

Towards a complete and calibrated set of lanthanide atomic data

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The Radiative Transfer and Atomic Physics of Kilonovae

Atomic Opacities

LTE modelling (first few days, collisional rates \gg radiative rates):

 \rightarrow energy levels and E1 radiative transitions required:

Saha & Boltzmann equations

 \rightarrow **bolometric light curves:** grey opacities from uncalibrated data good enough

 \rightarrow **spectral models:** use of calibrated atomic data essential for line identification and obtaining the relevant spectral features

NLTE modelling (after a few days, radiative rates \gg collisional rates): \rightarrow requires additional atomic data: electron-ion impact cross sections, photoionisation & recombination cross sections, forbidden (M1 and E2) transitions

 \rightarrow due to lack of atomic data only possible using approximations







Systematic improvement of atomic data possible with the use of **experimental data** or *ab initio* calculations for few low lying levels

Kilonova atomic data

Many recent published calculations on singly / doubly ionised r-process elements:

Kasen+13, Kasen+17 AUTOSTRUCTURE - Lanthanides Fontes+20, Fontes+22 Los Alamos Atomic Physics and Plasma Code - Lanthanides and Actinides (I-IV) Tanaka+20, Domoto+22, Banerjee+23 HULLAC - Multiple *r*-process elements (I - IX) Gaigalas+19, Gaigalas+20, Radžiūtė+21 GRASP2K - Multiple lanthanides Carvajal+22, Deprince+22 HFR - Multiple Lanthanides and Actinides,

F. Silva+22, Flörs+23, GSI + LIP FAC all lanthanides + Pt + Au (optimized potential where exp. data is available)

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The Radiative Transfer and Atomic Physics of Kilonovae

Nd II - Energy Levels





• Good general agreement with calculations using HULLAC & GRASP2K - differences at higher ionization stages (less experimental data available)

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Nd & U - Expansion Opacities



energy

Nd & U - Expansion Opacities



Nd & U - Expansion Opacities



Nd & U - Expansion Opacities





• Good general agreement with calculations using HULLAC & GRASP2K - differences at higher ionization stages (less experimental data available)

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Results - Opacities





• convergence requires ~20 configurations for typical lanthanide ions

Nd & U - Opacities

[A.Flörs+2023] planck mean opacity [cm² g⁻¹] Nd HULLAC Nd GRASP2K Nd FAC U FAC 10² Nd HFR **U HFR** 10¹ 2000 4000 6000 8000 10000 temperature [K]

FAC results (levels / opacities) extremely close to GRASP2K → use this method on the remaining lanthanides



Planck Mean Opacities

- Similar shape of HULLAC and FAC Planck mean opacities
- FAC calculations yield higher (~factor of 2) opacities than those using HULLAC
- Effect of calibration to experimental data weaker than differences between calculations



Pt And Au Atomic Data



The Radiative Transfer and Atomic Physics of Kilonovae

Pt And Au Atomic Data



Pt And Au Radiative Transfer



similar setup as in [Gillanders+2021]





Wavelength [Å]

Lanthanide Radiative Transfer







Lanthanide Radiative Transfer

Conclusions

- Optimisation of the mean local potential leads to very good agreement with NIST data similar to GRASP calculations but only at a fraction of the computational cost
- Number of included configurations is not too important

 → quick convergence of level energies and opacities
 → additional configurations lead to increased opacity close to the ionisation edge (<1500Å)
- General agreement on Planck mean opacities to $\pm 50\%$ between codes \rightarrow calibration to experimental data has only minor effect on grey opacity
- Radiative transfer models are sensitive to transition wavelengths
 → uncalibrated datasets easily yield features at wrong wavelengths
 - → radiative transfer models using our optimised + calibrated atomic data are in extremely good agreement with GRASP (Pt + Au) and they reproduce experimentally measured La III transitions
- We will make our data publicly available after publication (Zenodo)