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[452] A setup for coincidence measurements of ion-molecule reactive scattering

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Experimental observation of state-to-state interactions, here specifically reactive encounters of ions and molecules, requires both precise control of the initial conditions and sufficient resolution of the product states. We have designed and simulated a new crossed beam velocity map imaging spectrometer, which exploits coincidence detection of products to push the experimental possibilities towards this goal. A high power and high repetition rate Lyman-alpha source in combination with a UV ionization laser will be used to detect neutral hydrogen atoms, which are often produced as the neutral co-product in important interstellar reactions such as $H_2^+ + H_2$ forming $H_3^+ + H$.

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