores a scaled version of the ionisation rate as a function of temperature. The S-line in the file is defined:

$$S_{\gamma \to p}^{scaled} = \exp(I_{ionis}/kT) S_{\gamma \to p}$$

where S is the ionisation rate coefficient ( $cm^3 s^{-1}$ ) and *not* the 'ionisation effective collision strength'.

## 4 Ion impact ionization

The reaction,

$$A_{\nu}^{z+} + p \to A_{p}^{(z+1)+} + p + \epsilon$$

where the ionising particle projectile, p, can be a proton or a heavier ion.

The ion impact collision strength for ionisation is defined as:

$$\Omega_{\gamma p}^{ion;ionis} = Mg_{\gamma}(E/I_H)(\sigma_{\gamma p}(E)/\pi a_0^2)$$

where  $M = m_t m_p / (m_t + m_p)$  is the reduced mass of the target-projectile system, in atomic units.

The threshold parameter,  $X = E/I_{ionis}$  with  $I_{ionis} = I_p(m) - E_i$  with  $I_p(m)$  being the ionisation potential of the parent metastable and  $E_i$  is the energy relative to ground of the level being ionised.

The type 1 adf06 file tabulates  $\Omega_{\gamma p}^{ion;ionis}$  as a function of the threshold parameter, X.

The ionisation rate is formed in a similar way as the electron impact rate with a mass scaling factor:

$$S_{\gamma \to p}^{ion;ionis}(T_{ion}) = 2 \sqrt{\pi} a_0^2 \alpha c \frac{1}{g_{\gamma}} \left(\frac{I_H}{kT}\right)^{1/2} \exp(-I_{ionis}/kT) \left(\frac{1}{M}\right)^{3/2} \Upsilon_{\gamma p}^{ion;ionis}$$

The type 3 adf06 file tabulates a scaled, mass-free, rate coefficient with ion temperature,

 $S_{\gamma \to p}^{ion;ionis,scaled} = M^{3/2} \exp(I_{ionis}/kT) S_{\gamma \to p}^{ion;ionis}.$ 

### 5 Comments

To calculate ion impact excitation and ionisation rates from the data in the *type 3 adf06* file requires that a mass factor is applied (simple multiplication) when forming the rate from the effective collision strengths. For ionisation this is inconsistent with the definition of the electron impact ionisation S-line in the *adf04* file. However the expectation should be that the way of forming the excitation and ionisation rates from one file, whether *adf04* or *adf06*, should be consistent. Formally the two formats are consistent since the electron S-line has an implicit mass factor of 1.