Atomic collisions using slow antiprotons in ASACUSA at CERN

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## **Co-workers**

### Experiment

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### Theory

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# Outlook

- Why? antimatter factory-> new energy source – test of various theories
  - Experiment-Theorytime-of-flightCC, CDW, CTMC
- Past Single ionization of He Single and double ionization of Ar
- Present Ionization of H and H<sub>2</sub>
- Future

Differential cross sections – anti-cusp

Summary, Conclusions

## Dynamic systems with more than one electron



## Advantages with antiprotons:

Antiprotons do not capture electrons (one center problem, essentially) Antiprotons follow a classical path (classical orbital approximation) Very slow antiprotons can still ionize ( "adiabatic" collisions can be investigated)

- Antiprotons can give benchmark data

## Antiproton Radiotherapy – application of antiprotons??



## **Reaction Channels**



## Ionization of noble gas atoms in **slow** antiproton collisions



# Past

"Ionization of Helium and Argon by Very Slow Antiproton Impact" Knudsen et al Phys. Rev. Letters 101 (2008)

"On the double ionization of helium by very slow antiproton impact" Knudsen et al NIMB 267 244 (2009)

## **Experimental setup**



# AIA



# **TOF SPECTRA**



channels

## Ionization of helium atoms in slow antiproton collisions



## Single Ionization of helium atoms in slow antiproton collisions THEORY in the year 2009

Single ionization of Helium by antiproton impact



## **Double** Ionization of helium atoms in slow antiproton collisions



## Double Ionization of helium atoms in slow antiproton collisions



Double Ionization of He by Antiproton Impact

## Double Ionization of helium atoms in slow antiproton collisions



# Single ionization of argon atoms in slow antiproton collisions



## Double ionization of argon atoms in slow antiproton collisions



E [keV]

# Ionization of argon atoms in slow antiproton collisions



# Ionization of argon atoms in slow antiproton collisions

Argon target



# Present

## Ionization of H and H<sub>2</sub>



**Future/Theory** 

## The special case of target ionization





## **Total cross sections**



## **Angular differential electron emission cross sections**



## Double differential electron emission cross sections E=50 keV

CTMC



**CDW-EIS** 

Antiproton

$$E = 4\frac{m}{M}E_p \cos^2\theta$$

proton

## Double differential electron emission cross sections 100 keV



## **Energy distributions at 0 degree**

50 keV pbar + He

#### 100 keV pbar + He



**Future/Experiment** 

# **PBAR RECYCLER**

# **PBAR COLLIMATION**



# Aarhus University Circumference 7.6 m

#### ELISA

Electrostatic storage ring

From protons to biomolecules

Highest storage energy 22 keV Average pressure <10<sup>-11</sup> mBar Storage time tens of s up to minutes

## Is it necessary to detect the antiprotons?

It should be possible to get *some* information about the triple differential cross section by detecting the emitted electron and the emitted ion.

Also, remember that the pbar, deflected after ionization can be detected by their emitted pions



# Pbar beam focusing Capillary with conical shape



# Conclusions

- we have obtained experimental benchmark data for the development of advanced models and calculations of atomic collisions in general and for ionization
- we found upper limits to the low energy double ionization cross section and to the ratio between double and single ionization cross sections.

**TO BE CONTINUED** .....

Thank you!