

# Particle sources: Ion sources

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# This lecture

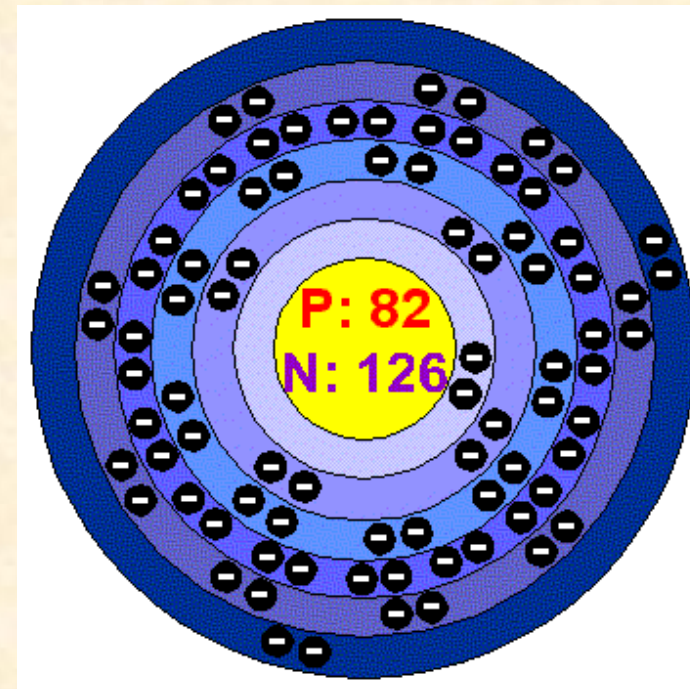
- Ions can be extracted rather easily from gas.
- We will see how to create the necessary conditions for this and how to actually do it.
- We will see that depending on the type of ions different strategies have to be used.
- We will then look at the diversity of ion sources that exists.

# Content

- Reminder on atomic physics
- Reminder on plasma physics
- Types of ions sources
- Applications

# Reminder: atomic physics

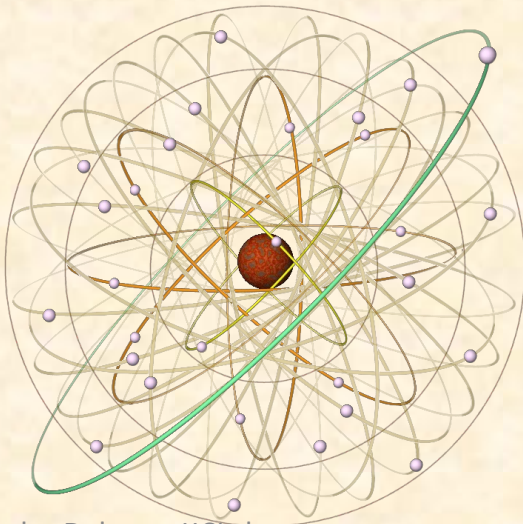
- An atom is made of a nucleus with a cloud of electrons around.
- Atomic physics studies the dynamic of the electrons in this cloud.
- For us, one of the most important question will be: how to remove (or add) the right numbers of electrons to an atom as efficiently as possible.



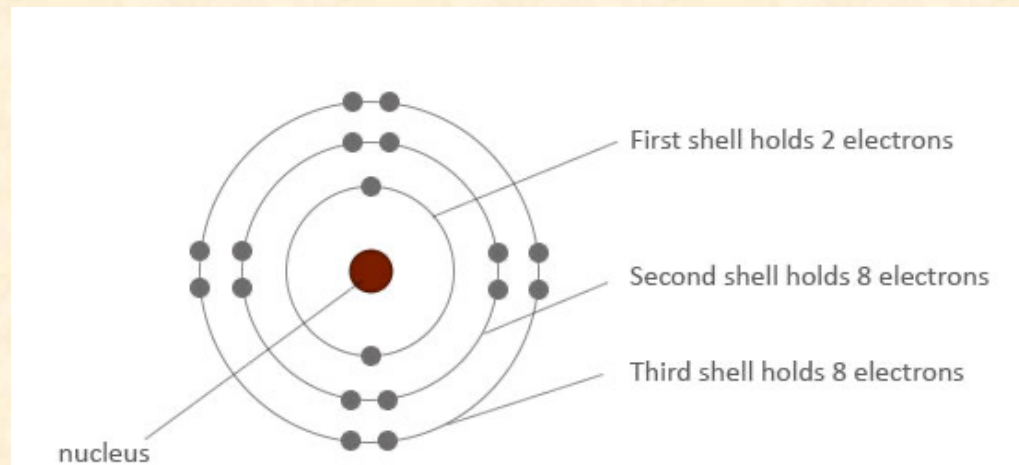


# Electrons in atoms

- Electrons around a nucleus occupy different energy levels.
- The occupancy of each level is limited Pauli's exclusion principle combined with the degrees of freedom for each level (spin, spin-orbit,...).

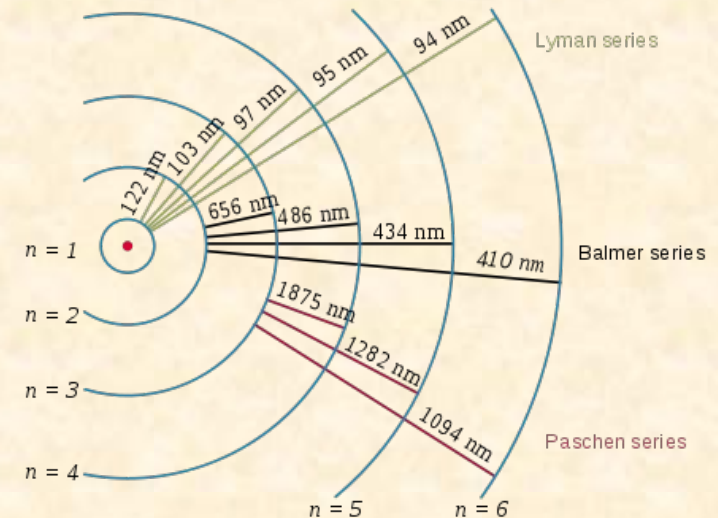


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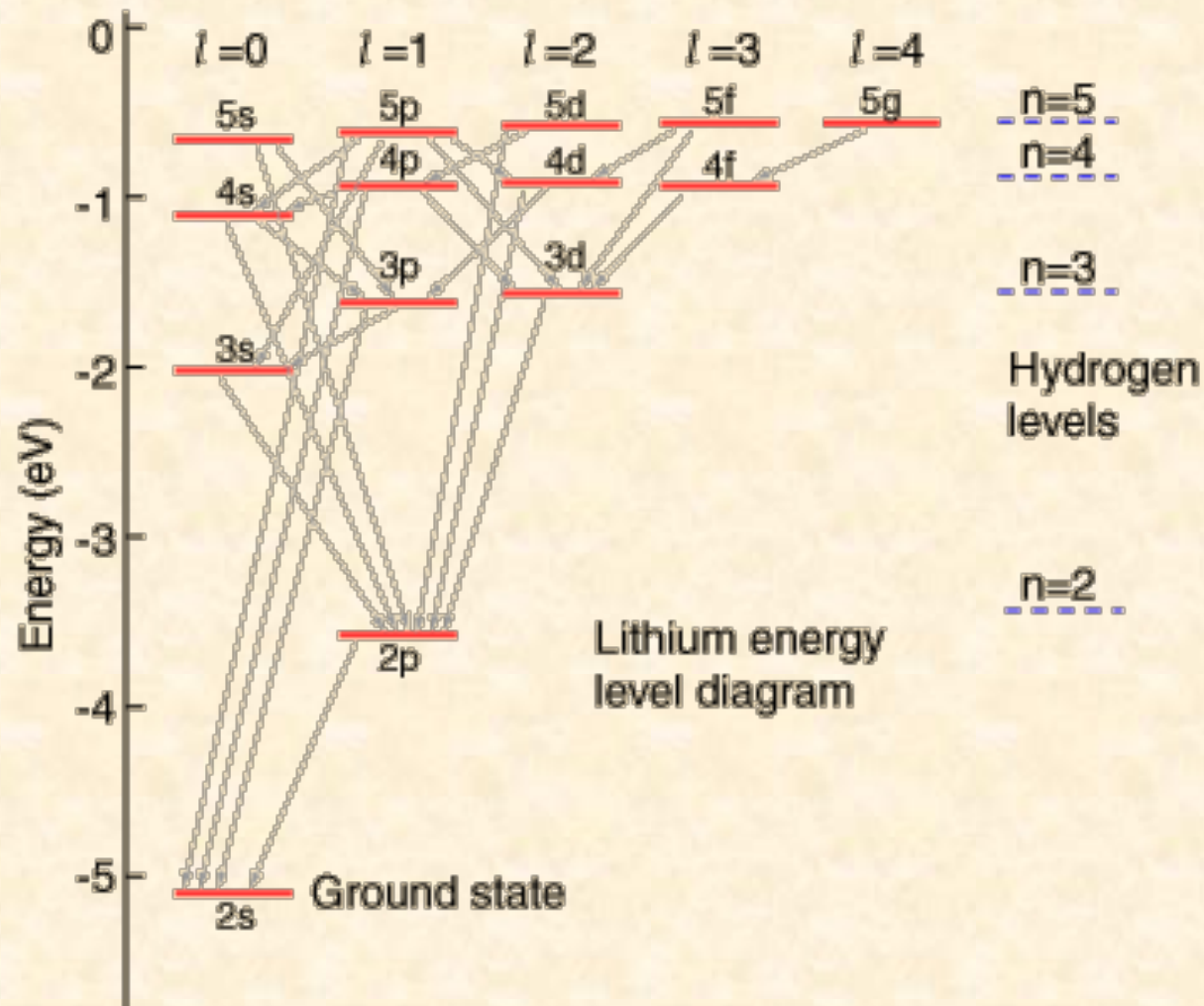


# Electron quantum numbers: energy level (n)

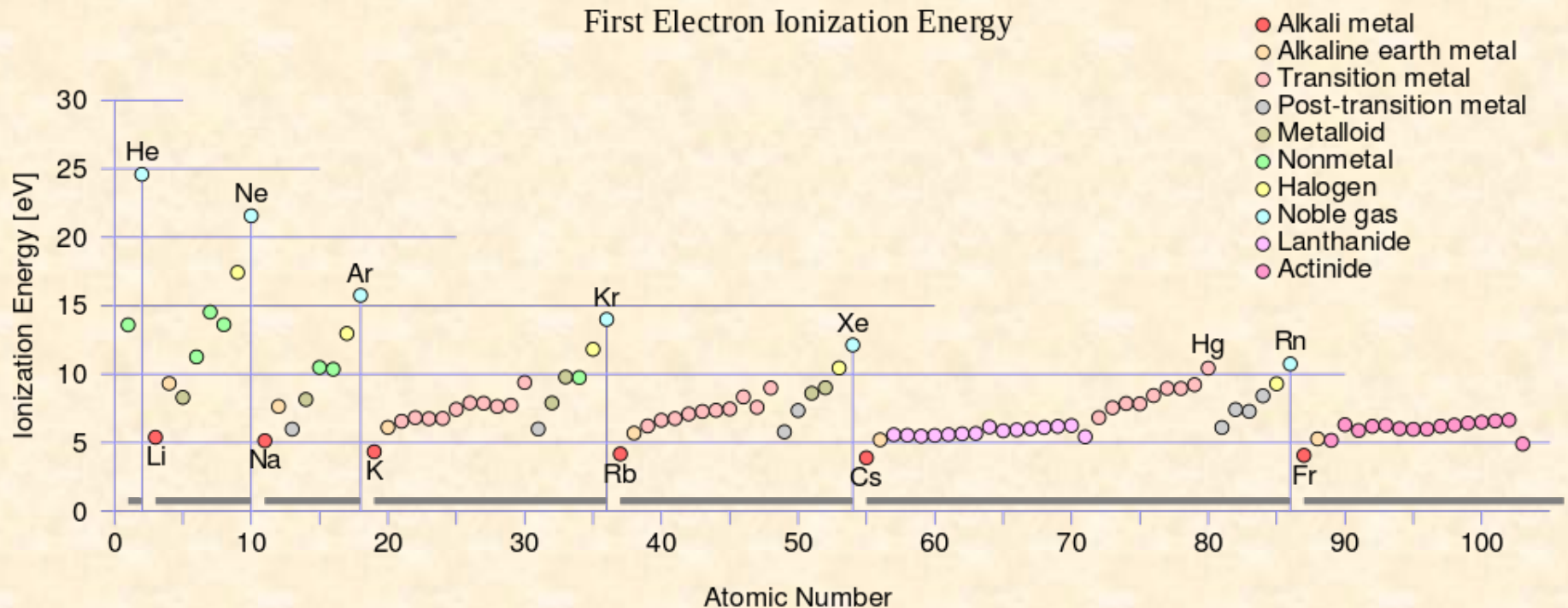
- To satisfy Pauli's exclusion principle, there can not be two electrons around the atom with the same quantum numbers.
- The first of these quantum number is the energy level of the electron. It is written "n".
- It is this quantum level that will normally define the energy of the electrons.
- The energy difference between two levels will define the absorption (or emission) lines of an atom.



# Energy levels: detailed structure



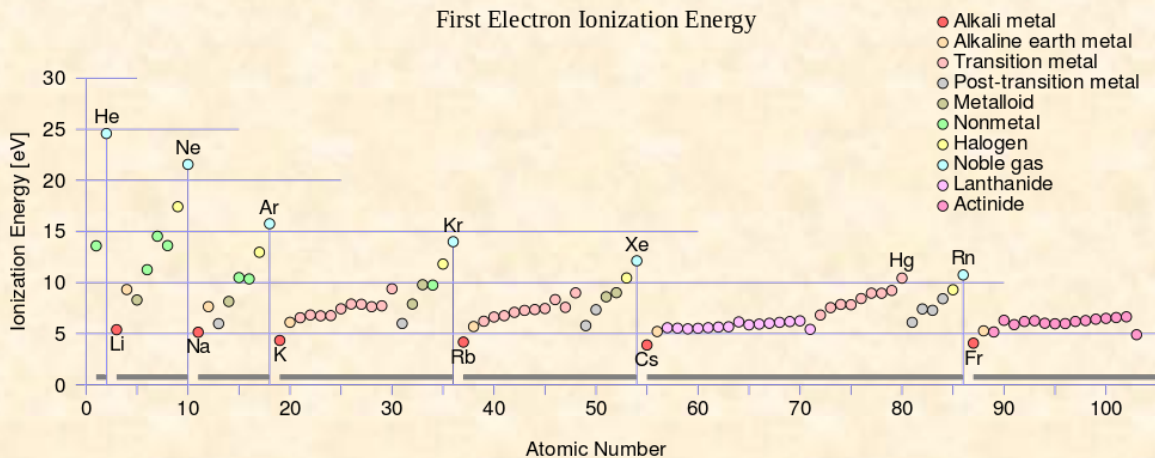
# First ionization energy



- The first ionization energy is about 5-25 eV.

# Quizz

- What is the difference between the “First ionization energy” and the work function seen at the previous lecture?
  - One is in eV, the other in MeV
  - One applies to gas, the other to solids.
  - One is related to the atomic layers, the other one to the nuclear layers.



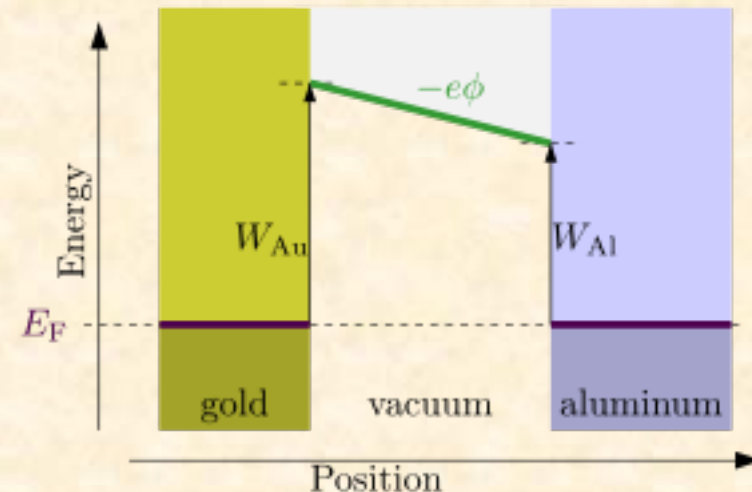
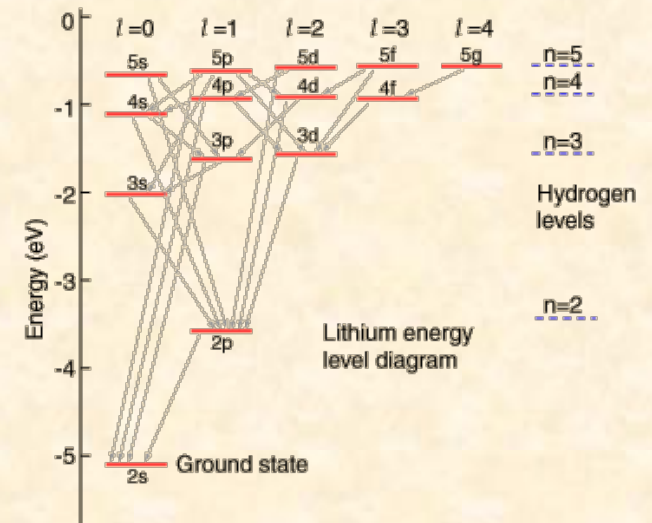
Work function of elements, in units of **electron volt (eV)**.

Ag	4.26 – 4.74	Al	4.06 – 4.26	As	3.75
Au	5.1 – 5.47	B	~4.45	Ba	2.52 – 2.7
Be	4.98	Bi	4.31	C	~5
Ca	2.87	Cd	4.08	Ce	2.9
Co	5	Cr	4.5	Cs	2.14
Cu	4.53 – 5.10	Eu	2.5	Fe:	4.67 – 4.81
Ga	4.32	Gd	2.90	Hf	3.9
Hg	4.475	In	4.09	Ir	5.00 – 5.67
K	2.29	La	3.5	Li	2.9
Lu	~3.3	Mg	3.66	Mn	4.1
Mo	4.36 – 4.95	Na	2.36	Nb	3.95 – 4.87
Nd	3.2	Ni	5.04 – 5.35	Os	5.93
Pb	4.25	Pd	5.22 – 5.6	Pt	5.12 – 5.93
Rb	2.261	Re	4.72	Rh	4.98
Ru	4.71	Sb	4.55 – 4.7	Sc	3.5
Se	5.9	Si	4.60 – 4.85	Sm	2.7
Sn	4.42	Sr	~2.59	Ta	4.00 – 4.80
Tb	3.00	Te	4.95	Th	3.4
Ti	4.33	Tl	~3.84	U	3.63 – 3.90
V	4.3	W	4.32 – 5.22	Y	3.1
Yb	2.60 <sup>[13]</sup>	Zn	3.63 – 4.9	Zr	4.05

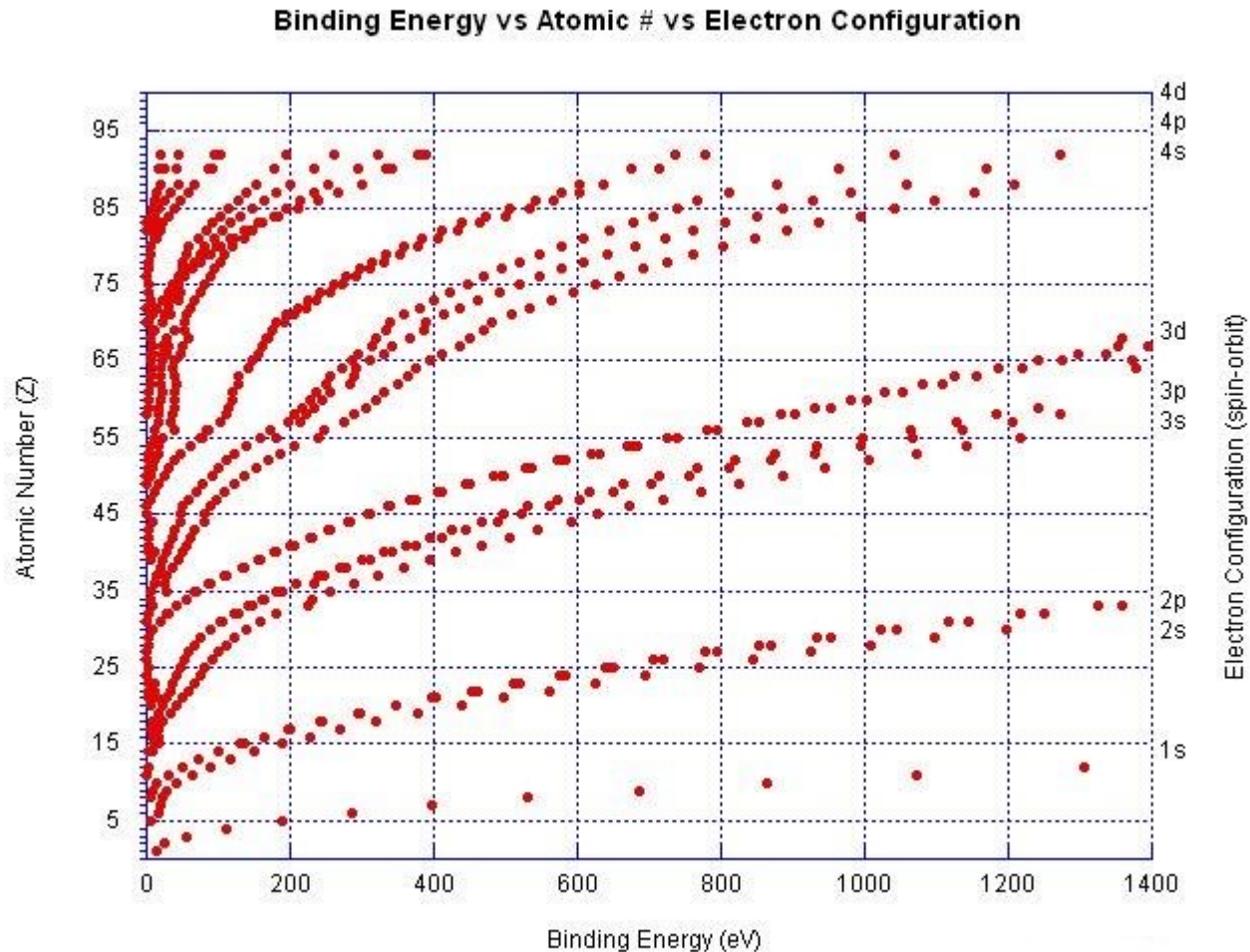


# Answer

- Work function is a solid state property whereas ionization is a property of gas.
- However the values of both are close (about 5eV).



# Electron binding energy



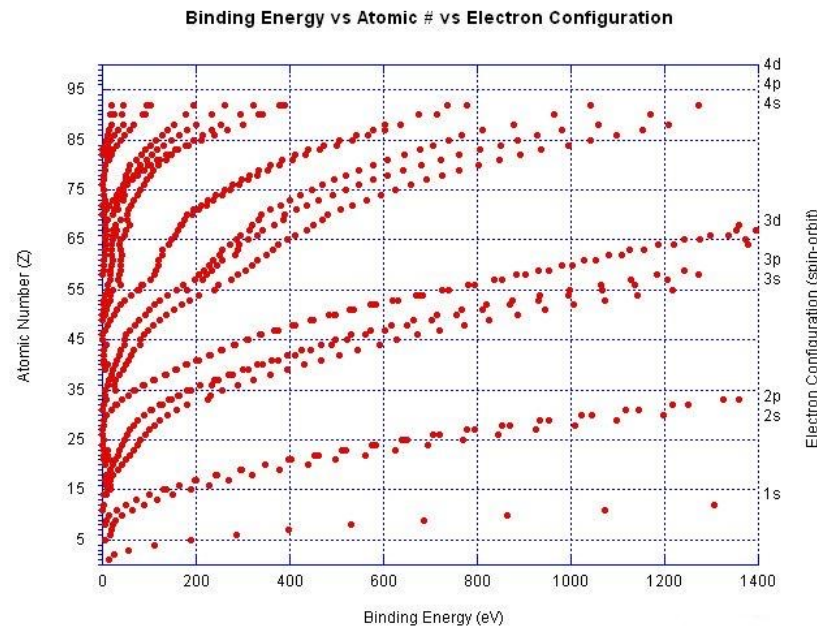
Note the difference 2p-2s



# Quizz

- In which column of the periodic table is it easier to ionize?
- In which one is it harder?

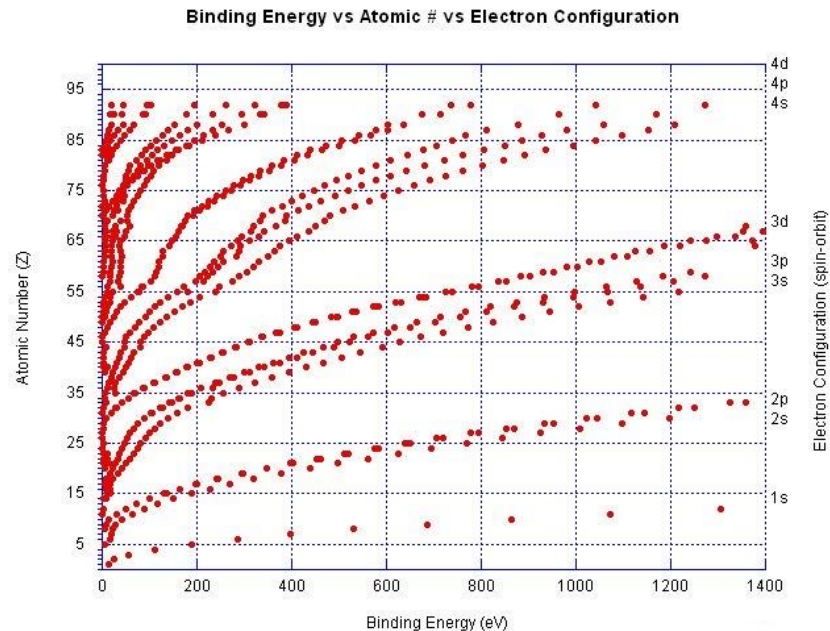
Group→	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
↓Period																		
1	1 H																	2 He
2	3 Li	4 Be											5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F	10 Ne
3	11 Na	12 Mg											13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar
4	19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr
5	37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe
6	55 Cs	56 Ba	*	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn
7	87 Fr	88 Ra	**	104 Rf	105 Db	106 Sg	107 Bh	108 Hs	109 Mt	110 Ds	111 Rg	112 Cn	113 Uut	114 Fl	115 Uup	116 Lv	117 Uus	118 Uuo
		*		57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu
		**		89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No	103 Lr



# Answer

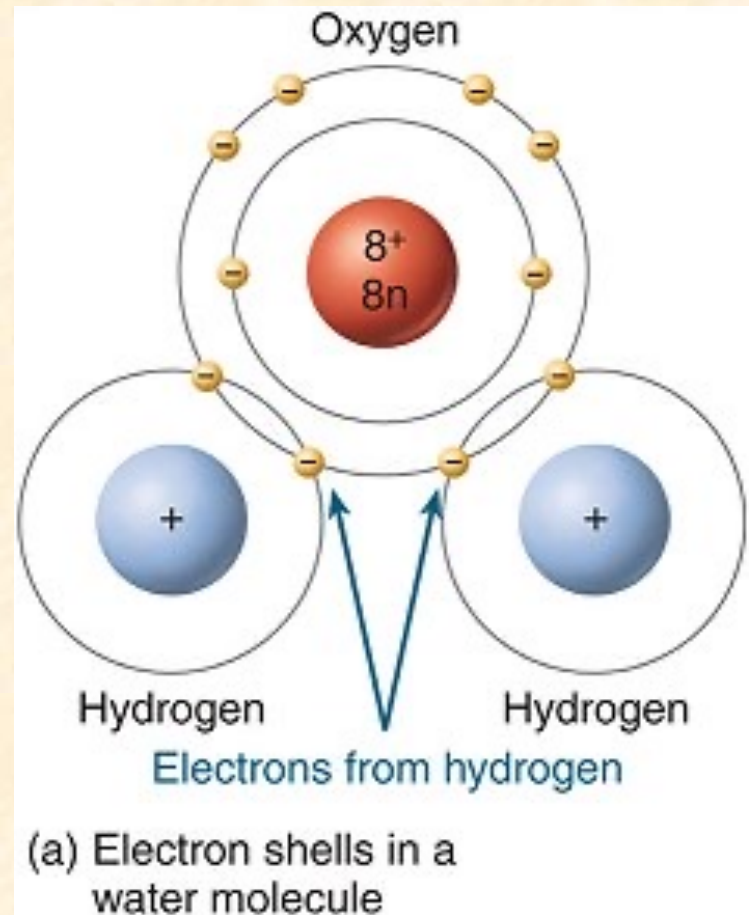
- In which column of the periodic table is it easier to ionize?  
=> the first one.
- In which one is it harder?  
=> The last one

Group→	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
↓Period																		
1	1 H																	2 He
2	3 Li	4 Be											5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F	10 Ne
3	11 Na	12 Mg											13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar
4	19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr
5	37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe
6	55 Cs	56 Ba	*	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn
7	87 Fr	88 Ra	**	104 Rf	105 Db	106 Sg	107 Bh	108 Hs	109 Mt	110 Ds	111 Rg	112 Cn	113 Uut	114 Fl	115 Uup	116 Lv	117 Uus	118 Uuo
		*		57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu
		**		89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No	103 Lr



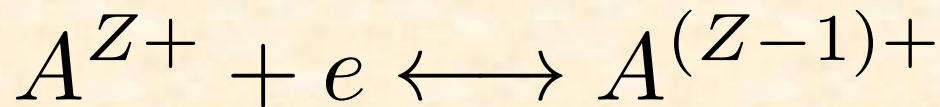
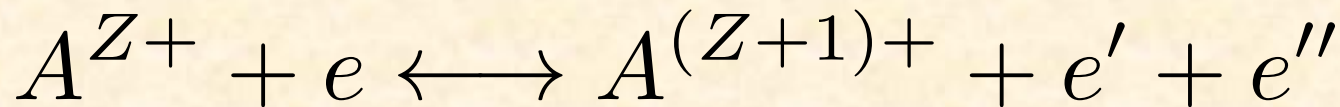
# Valence

- Only the electrons on the outer shell contribute to the chemical properties of the elements.
- This is called valence.
- The valence is the lower of the number of electron on the outer shell and the number of electrons needed to complete the shell.

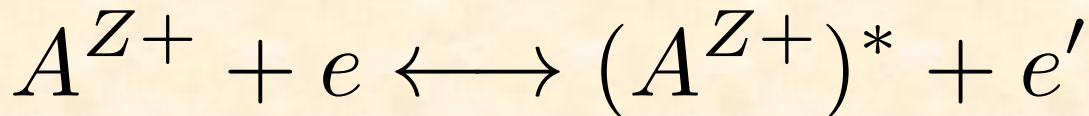


# Atomic processes in ions sources: collision with electrons

- Impact ionization/capture

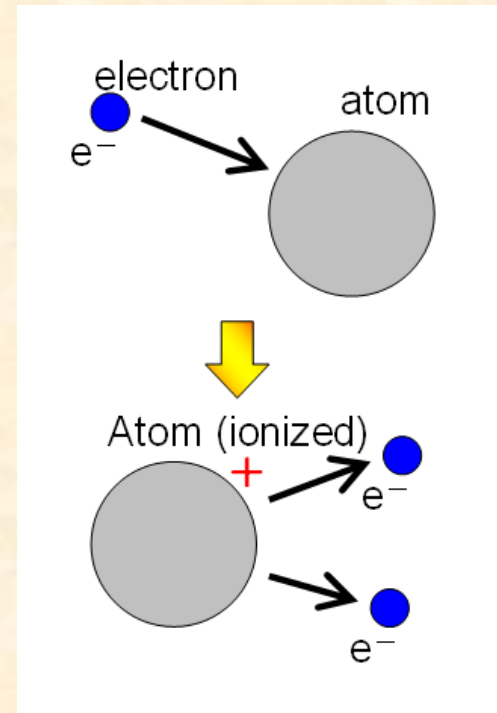


- Impact excitation



(continuous spectrum)

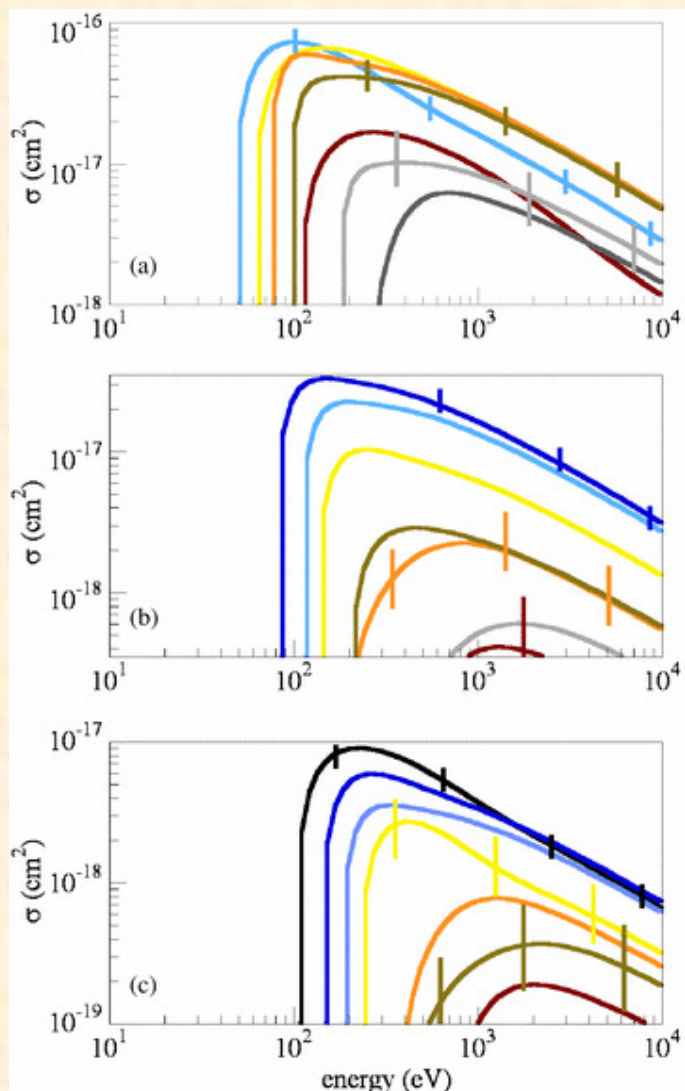
- Note: high cross section!





# Collision with electrons

- The energy threshold for ionization increase for higher ionization states.

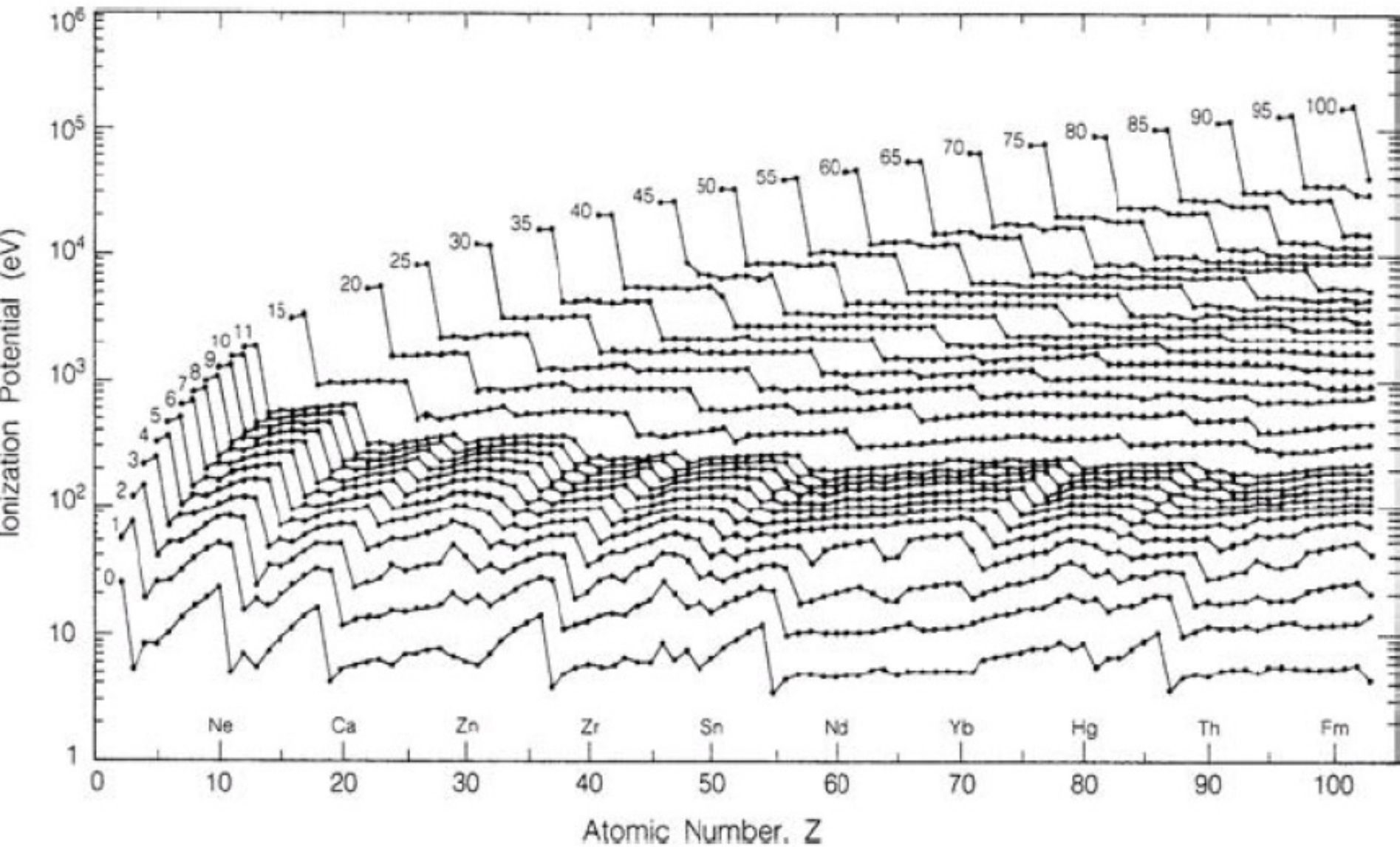


Cross sections for (e, 2e) (a) and (e, 3e) (b) and (e, 4e) impact ionization (c) for Xe + (black), Xe + 2, (blue), Xe + 3 (light blue), Xe + 4 (yellow), Xe + 5 (orange), Xe + 6 (light brown), Xe + 7 (dark brown), Xe + 8 (light grey) and Xe + 9 (dark grey). Error bars for cross sections yielding Xe + 4, Xe + 7 and Xe + 9 are shown.

Source:

J. Phys. B: At. Mol. Opt. Phys. **38** No 10 (28 May 2005) L183-L190

# Multiply charged ions



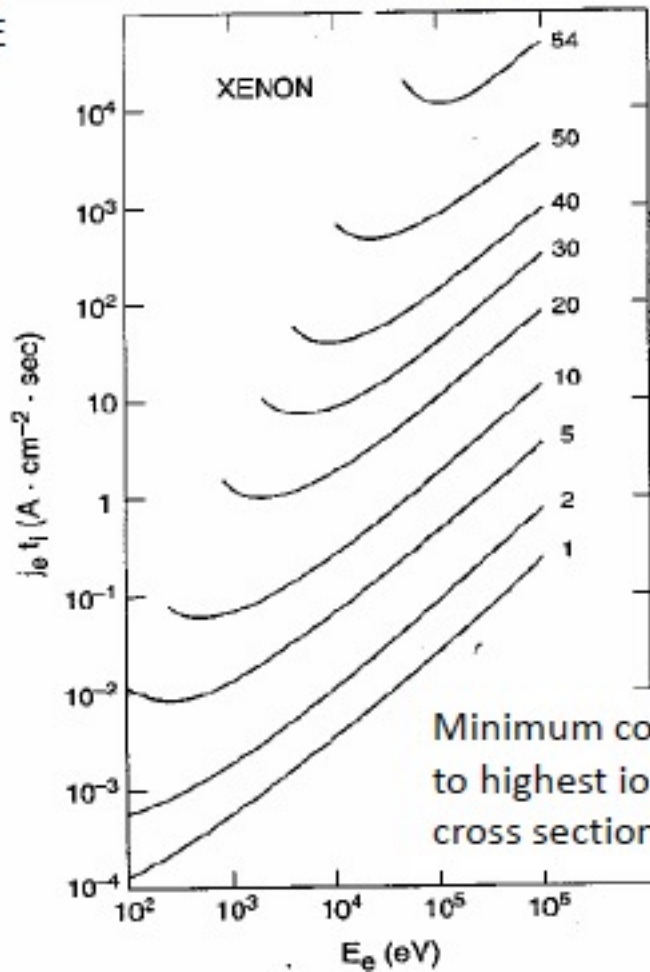
# Lotz formula

- Lotz formula: semi-empirical formula for cross-section of multiple ionization

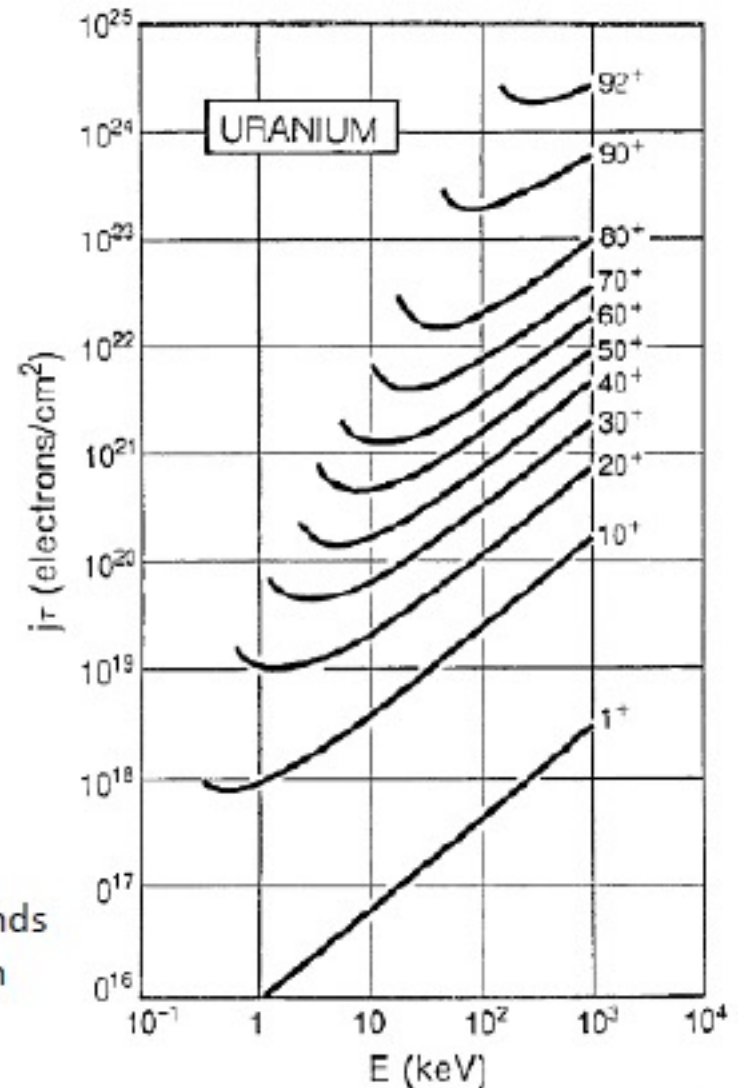
$$\sigma_{q \rightarrow q+1} = 4.5 \cdot 10^{-14} \cdot \sum_{nl} \frac{\ln\left(\frac{E_{kin}}{P_i}\right)}{E_{kin} \cdot P_i} \quad [\text{cm}^2]$$

Higher E

Ionization factor  $j_e \cdot \tau$  for different charge states of Xe depending on electron energy



Minimum corresponds to highest ionization cross section





# Lotz formula (2)

## Lotz formula in detail:

- 3 parameters to represent cross sections for single ionization from ground-state
- Approximates almost all data within 10% and within exp. errors for up to 10keV-electrons
- Empirical formula, but with proper theory basis: (problem for theory: long-range nature of Coulomb potential causing interaction of 2 electrons and ion also at long distances) it follows earlier theoretical work on e-e scattering, uses approximation of starting and final wave functions, gets parameters from fits

Total ionization cross-section  $\sigma = \sum_{i=1}^N a_i q_i \frac{\ln(E/P_i)}{E P_i} \{1 - b_i \exp[-c_i(E/P_i - 1)]\};$

Annotations:  
 -  $N$ : # of subshell  
 -  $q_i$ : # of electrons in subshell  
 -  $a_i$ : parameter

$E < E(\text{max cross section}):$

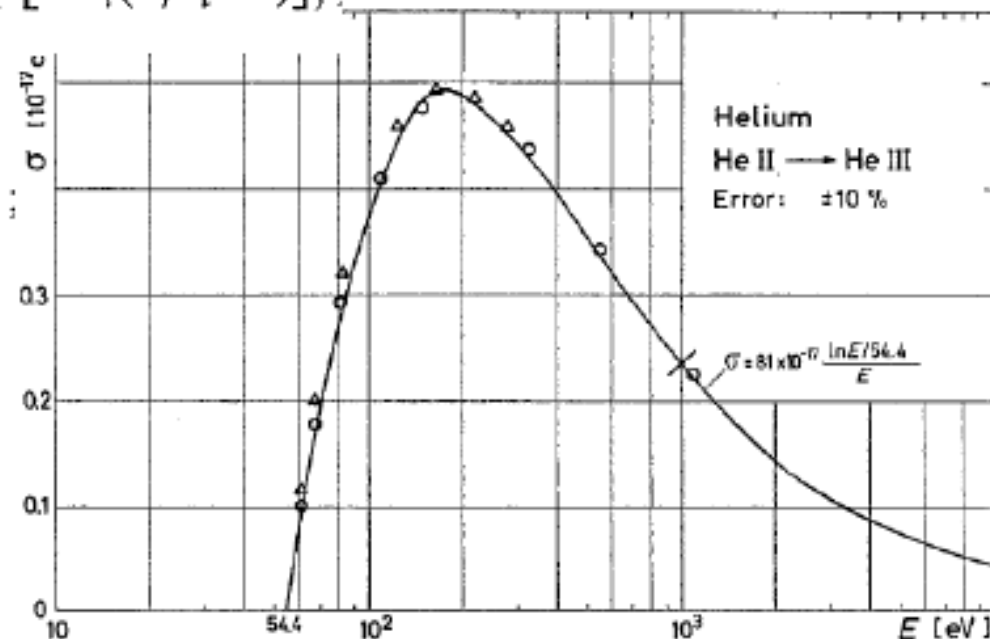
$$\sigma = \sum_{i=1}^N a_i q_i \frac{\ln(E/P_i)}{E P_i} \{1 - b_i \exp[-c_i(E/P_i - 1)]\};$$

$E$  close to  $P_i$

$$\sigma \approx a_1 q_1 \frac{(E/P_1 - 1)}{P_1^2} (1 - b_1) \propto U - 1 \quad U = E/P_1.$$

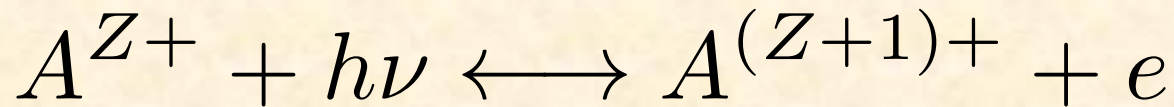
$$E \gg P_i \quad \sigma_i = a_i q_i \frac{\ln(E/P_i)}{E P_i} \propto \frac{\ln E}{E}.$$

$$a_i = 2.6 - 4.5 \text{ e-14 cm}^2 \text{ (empirically)}$$

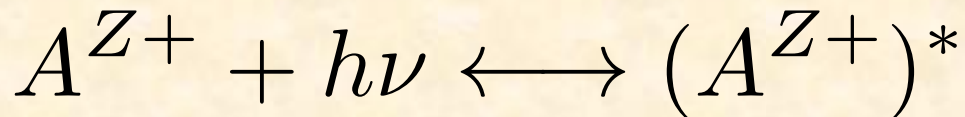


# Atomic processes in ions sources: collision with photons

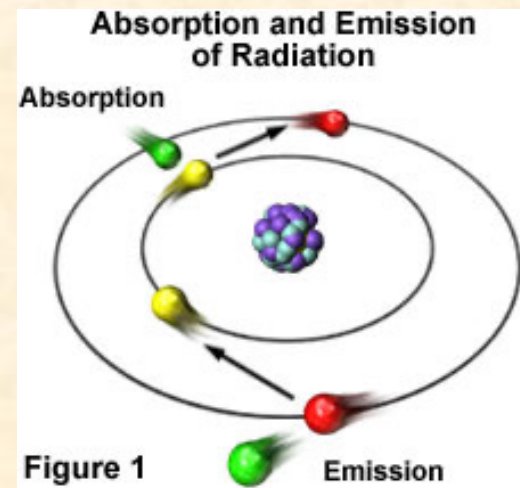
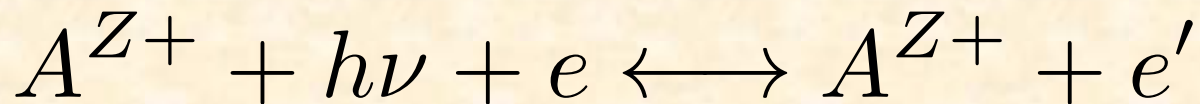
- Photo-ionization/Radiative recombination



- Excitation



- Photo absorption/Bremstrahlung



- Note: cross section lower by several orders of magnitude wrt ionization by collision.

# Atomic processes in ions sources: charge exchange

- In the charge exchange process two ions exchange an electrons:

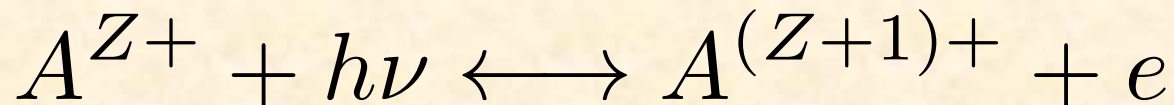


- For this process to take place the right conditions need to be meet.

# Ion states equilibrium

- All processes enter in competition!

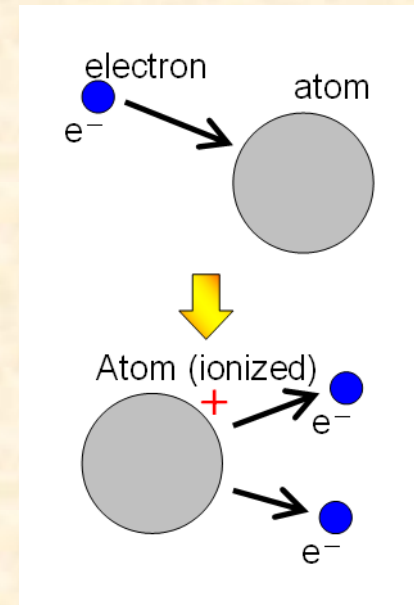
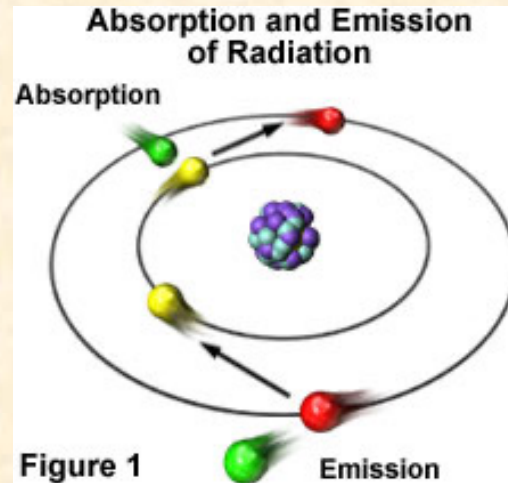
$$\frac{dn}{dt} = source - sink$$



- To get the desired ions one needs to find the parameters that will favour that specie.

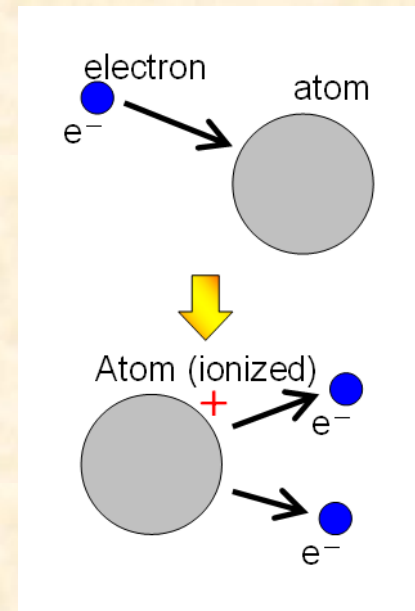
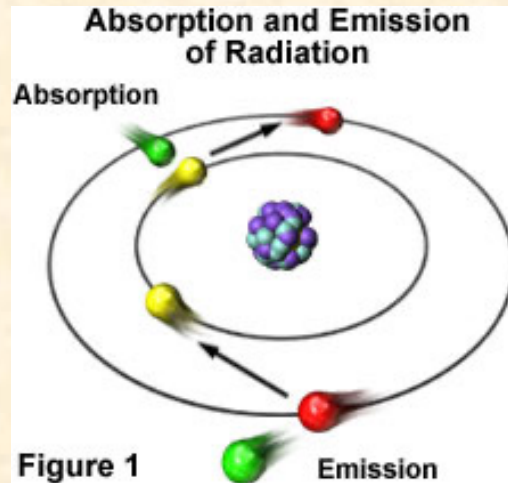
# Quizz

- In which of these cases will photo-ionization be selected over impact ionization?
  - (a) A very high current is needed
  - (b) To ionize rare gas elements
  - (c) A specific charge state has to be selected



# Answer (c)

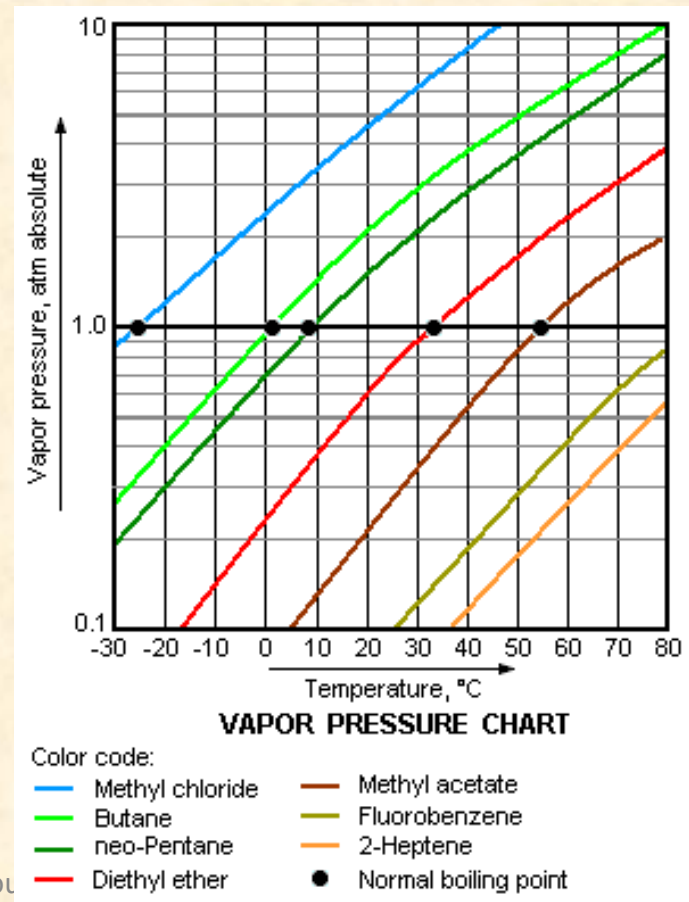
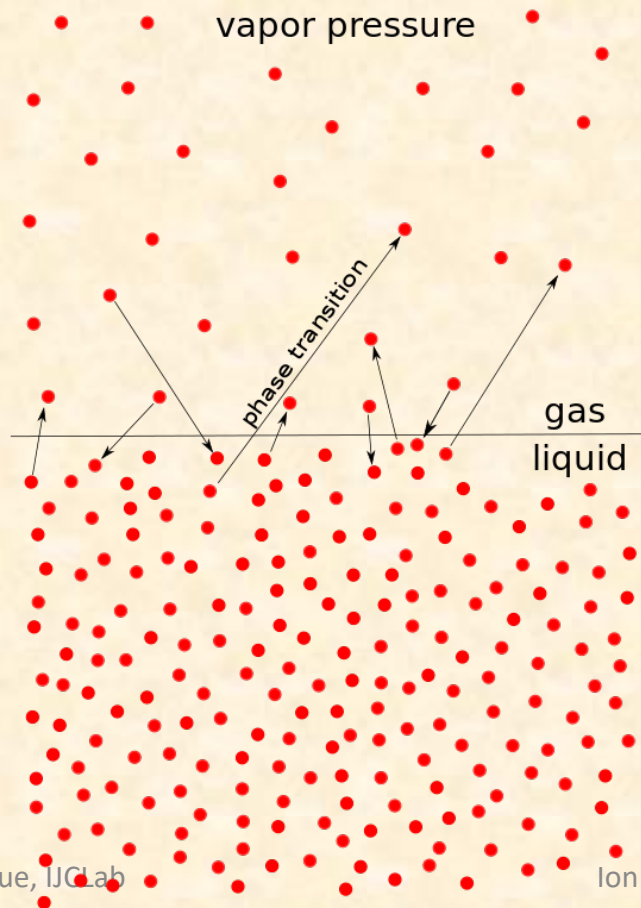
- In which of these cases will photo-ionization be selected over collision ionization?
  - (a) A very high current is needed  
=> Photo-ionization has a lower yield.
  - (b) To ionize rare gas elements  
=> It will be more difficult to ionize such atoms with both methods.
  - (c) A specific charge state has to be selected  
=> By choosing the wavelength one can be more selective.





# Vapour pressure

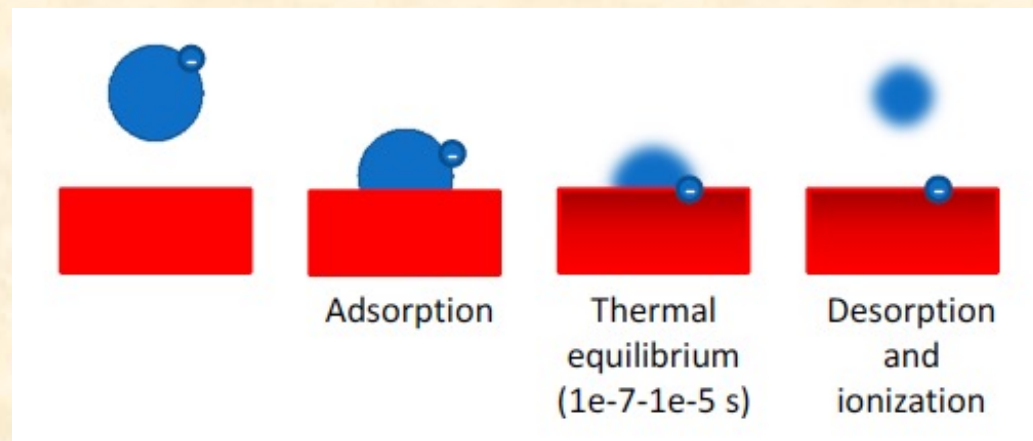
- A small fraction of all elements is always in the gaseous (vapour) state.
- There must be an equilibrium between the vapour state and the condensed states.





# Surface ionization and desorption

- If the vapor pressure is sufficiently low some atoms will escape from a solid => desorption.
- In some cases the atoms escaping the metal will be charged ions (positively or negatively).
- This process can also take place when ions are first adsorbed by the metal.



# Saha-Langmuir equation (1)

$$\frac{n_{i+1}n_e}{n_i} = \frac{2}{\Lambda^3} \frac{g_{i+1}}{g_i} \exp \left[ -\frac{\epsilon_{i+1} - \epsilon_i}{k_B T} \right]$$

$n_i$  is the density of atoms in the i-th state of ionization (with i electrons removed).

$g_i$  is the degeneracy of states for the i-ions

$\epsilon_i$  is the energy required to remove i electrons from a neutral atom, creating an i-level ion.

$n_e$  is the electron density

$\Lambda$  is the thermal de Broglie wavelength of an electron

# Saha-Langmuir equation (2)

$$\frac{n_{i+1}n_e}{n_i} = \frac{2}{\Lambda^3} \frac{g_{i+1}}{g_i} \exp \left[ -\frac{\epsilon_{i+1} - \epsilon_i}{k_B T} \right]$$

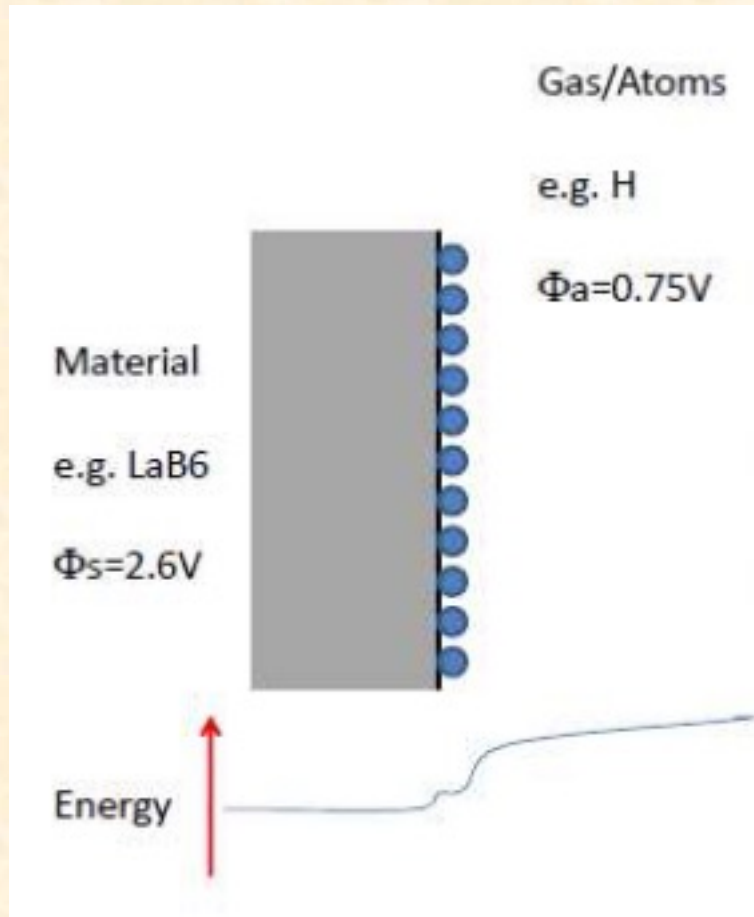
- Notes:
  - final charge state depends on equilibrium values.
  - several ionisation states possible.
  - importance of ionization energy.
  - Favours group 1 elements (lower ionisation energy)
  - Exists also in a form involving the work function.

# Surface ionisation

Element	E <sub>1</sub> (eV)	n <sub>1</sub> /n <sub>0</sub> (T=1000K)	n <sub>1</sub> /n <sub>0</sub> (T=1500K)	n <sub>1</sub> /n <sub>0</sub> (T=2000K)
Cs	3.88	790	72	20
K	4.32	6.3	2.2	1.6
Na	5.12	5e-4	5e-3	1.6e-2
Li	5.40	2e-5	6e-4	3e-3

- Lower ionisation energy leads to more ionised emission.
- Higher temperature may reduce ratio of charged ions to neutral atoms (but increase in total emission).

# Surface negative ionization



- Principle: deposit a layer of atoms with a high electron affinity.
- The electrons will be transferred to the atom layer.
- Force the emission of the atom layer which takes away part extra electrons at the same time.

# Atomic physics summary

- Atomic physics is a key element of understanding ion sources.
- The atomic shell structure determines the energy required to remove (or add) electrons from (to) an atom.
- Several methods of ionization exist (impact ionization, photo ionization, surface ionization...).
- The choice depends on the specie to be ionised and the charge state expected.

# Quizz

- For an ion collider one has the choice between colliding ions  $A^+$  or  $A^-$  (A being an unspecified atom).
- Based on the Saha-Langmuir equation which charge state (+1 or -1) would you recommend to use?

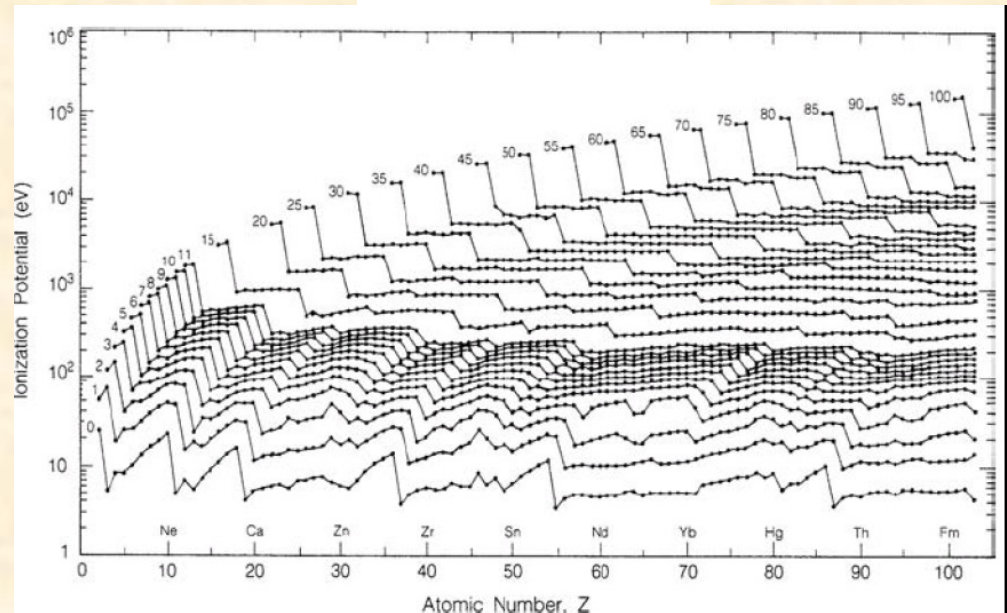
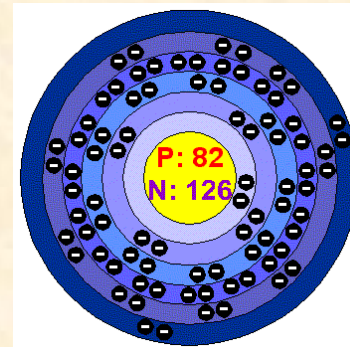
$$\frac{n_{i+1}n_e}{n_i} = \frac{2}{\Lambda^3} \frac{g_{i+1}}{g_i} \exp \left[ -\frac{\epsilon_{i+1} - \epsilon_i}{k_B T} \right]$$



# Answer

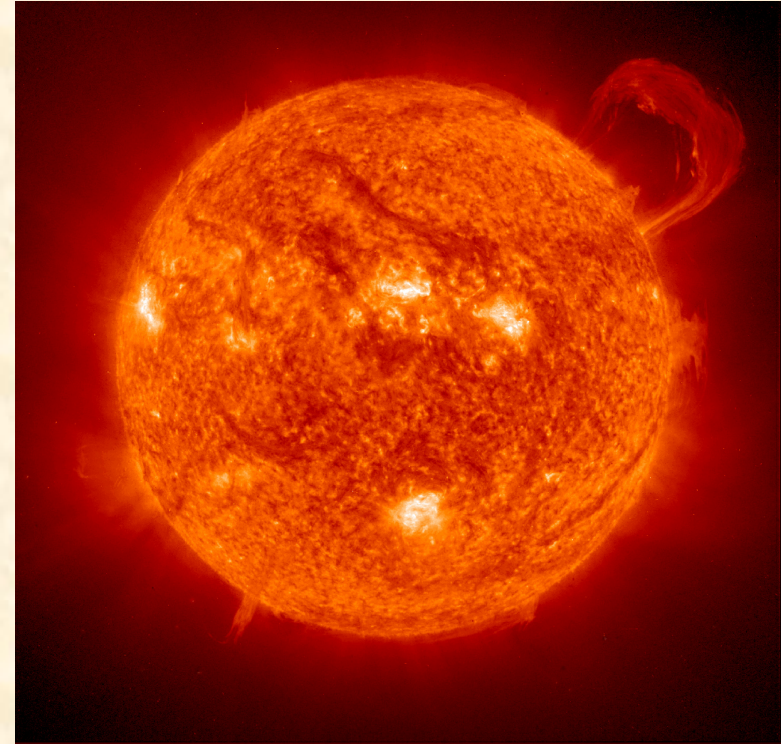
$$\frac{n_{i+1}n_e}{n_i} = \frac{2}{\Lambda^3} \frac{g_{i+1}}{g_i} \exp \left[ -\frac{\epsilon_{i+1} - \epsilon_i}{k_B T} \right]$$

- Binding an electron is more difficult than extracting one.
- The  $A^-$  state will therefore be more difficult to produce and more difficult to transport.
- It is better to use the  $A^+$  state (all other parameters being equal).



# Reminder: plasma physics

- In most cases ion sources will involve a “cold” plasma.
- Understanding what happens in the plasma is therefore important.
- A plasma is ionized matter.  
Eg: The SUN.



# Cold vs hot plasma

- A “hot” plasma is a plasma where almost all atoms are ionised.
- In a “cold” plasma only a small fraction ( $\sim 1\%$ ) of the atoms are ionised. The temperature of the electrons in a cold plasma can still be several thousand K.

# Key elements of a plasma

- 3 constituents:
  - charged ions (positively and negatively)
  - electrons
  - neutrals
- Electric conductivity
- Quasineutrality within bulk
- Sensitivity to electromagnetic fields
- Screening of electric field (sheath formation)
- Collective phenomena (plasma waves,...)



## Quantities Characterizing a Plasma

- temperatures of the constituents  $T$
- number densities of the constituents  $n$
- ionization degree  $\eta$
- Debye length  $\lambda_D$
- plasma frequency  $\omega_{pl}$
- (plasma parameter  $g$ )



# Temperatures in Plasma

Even in so-called "cold" plasma electrons have temperatures of the order of  $10^4$  K and more, while ions and neutrals remain cold ( $\sim 10^3$  K). Thus "cold plasma" is better characterized as "low enthalpy plasma", because it transfers little heat to its environment.

It has become international usage to use the symbol  $T$  not for the thermodynamic temperature measured in Kelvin, but instead for the characteristic energy  $k_B T$  ( $k_B$  Boltzmann constant) measured in eV. The "speaking" is: "The temperatures are measured in eV"

1 eV corresponds to  $1.160 \cdot 10^4$  K

$10^4$  K correspond to 0.862 eV

# Number Density of Particles Type i

definition  $n_i = \frac{\text{number of particles}}{\text{volume}},$

units  $[n_i] = 1 \text{ cm}^{-3}, \text{ or } [n_i] = 1 \text{ m}^{-3}.$

$$10^{-6} \text{ cm}^{-3} = 1 \text{ m}^{-3} \text{ or } 10^6 \text{ m}^{-3} = 1 \text{ cm}^{-3}$$

# Quasineutrality

For plasma with singly charged ions only

$$n_i \approx n_e$$

For plasma with multiply charged ions  
(z charge number of the ions)

$$n_e \approx \sum_z z \cdot n_z$$



# Ionisation degree $\eta$ or $\eta'$

two different definitions are used

$$\eta = \sum_z n_z / \left( n_a + \sum_z n_z \right)$$

$n_a$  neutral particle density

$$(\eta' = \sum_z n_z / n_a \quad \text{for } n_a \rightarrow 0 \text{ we get } \eta' \rightarrow \infty)$$

$\eta \ll 1$  "weakly ionised plasma"

$\eta \approx 1$  "strongly" or "fully ionised plasma"

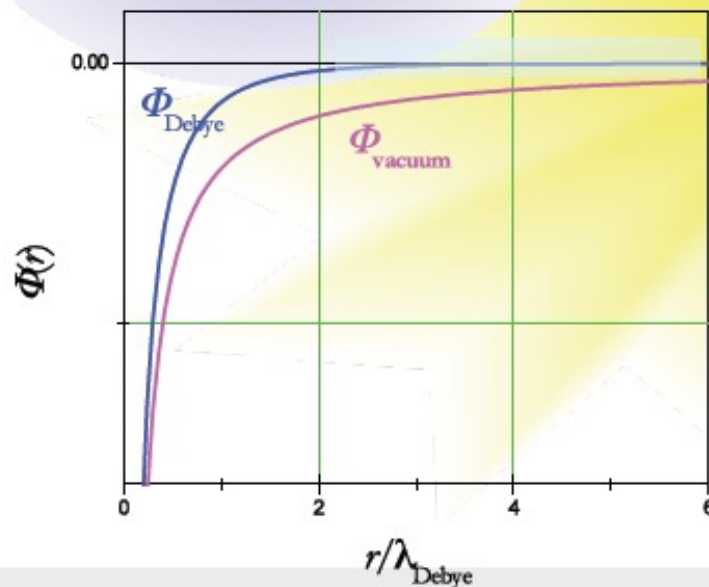
# Screening, Debye-Length

$$\Phi_{\text{vacuum}}(r) = Q / 4\pi\epsilon_0 r$$

$$\delta n = 4\pi n r^2 \delta r \Rightarrow \text{screening}$$

$$\Phi_{\text{Debye}}(r) = (Q / 4\pi\epsilon_0 r) * \exp(-r/\lambda_{\text{Debye}})$$

„Debye-Hückel-potential“



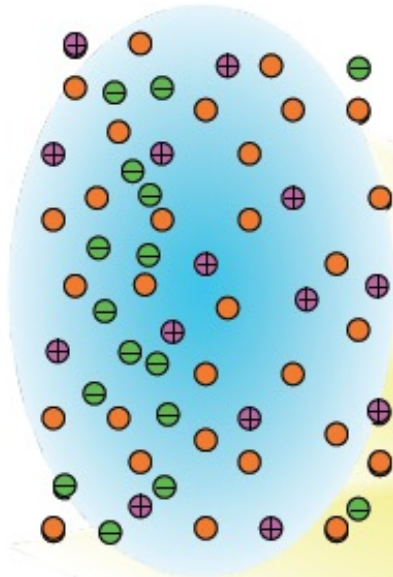
$$\lambda_{\text{Debye}} = \left( \frac{\epsilon_0 k_B T_e}{e^2 n} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

“Debye length”

**P. Debye, E. Hückel 1923**



# Quasineutrality I



restoring electric field  $E$  due to charge separation

$$E = \frac{en\Delta x}{\epsilon_0}$$

Example: fluorescent tube

$$n_e = 10^{16} \text{m}^{-3}; \Delta x = 1 \text{mm}$$

$$E_{\text{max}} = 180 \text{ kV/m}; U = (E\Delta x) = 180 \text{V}$$

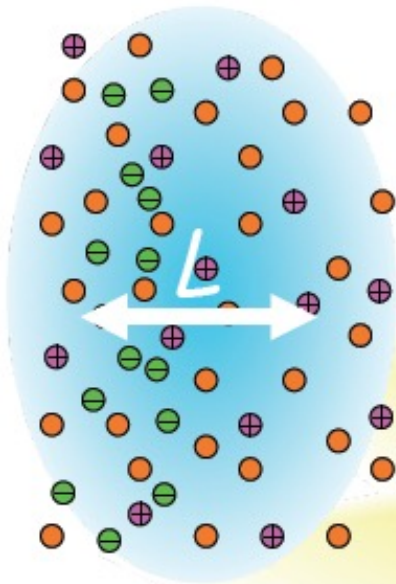
potential energy of an ion traversing a space charge sheath

$$W_{\text{pot}} = \int_0^{\Delta x} eE dx = \frac{e^2 n_e (\Delta x)^2}{2\epsilon_0}; \quad \frac{1}{2} k_B T = W_{\text{pot}} \Rightarrow \Delta x = \left( \frac{\epsilon_0 k_B T}{e^2 n_e} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \equiv \lambda_D$$

## Quasineutrality II

What amount of deviation from neutrality can exist over a length  $L$ ?

The increase in potential energy must not surmount  $k_B T/2$



$$\frac{1}{2} k_B T \approx \frac{1}{2} \frac{e^2 \Delta n L^2}{\epsilon_0}$$

Substituting  $k_B T$   
by  $\lambda_D$  yields

$$\Delta n / n \approx (\lambda_D / L)^2$$

Ionized gas is plasma only, if its extension is much larger than the Debye-length

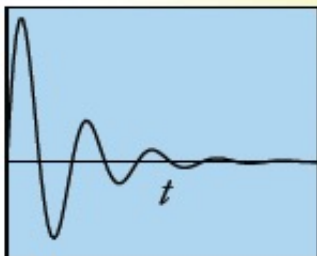
# Plasma Oscillations

Equation of motion for electrons moving under the action of the electric field generated by charge separation

$$F = eE = e^2 nx / \varepsilon_0 = m_e d^2 x / dt^2$$

This is the equation of a harmonic oscillator with the so-called electron plasma frequency as natural frequency

$$\omega_{pe} = \sqrt{e^2 n / \varepsilon_0 m_e}$$



$$\omega_{pe} / s^{-1} = 2\pi \cdot 8.98 \cdot \sqrt{n_e / m^{-3}}$$

Typical value: for  $n_e = 10^{17} m^{-3}$  we have  $\omega_{pe} = 2\pi \cdot 2.8 \text{ GHz}$



# Ion Plasma Frequency

If we replace electron charge and mass by the ion charge and mass we obtain:

$$\omega_{pi_z} = \sqrt{(ze)^2 n_z / \epsilon_0 m_z}$$

This is the characteristic frequency of ion space charges (e.g. ion sheaths at walls).

❖ electromagnetic fields varying with frequencies well above  $\omega_{pi}$  have almost no effect on the ion motion

❖ Typical values of  $\omega_{pi}$  are in the MHz range. Thus ionic RF currents are very small when working with frequencies in the 10 MHz range or above. In this case ions follow the (average) DC fields only

# Quizz

- Typical value of  $\omega_{pe}$  are in the GHz whereas  $\omega_{pi}$  is in the 10s of MHz.
- What happens if one excites a plasma with an RF wave of 100 MHz?
  - (a) The ions will be excited and not the electrons.
  - (b) The electrons will be excited and not the ions.
  - (c) Both the ions and the electrons will be excited.
  - (d) Neither the ions nor the electrons will be excited.

$$\omega_{pe} = \sqrt{\frac{e^2 n}{\epsilon_0 m_e}}$$
$$\omega_{pi_z} = \sqrt{\frac{(Ze)^2 n_z}{\epsilon_0 m_z}}$$

Do you see an application for this (based on what we discussed earlier today)?



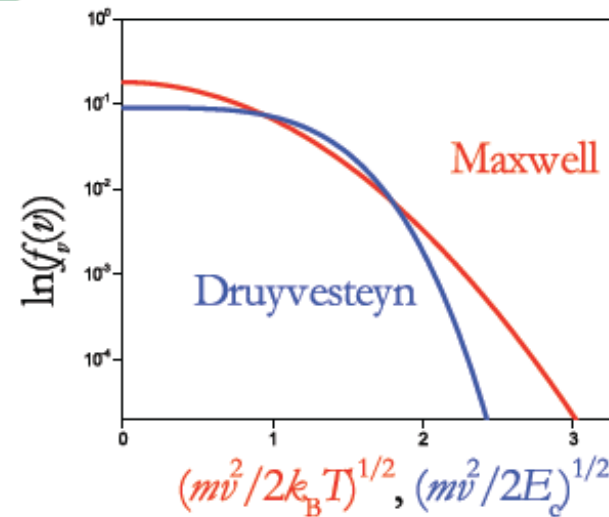
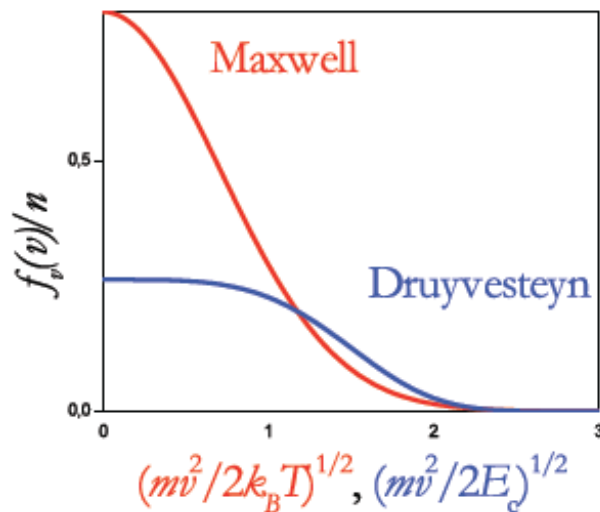
# Answer (b)

- At 100 MHz the frequency is above  $\omega_{pi}$   
=> ions are not excited.
- The frequency is below  $\omega_{pe}$   
=> electrons are excited.
- The electrons will gain kinetic energy and not the ions.  
=> There will be collisions and this will trigger impact ionization.  
=> This phenomena is used in Electron Cyclotron Resonance (ECR) sources.

# Electron distribution: Druyvesteyn distribution

- The electron distribution in a plasma does not follow Maxwell's distribution.
- It is better described by Druyvesteyn distribution.

# Electron Temperature and Distribution Functions



$$f_v(v) = n \left( \frac{m}{2\pi k_B T} \right)^{3/2} \cdot \exp \left( -\frac{mv^2}{2k_B T} \right)$$

$$\left\langle \frac{1}{2} mv^2 \right\rangle = \frac{3}{2} k_B T$$

$$f_v(v) = \frac{n}{\pi \cdot \Gamma(3/4)} \left( \frac{m}{2E_c} \right)^{3/2} \cdot \exp \left( -\left[ \frac{mv^2}{2E_c} \right]^2 \right)$$

$$\left\langle \frac{1}{2} mv^2 \right\rangle = E_c \cdot \Gamma\left(\frac{5}{4}\right) / \Gamma\left(\frac{3}{4}\right)$$

# Sheath Formation in Front of a Wall

walls constitute sinks for charged particles, which are there either discharged (ions) or absorbed (ions and electrons).

As a consequence charged particles are transported from plasma to enclosing walls - generally at different speeds.



# Sheath Formation

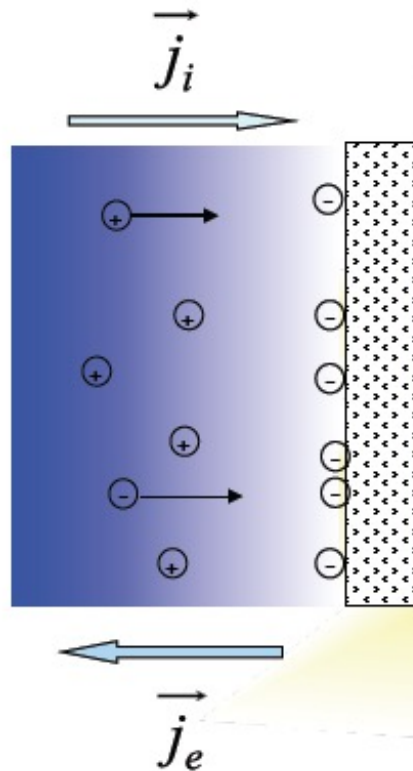
weakly ionized plasma

In weakly ionized, nonmagnetized plasma electron transport is fast, ion transport is slow.

In the presence of a wall a small amount of positive space charge remains in plasma as a consequence. The plasma potential becomes **positive** with respect to enclosing walls, resp. the walls are **negatively charged**.



# Sheath Formation in weakly ionized plasma



## Charging of a dielectric wall

$$\vec{j} = \vec{j}_e + \vec{j}_i = 0$$

$$|\vec{j}_i| = |\vec{j}_e| = |j_{e0}| \exp(-qU_{wall} / kT_e)$$

$$\text{when } U_{plasma} = 0$$

$$U_{wall} = -\frac{kT_e}{e} \ln\left(\frac{|\vec{j}_i|}{|j_{e0}|}\right)$$

# Sheath Formation

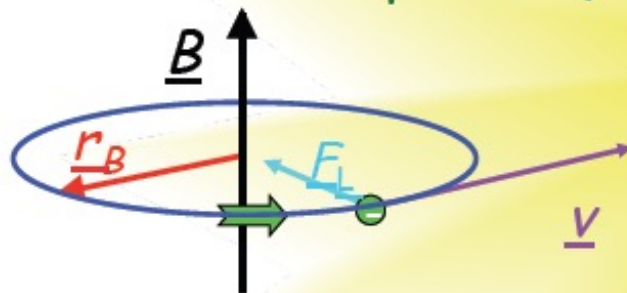
## weakly ionized plasma

At insulating walls the negative charge on a wall locally regulates itself in such a way that the ion and electron wall **current densities** become equal.

At metallic walls such a condition may hold for the **total currents** only. This is important in case of microwave discharges with external magnetic field

# Gyration of ions and electrons under the action of a static magnetic field

❖ A static magnetic field of induction  $\underline{B}$  interacts with particles of mass  $m$  and charge  $q$  by the so-called Lorentz Force  $\underline{F}_L$ . A circular motion, a **gyration** is the consequence (non-relativistic case in plasma).



$$\vec{F}_L = q\vec{v} \times \vec{B}$$

The radius (cyclotron radius)  $r_B$  of the circular trajectory is given by  $r_B = mv/qB$

The corresponding cyclotron frequency  $\omega_B$  does not depend on the particle velocity  $v$ :  $\omega_B = qB/m$



# Particle Motion in Magnetized Plasma

$$m\dot{\vec{v}} = q\vec{v} \times \vec{B} + \vec{F} \quad \text{vector equation of motion}$$

$$\vec{F} \equiv \vec{F}_{\perp} + \vec{F}_{\parallel}, \quad \vec{v} \equiv \vec{v}_{\perp} + \vec{v}_{\parallel}$$

(components  $\parallel$  and  $\perp$  to  $\vec{B}$ )

$$m\dot{\vec{v}}_{\perp} = q\vec{v}_{\perp} \times \vec{B} + \vec{F}_{\perp} \quad \vec{B} \text{ - dependent part}$$

$$m\dot{\vec{v}}_{\perp} = q\vec{v}_{\perp} \times \vec{B} \quad \text{homogeneous part (Gyration)}$$

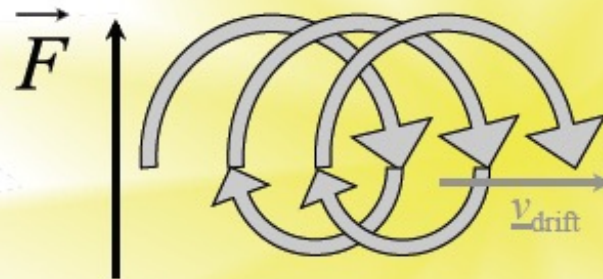
$$-q\vec{v}_{\perp} \times \vec{B} = \vec{F}_{\perp} \quad \text{inhomogeneous part}$$

(no acceleration, drift)

## Drift

Solution of the inhomogeneous part

$$qB^2 \vec{v}_\perp = \vec{F}_\perp \times \vec{B} \quad \text{or} \quad \vec{v}_\perp = \frac{\vec{F} \times \vec{B}}{qB^2} \equiv \vec{v}_{\text{drift}}$$



special case:  $\vec{F} = q\vec{E} \Rightarrow \vec{v}_{\text{drift}} = \vec{E} \times \vec{B} / B^2$

'**E**cross**B** drift', not dependent on charge and mass



# Magnetic Moment

gyrating particle as a pseudo particle with a magnetic moment  $\underline{M}$ :

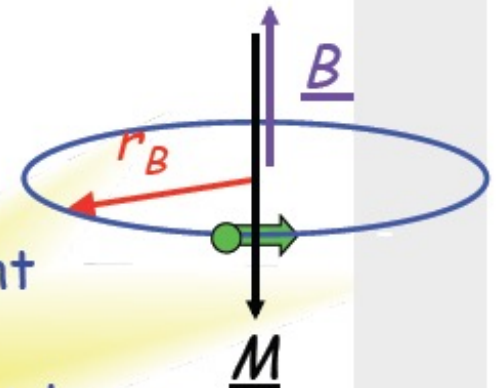
$$I = q / \tau_B = q \omega_B / 2\pi \quad \text{circular current}$$

$$A = r_B^2 \pi \quad \text{area of current loop}$$

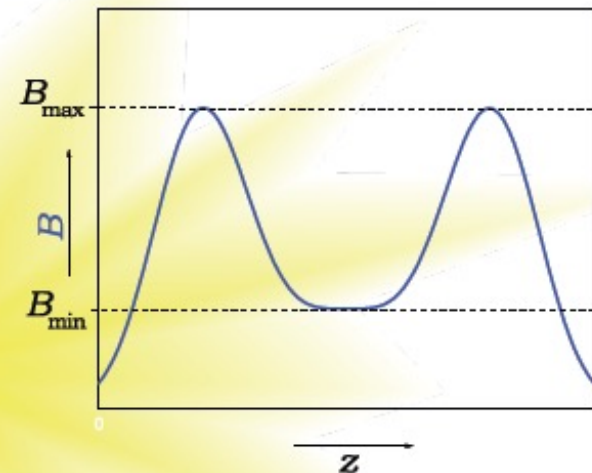
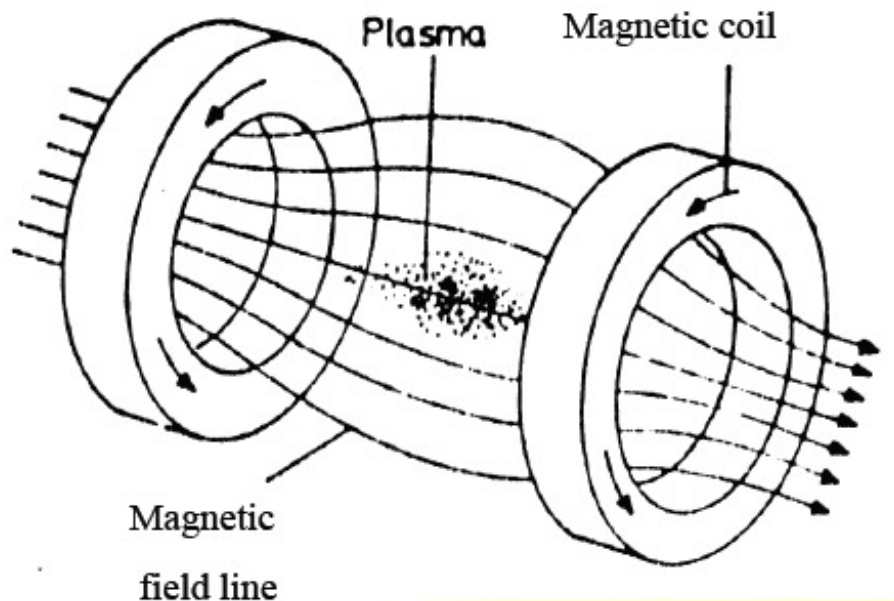
$$M = IA = \frac{q^2 B}{2\pi m} \frac{\pi m^2 v_{\perp}^2}{q^2 B^2} = \frac{\frac{1}{2} m v_{\perp}^2}{B} = \frac{W_{\perp}}{B}$$

$$M = \text{const} \quad W = W_{\perp} + W_{\parallel} = \text{const} \Rightarrow W_{\parallel} = W - MB$$

"adiabatic constant"



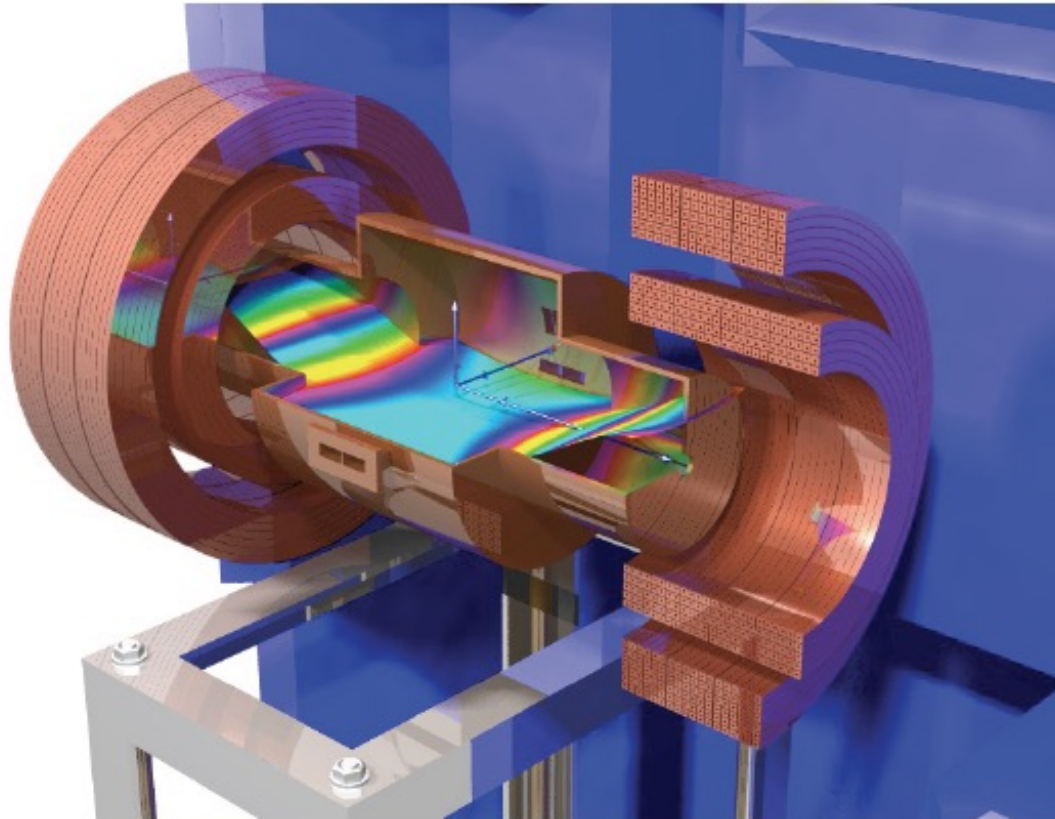
# Magnetic Mirror Trap



$$M = W_{\perp 0} / B_{\min}; \quad W_{\parallel \text{mirror}} \leq 0, \text{ if } W \leq M \cdot B_{\max} = W_{\perp 0} \frac{B_{\max}}{B_{\min}}$$

$$\text{condition for containment: } \frac{W_{\perp 0}}{W} \geq \frac{B_{\min}}{B_{\max}} \equiv \frac{1}{R}; \quad R \text{ "mirror ratio"}$$

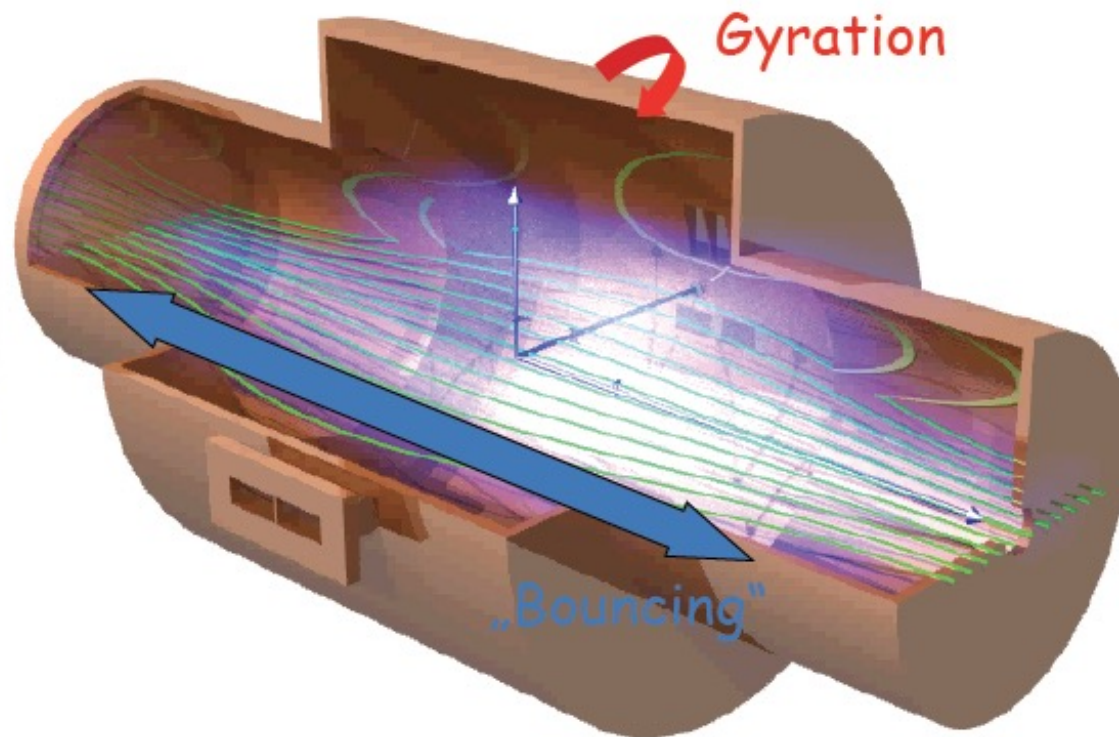
# A „Hammock“ for charged particles



© U. Wolters



# Charged particle movement between magnetic mirrors



# EM Waves propagation in plasma

- The propagation of an EM wave in plasma will depend on its frequency.
  - Some wave will be cut-off by the plasma and will not propagate.
  - Some will be transmitted.
  - Some wave with the right frequency may even resonate in the plasma.
- => Cf plasma physics lecture,

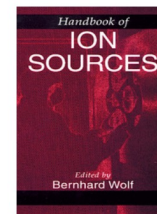


# **TYPES OF IONS SOURCES**

# Types of ions sources

- Now that we have seen the basic physics used in ion sources we will see the different types of ion sources.
- *Most of the following slides come from Richard Scrivens' lecture at the CAS in 2012 but some are taken from other lectures at CAS.*

## Definitions of Ion Sources



A day out at the zoo...

Richard Scrivens

CERN

CAS on Ion Sources, May 2012

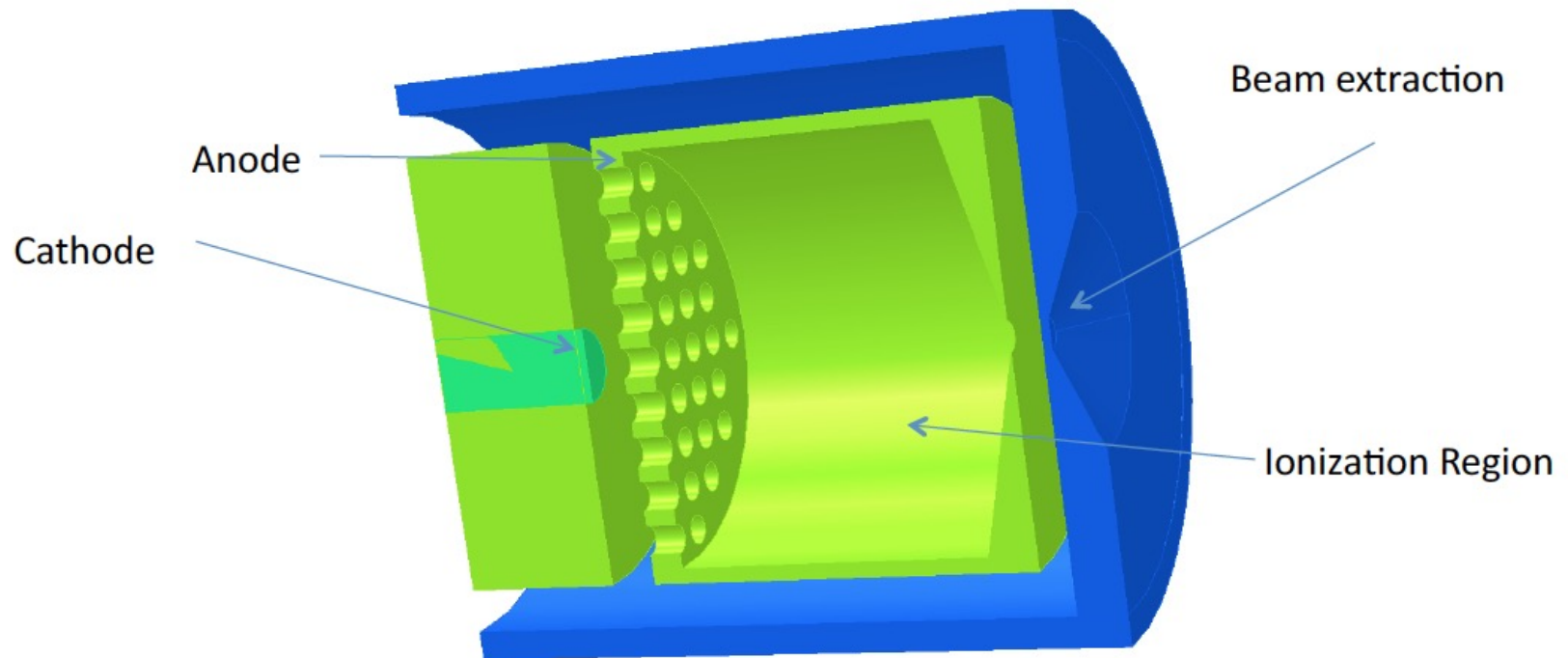
# An Approximate Classification System

Try to break down ion sources into a few groups:

- Electron bombardment
- Plasma Discharge
- RF discharge
- Microwave and ECR
- Laser Ion Sources
- Surface
- High Charge State Sources
- Charge Exchange Ion Sources

# Electron Bombardment Ion Source

- Generate electrons with a cathode.
- Accelerate them with a cathode – anode potential difference.
- The ions impact on neutral atoms and molecules to ionize them.
- Electrons can be confined (path length increased) by magnetic fields.



# Electron Bombardment Ion Source

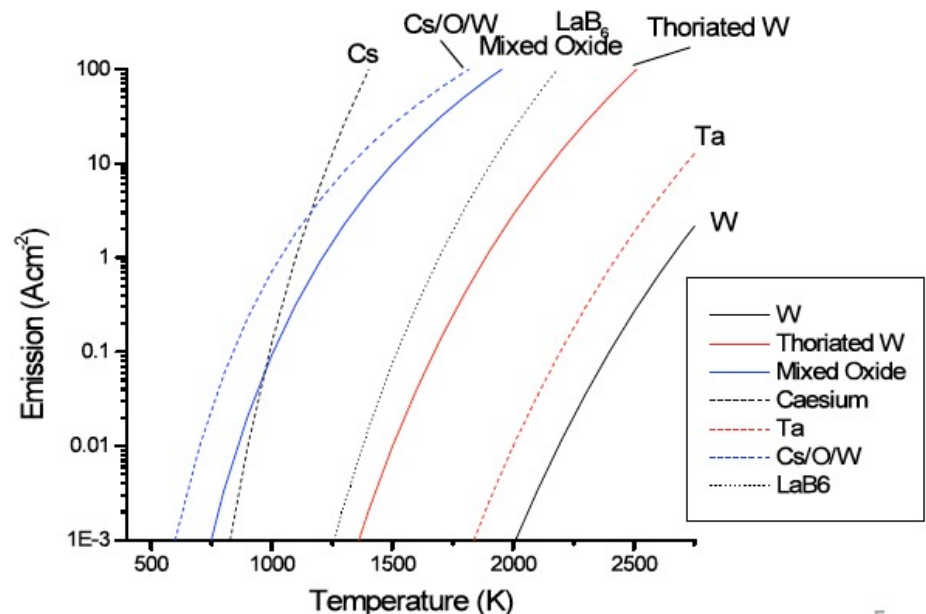
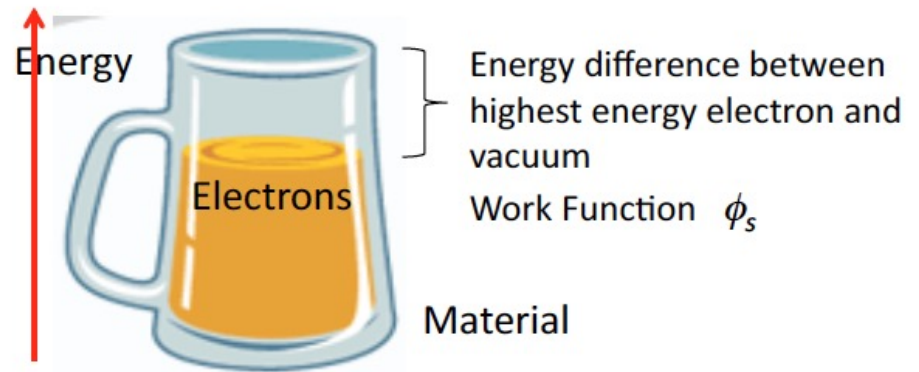
Electrons within a material are heated to energies above that needed to escape the material.

Cathode emission is dominated by the Richardson Dushman equation.

$$J = A \cdot T^2 \exp\left(\frac{-e\phi_s}{kT}\right)$$

$$A = \frac{4\pi e m_e k^2}{h^3} \approx 1.2 \times 10^6 \text{ Am}^{-2} \text{ K}^{-2}$$

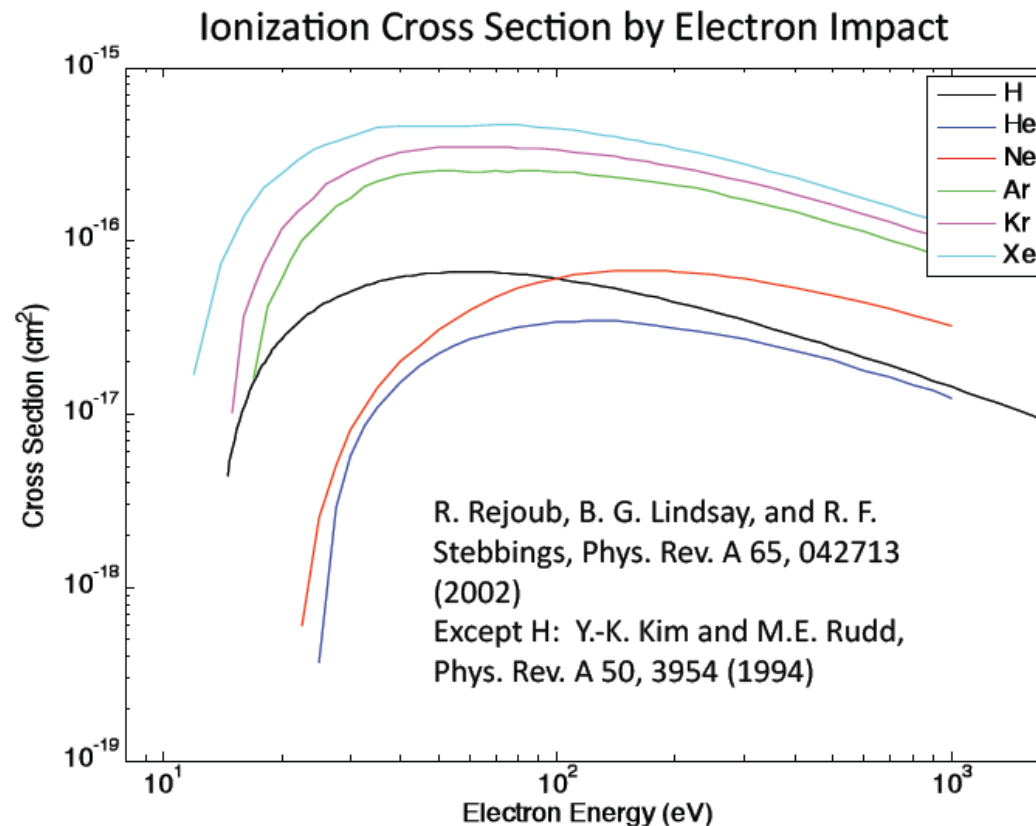
In practice, A is a (temperature independent) value, that is material dependent.





# Electron Bombardment Ion Source

$$\sigma \cdot n_{atom} = \frac{1}{L_{collision}}$$

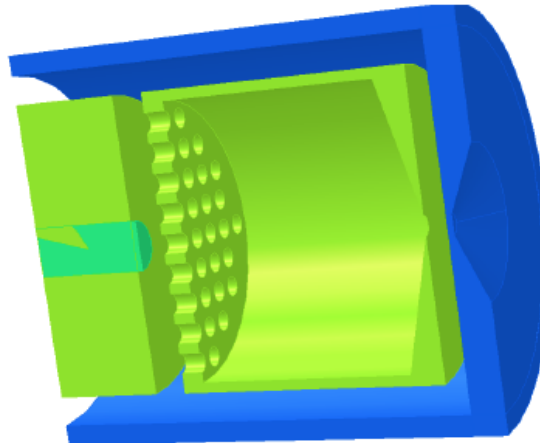


Some cross section data available in:

<http://physics.nist.gov/PhysRefData/Ionization/Xsection.html>

# Electron Bombardment Ion Source

- The FEBIAD ion source uses a grid near the cathode to provide a electron acceleration followed by a lower E field drift.
- This reduces the electron energy distribution and the ion distribution.
- It also reduces the electric field pulling the ions back towards the cathodes.
- Internal source pressures are usually low ( $10^{-5}$  to  $10^{-2}$  mbar).
- Intensity from Electron Bombardment is limited before a strong plasma is formed (where the source becomes a plasmatron).



R.L. Gill, A. Piotrowski, NIM A, Vol 234 (2), p.  
[http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/0168-9002\(85\)90907-6](http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/0168-9002(85)90907-6)

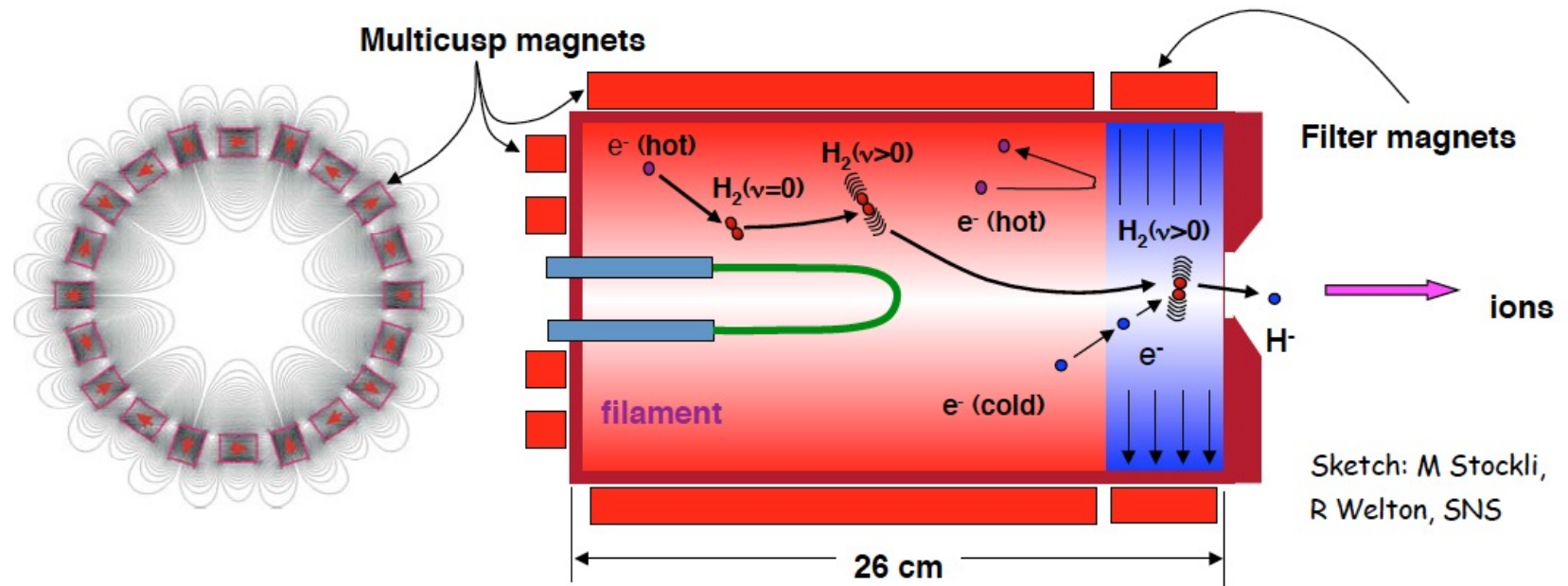
# Quizz

- Which physical process is used to create the ions in an electron bombardment source?
  - (a) impact ionization
  - (b) impact excitation
  - (c) photo ionization
  - (d) surface ionization

# Answer (a)

- The source works by electron impinging on atoms to create ions.

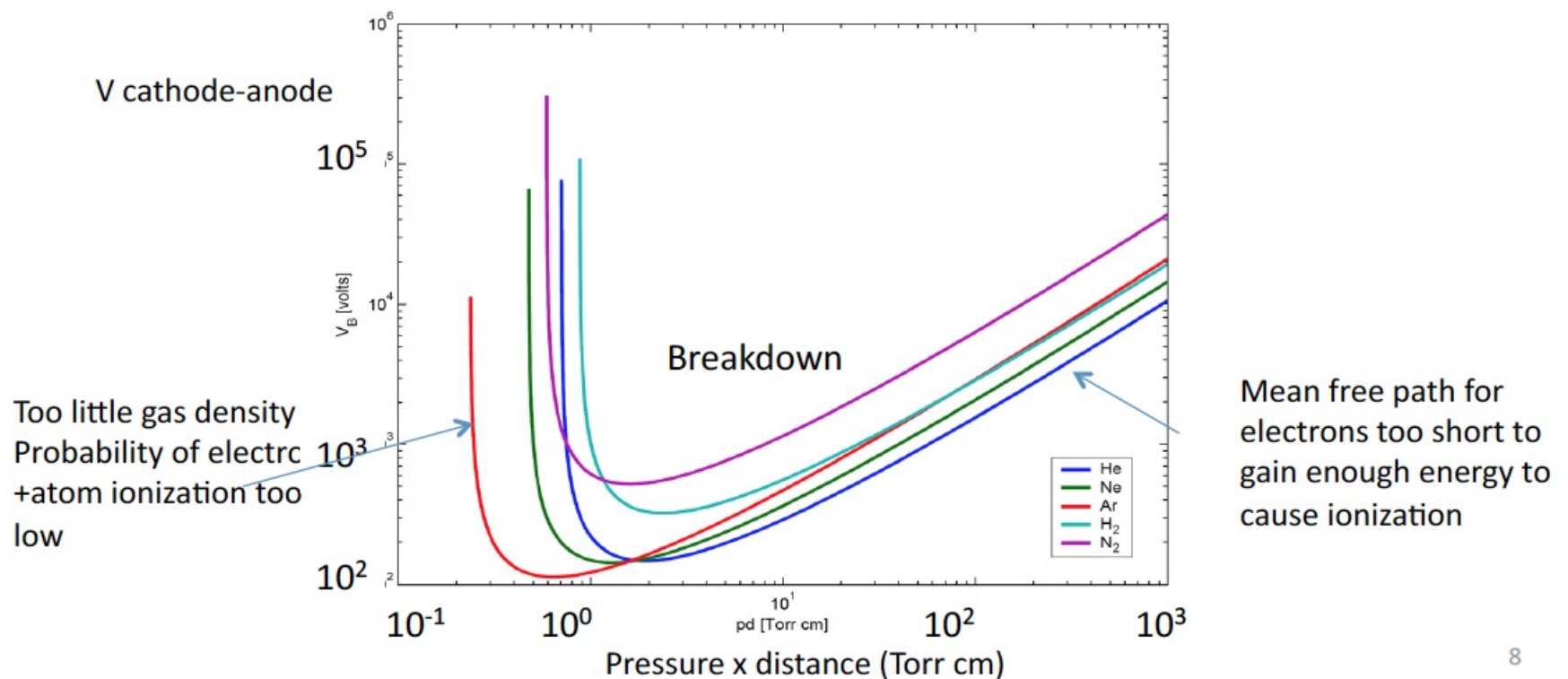
# Plasma Discharge Sources





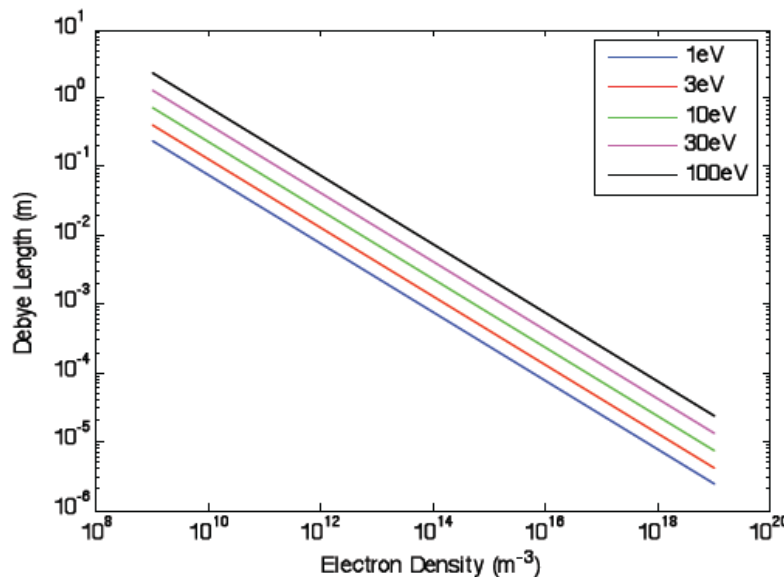
# Plasma Discharge Sources

- Van Ardenne pushed the operating regime of the electron bombardment ion sources towards the plasmatron.
- Driven either by a cold cathode, or forced by a hot cathode and thermionic emission.
- A sustained discharge is possible once above the Paschen line for a gas.



# Plasma Discharge Sources

- Van Ardenne pushed the operating regime of the electron bombardment ion sources towards the plasmatron.
- In Plasmatrons and Discharge sources the density of ions (and electrons) is high enough such that a plasma is formed.



Electric fields can permeate a plasma up to the size of the Debye length.

$$\lambda_D = \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon_0 k T_e}{n_e e^2}}$$

- Applied Electric and magnetic fields shape the plasma, but they are also affected by it.
- Electron Bombardment is still the principle route for ionization.

# Quizz

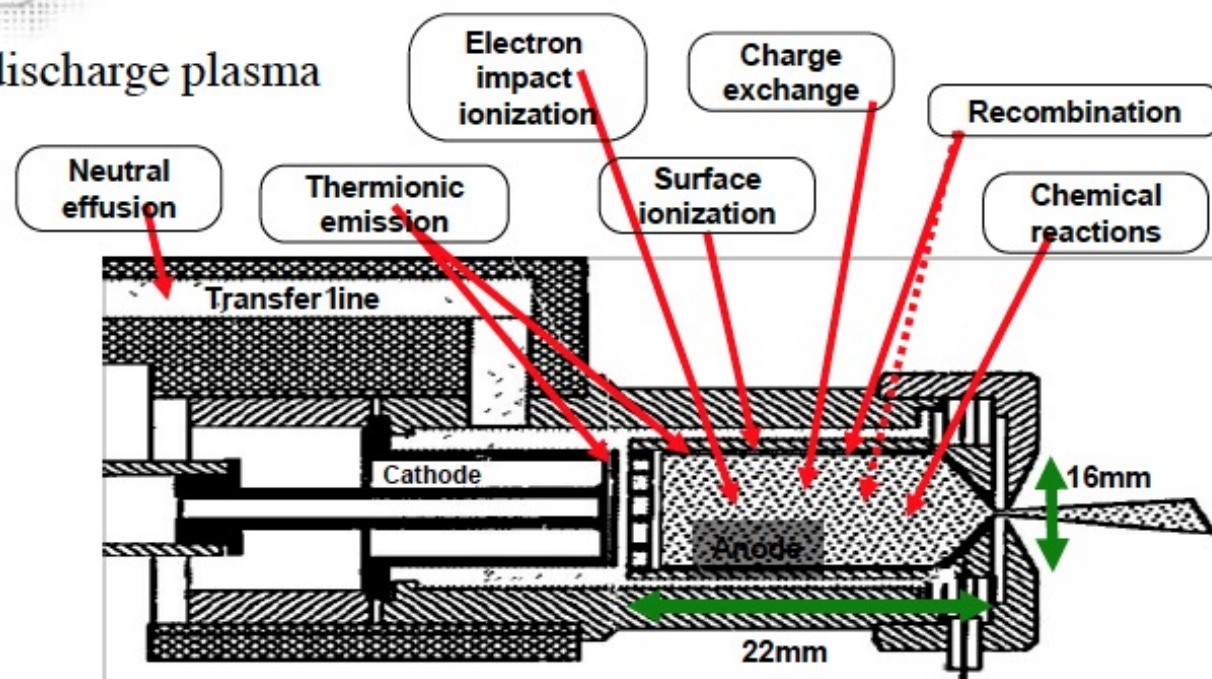
- Which physical process is used to create the ions in a plasma discharge source?
  - (a) impact ionization
  - (b) impact excitation
  - (c) photo ionization
  - (d) surface ionization

# Answer (b)

- The source works by electron exciting atoms so that they can capture cold electrons.

# Modeling of “relevant phenomena”

## Modeling of the arc discharge plasma



- Full cocktail of possible phenomena.
- Not all appearing all over the variation range of the operation parameters.
- Some of them can be neglected at the nominal parameters.
- Application range has been investigated (experiment vs. theory).
- Performance limitations could be pointed out, justified and removed

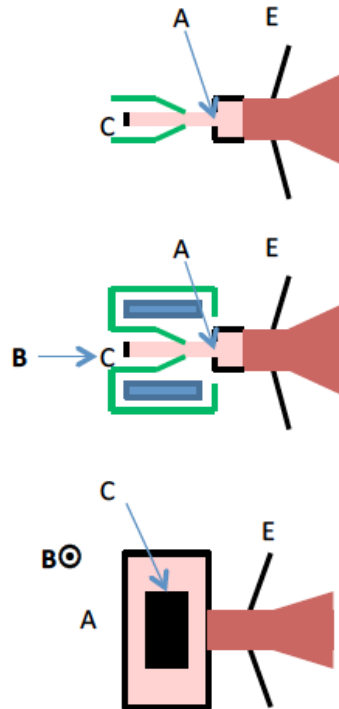


# Plasma Discharge Sources

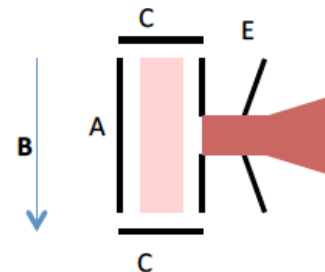
## A rich sub-species...

The cathode-anode-B field configuration can be varied to produce different source types:

- Multicusp discharge sources.
- Plasmatron
- Duoplasmatron
- Magnetron
- Penning

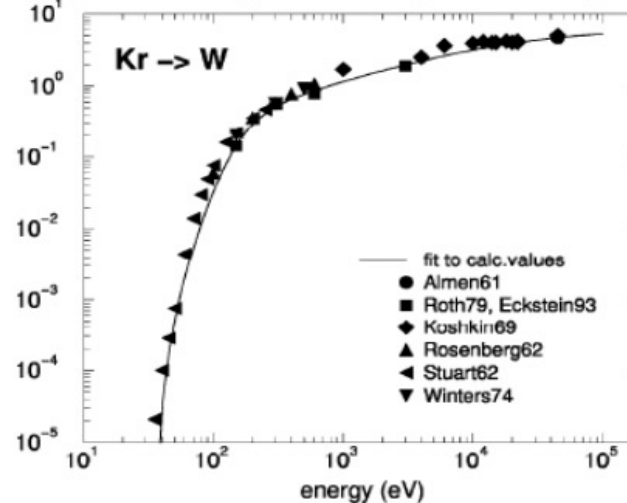
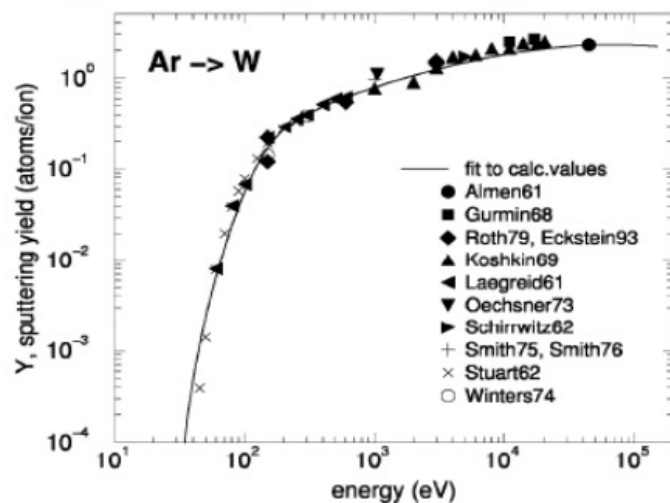
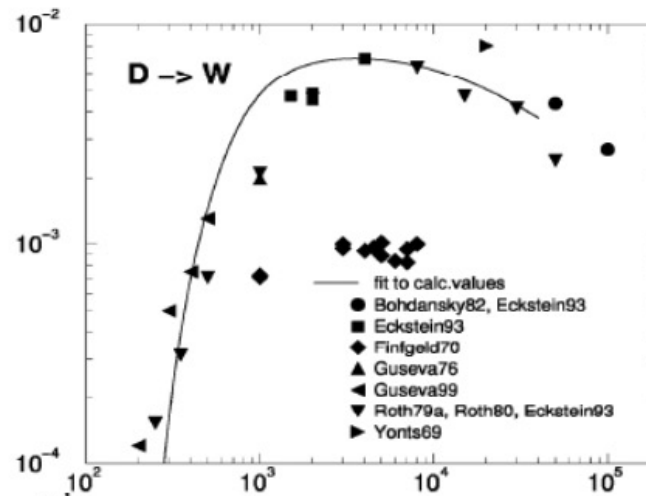
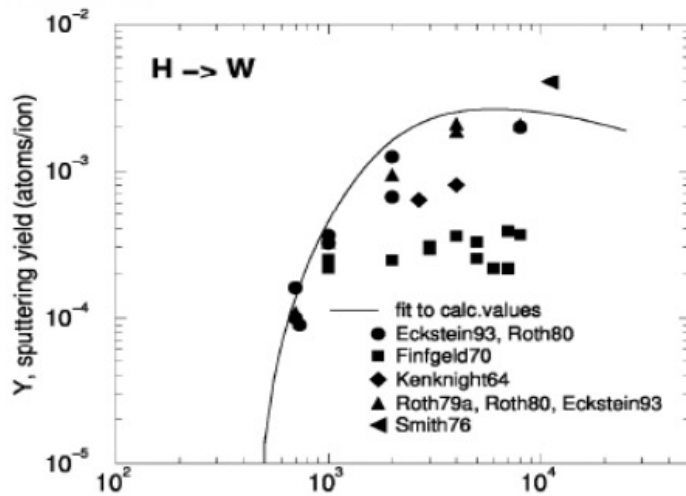


C: Cathode  
A: Anode  
E: Extraction Electrode  
B: Magnetic field  
□: Plasma  
■: Beam  
— : Magnetic steel



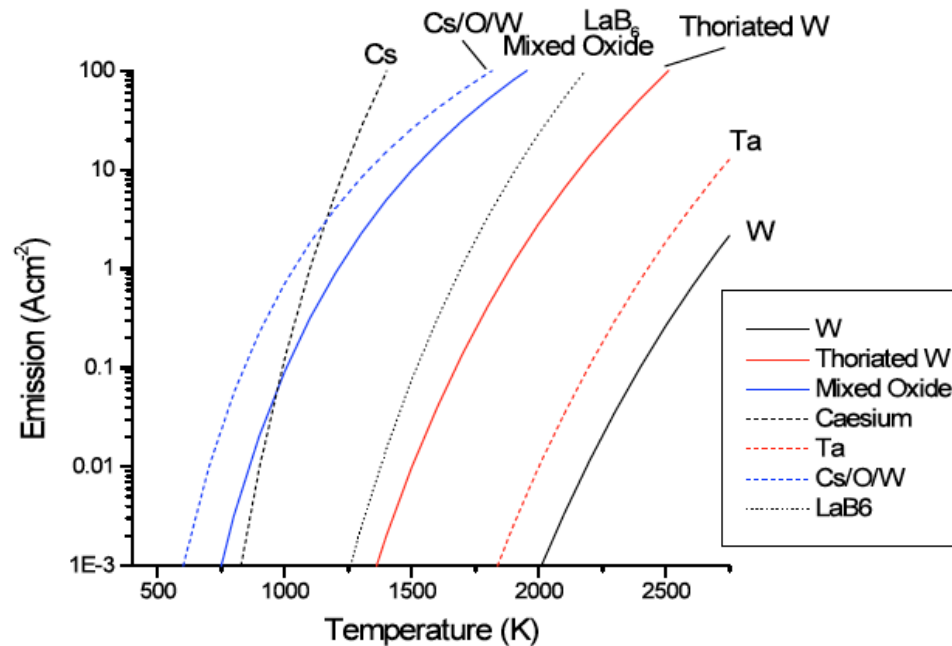
# Cathodes – problem 1 – Ion Sputtering

The ions formed in the plasma are attracted to the cathode, and sputter material from it.



## Cathodes – problem 2 – Surface changes

- Gases and other materials in the source can cover the cathode.
- This changes the surface, affecting its emission properties (usually for the worse) .
- Mixed material cathodes – elements sputter and evaporate at different rates.



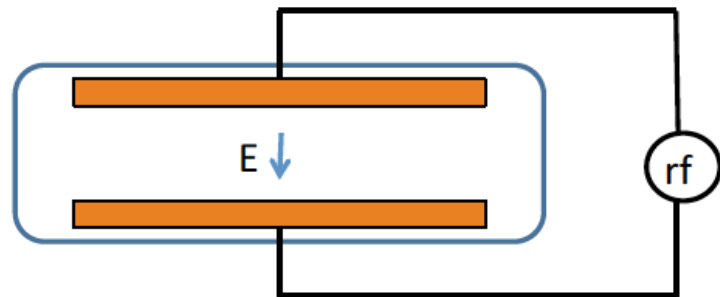
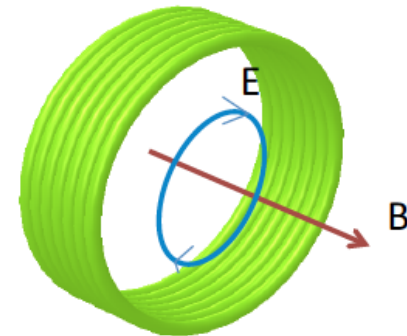
# RF Discharge

- Instead of using a cathode -> anode potential to create an electric field, the electric field from an RF system can be used.
- Electrons are accelerated by the electric field. Usually there is no wave-plasma resonance...
- Two possibilities
  - Solenoid antenna – a circular electric field is generated around a solenoidal magnetic field (also could be saddle like)

$$E \approx \frac{\mu_0 \pi N I r f}{L}$$

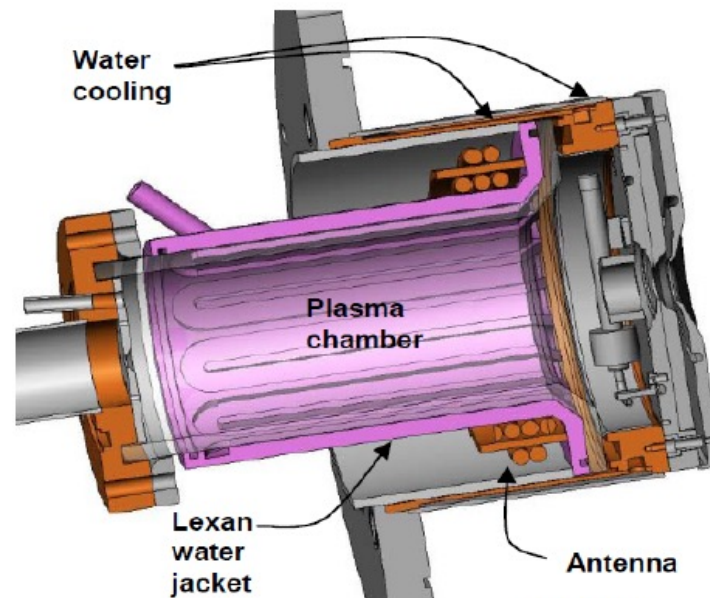
$r$ : solenoid radius  
 $N$ : solenoid turns  
 $L$ : solenoid length  
 $I$ : Peak current

- Capacitive coupling – the electric field runs between 2 conductors – magnetic field is elsewhere



# RF Discharge

- Even the solenoid antenna based systems can produce electric fields of several kV/m.
- As these electric fields do not terminate on a surface, not enhanced by a cathode tip, there is less surface sputtering.
- As there is no resonant heating of electrons, they do not reach too high energies (useful for producing low charge states, or negative ion sources).



SNS External antenna source



# ECR ion sources

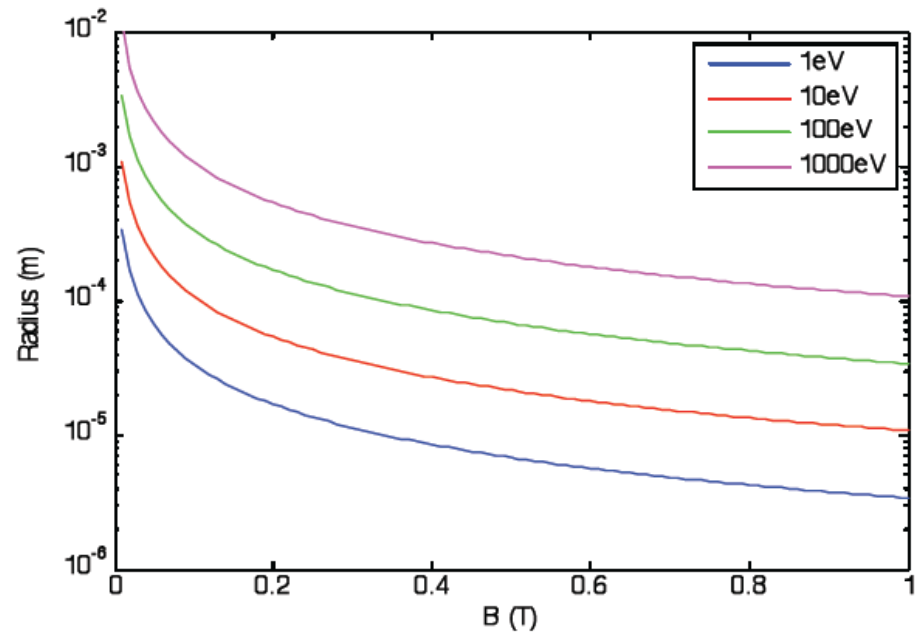
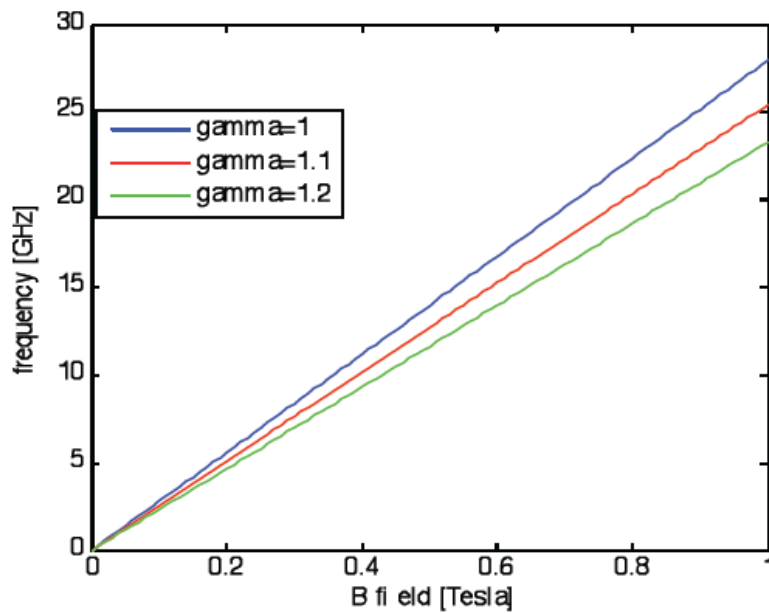
In an Electron Cyclotron Resonance Ion Source (ECR or ECRIS):

- There is a magnetic field, and the injection of RF or microwaves.
- Wave frequency satisfies the ECR resonance somewhere in the source ( $f=28 \text{ GHz} / \text{Tesla}$ )
- The electrons absorb energy from the Right Hand Circular Polarised wave (EM waves can always be decomposed into RHCP and LHCP)
- The electron cyclotron radius is small compared to the source volume.
- The ECR ion source has no cathode (overcoming the cathode problems).
- Solenoidal fields are used, in order to place a magnetic field over the whole source chamber.
- Magnets can be permanent, to reduce size and power consumption.

# ECR ion sources

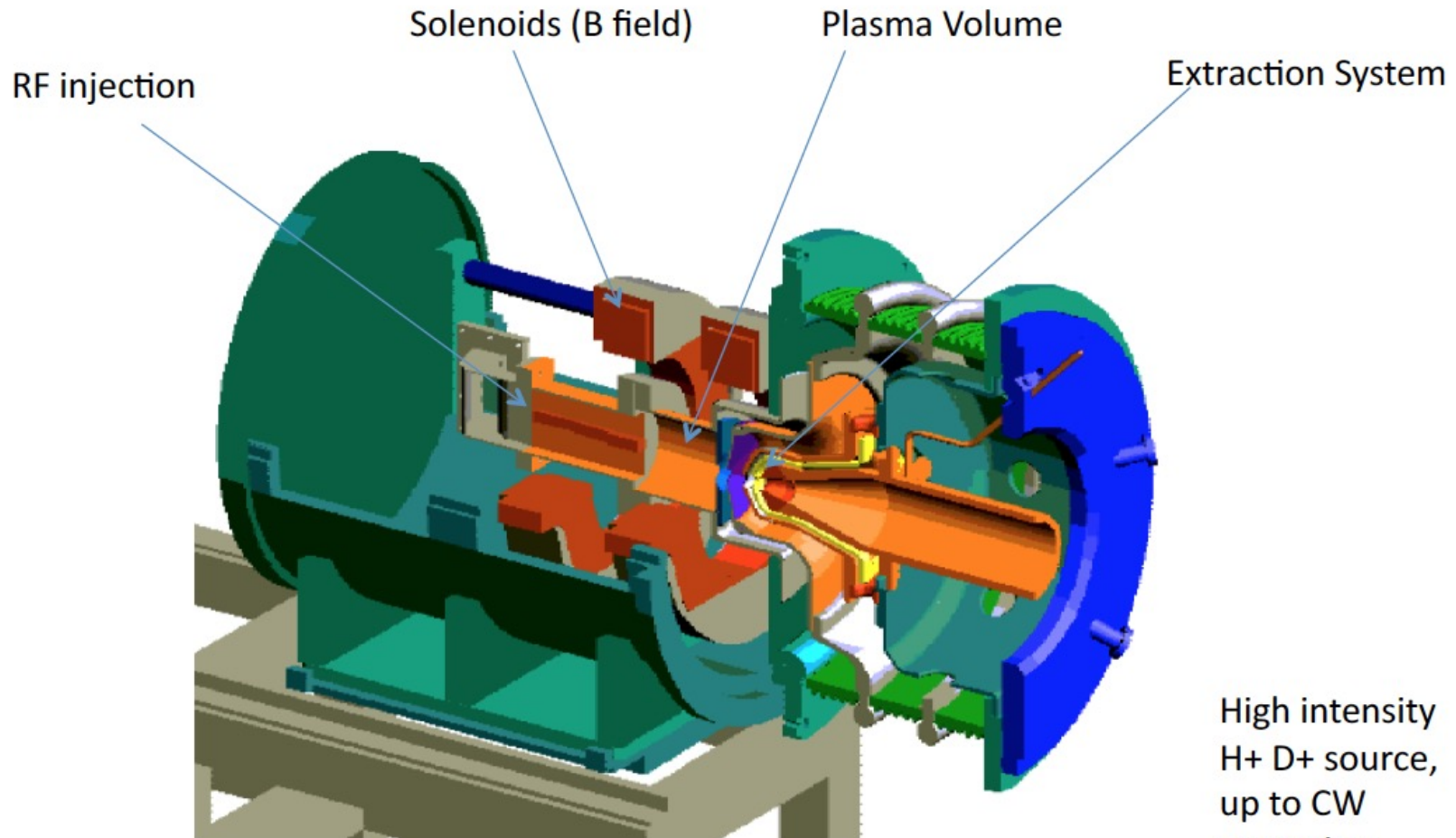
$$f_L = \frac{eB}{2\pi\gamma m_e} \quad \frac{f_L}{B} = 28\text{GHz/Tesla}$$

$$\rho_L = \frac{\beta\gamma m_e c}{eB}$$



Note: Only energy perpendicular to B field

# ECR ion sources

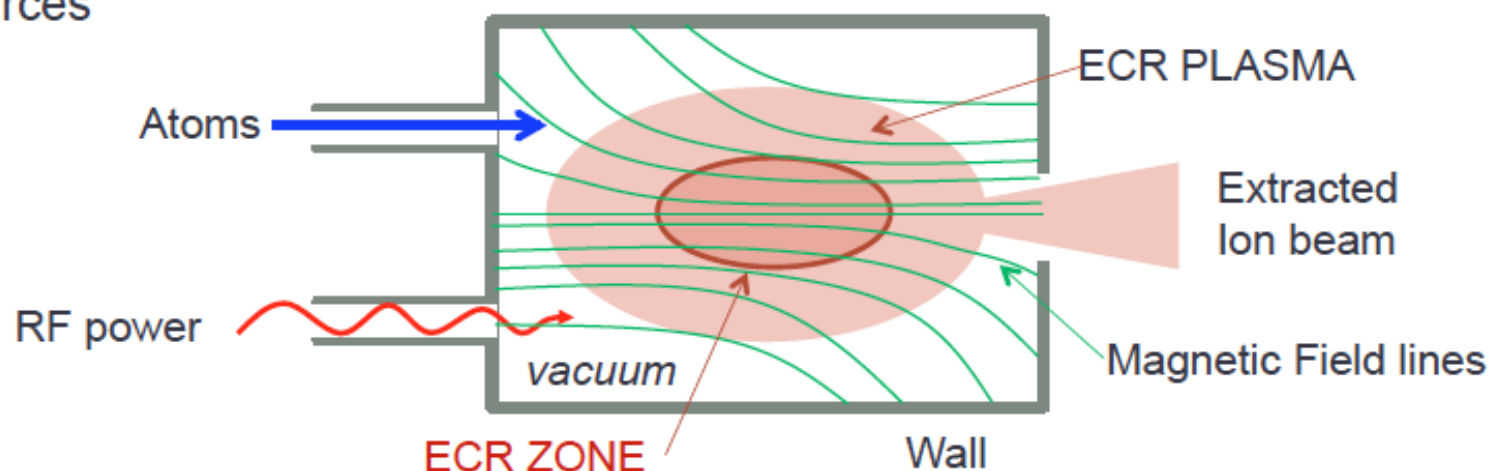


High intensity  
H<sup>+</sup> D<sup>+</sup> source,  
up to CW  
operation.

CEA – SILHI 2.45GHz ECR source for H<sup>+</sup>, D<sup>+</sup>

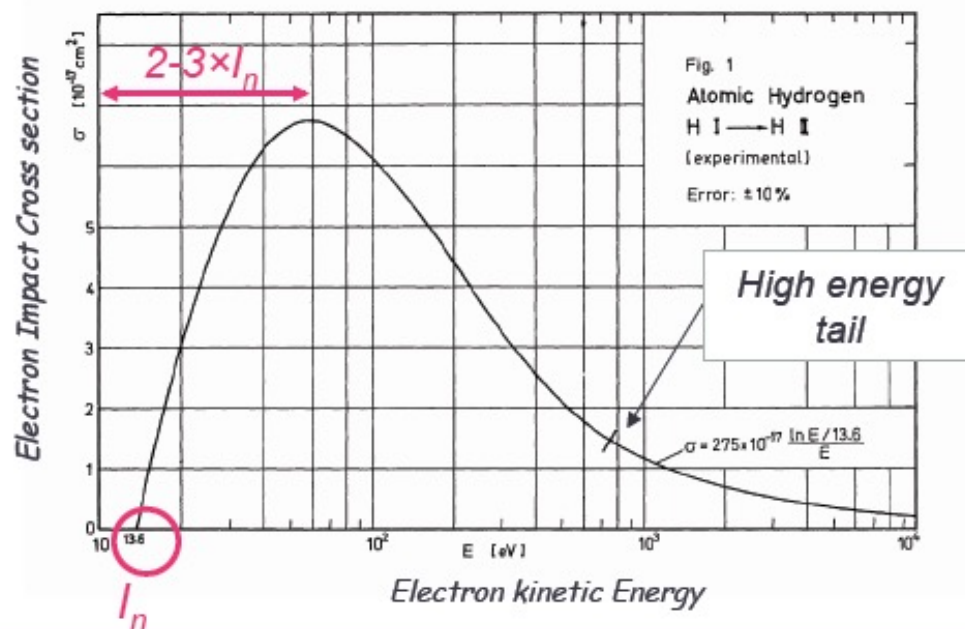
## Ingredients of Electron Cyclotron Resonance Ion Source

- An ECR ion source requires:
  - A secondary vacuum level to allow multicharged ion production
  - A RF injection in a metallic cavity (usually multimode)
  - A sophisticated magnetic Field structure that enables to:
    - Transfer RF power to electrons through the ECR mechanism
    - Confine long enough the (hot) electrons to ionize atoms
    - Confine long enough ions to allow multi-ionization ions
    - Generate a stable CW plasma
  - An atom injection system (gas or condensables) to sustain the plasma density
  - An extraction system to accelerate ions from the plasma
- In the following, we will try to detail these points to provide an overview of ECR ion sources



## Ion creation through **Electron Impact Ionization** (in gas or plasma)

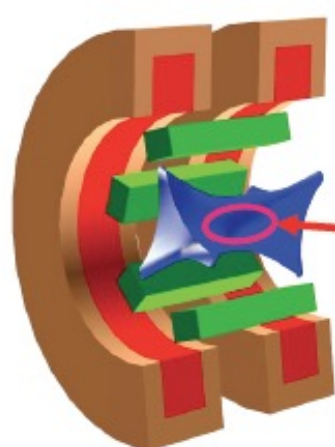
- Ions are produced through a direct collision between an atom and a free energetic electron
  - $e^- + A^{n+} \rightarrow A^{(n+1)+} + e^- + e^-$
  - Kinetic energy threshold  $E_e$  of the impinging electron is the binding energy  $I_n$  of the shell electron:  $E_e > I_n$
- Optimum of cross-section for  $E_e \sim 2 - 3 \times I_n$
- Higher energy electron can contribute significantly
- Double charge electron impact ionization may also occur...





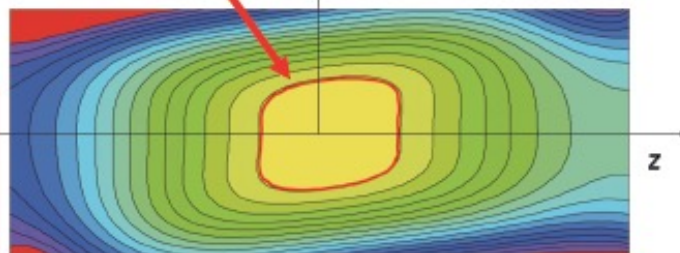
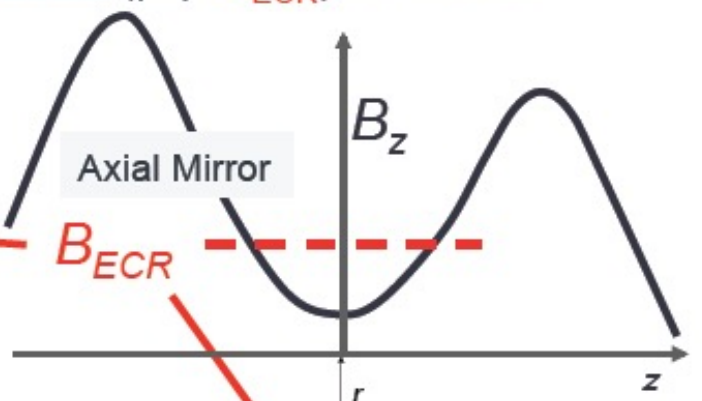
## ECR Magnetic confinement: Minimum $|B|$ structure

- ECR ion sources features a sophisticated magnetic field structure to optimize charged particle trapping
  - Superimposition of axial coils and hexapole coils
  - The ECR surface ( $|B|=B_{\text{ECR}}$ ) is closed



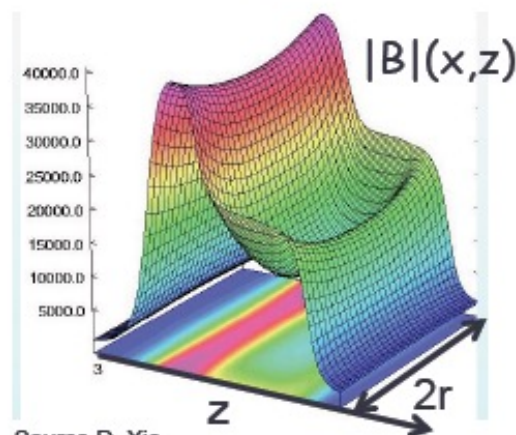
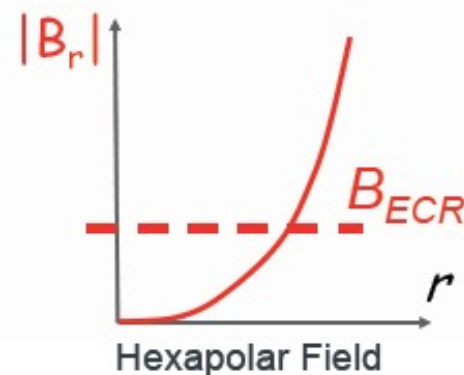
Source LBNL

$$\omega = \omega_{\text{ce}} = \frac{qB_{\text{ECR}}}{m}$$



Source RIKEN, Nakagawa

*Iso B lines*



Source D. Xie

## Plasma Oscillations – ECR cut off density

- The plasma Frequency  $\omega_p$  is the natural oscillation frequency of a plasma, as a response to a perturbation
  - Oscillations driven by electrons

$$\omega_p = \sqrt{\frac{n_e e^2}{m_e \epsilon_0}}$$

- The simplest dispersion relation of an EM wave in a plasma is:

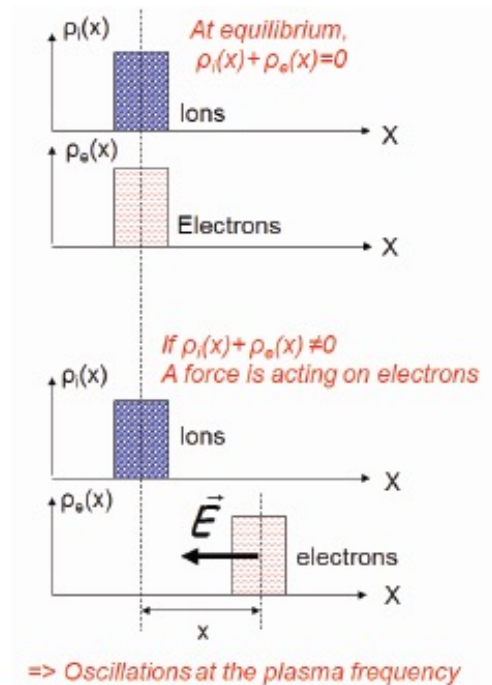
- $\omega^2 = \omega_p^2 + k^2 c^2$
- EM wave propagates if  $\omega > \omega_p$

- ECR Cut-off density:**

$$\omega > \omega_p \Rightarrow n_e < \frac{m_e \epsilon_0 \omega^2}{e^2}$$

- At a given ECR frequency, the plasma density is limited

$$n_e \propto \omega_{ECR}^2$$

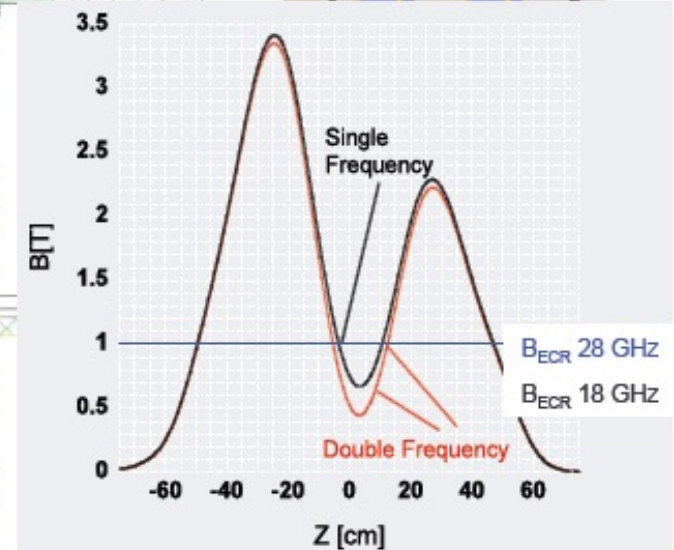
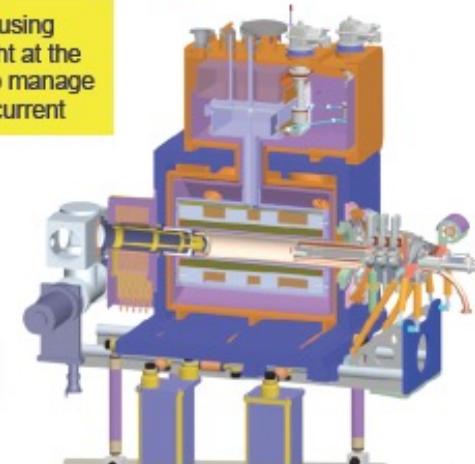
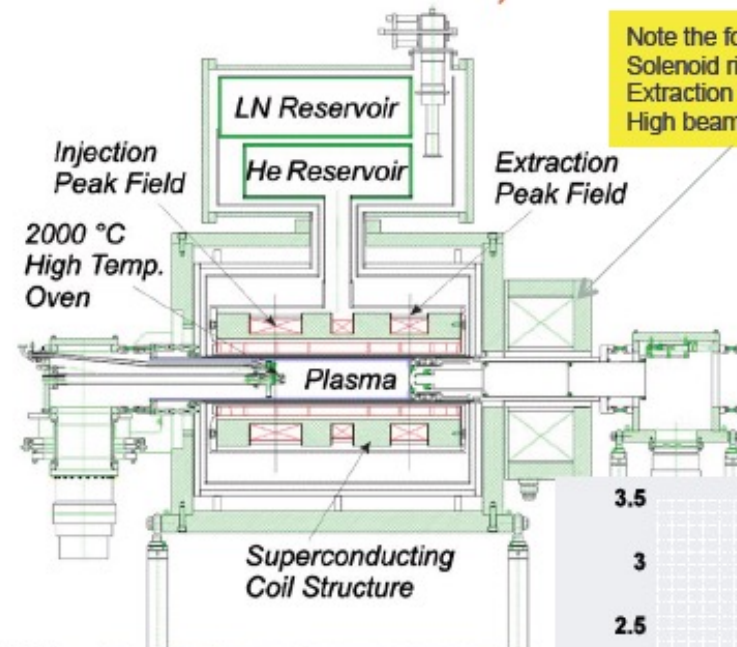
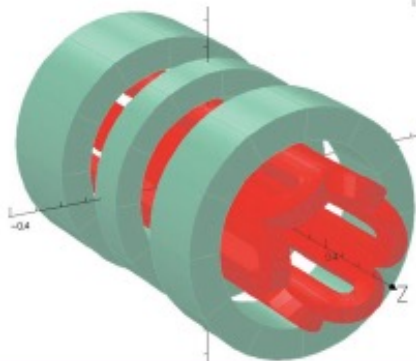


Above cut off:  
RF is reflected  
=> no more ECR heating!



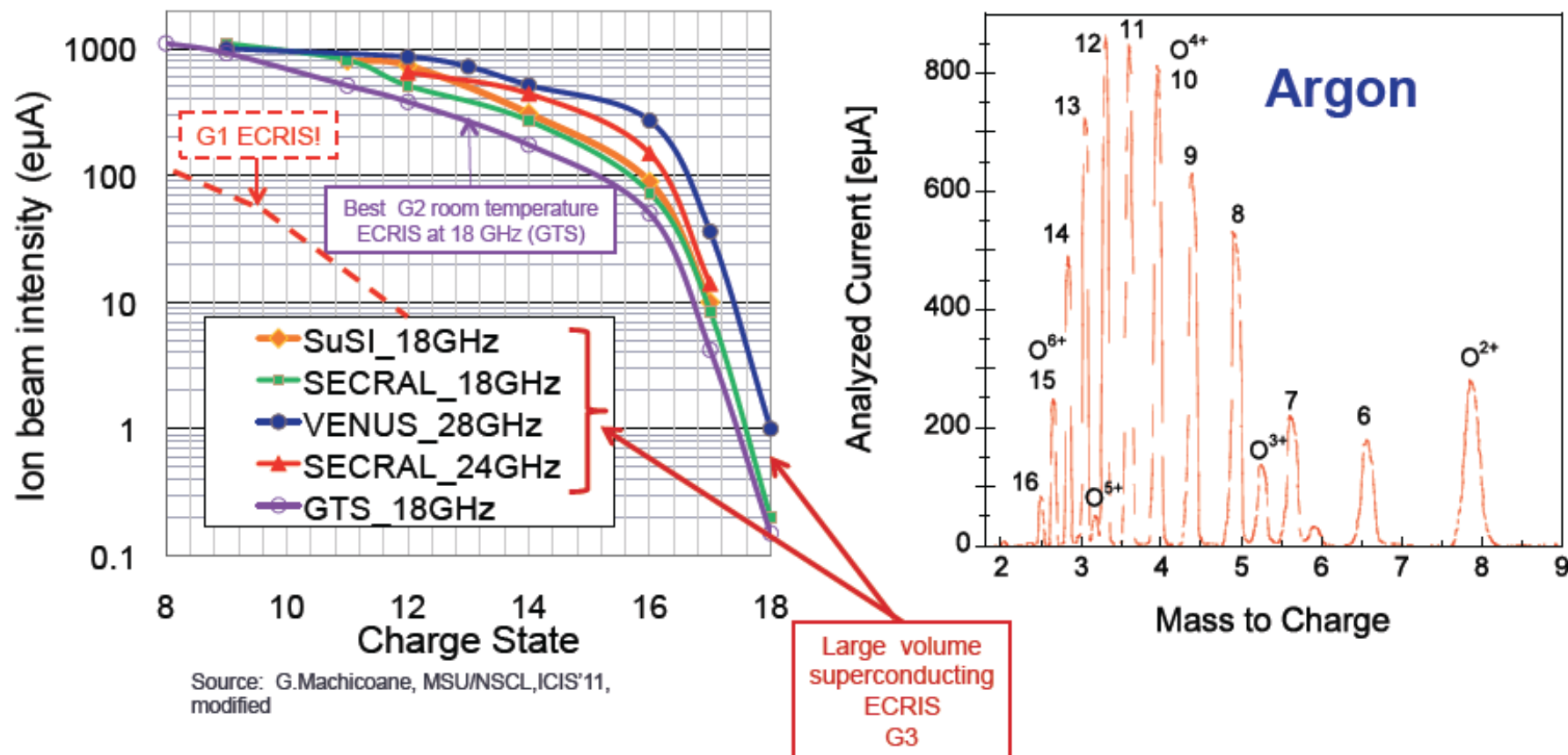
# the first 28 GHz ECRIS VENUS, LBNL (2002)

- $f=18+28$  GHz - (2+6) kW
- $B_{\text{ECR}}=1$  T
- Fully superconducting ECRIS
  - NbTi:Cu wire technology
  - 4K LHe + thermal 40 K shield
  - 4x1.4 W cryocooling
- Axial profile 3.5-0.35-2.2 T
- Radial hexapole at wall  $B_r=2.2$  T
- Dedicated to very high intensity, very high charge state applied to cyclotron acceleration
- Plasma Chamber volume  $V \sim 8.5$  liter
  - $\varnothing \sim 15$  cm,  $L \sim 50$  cm
- $V \sim 25$  kV
- Typical beams: 3 mA  $\text{O}^{6+}$ , 0.86 mA  $\text{Ar}^{12+}$



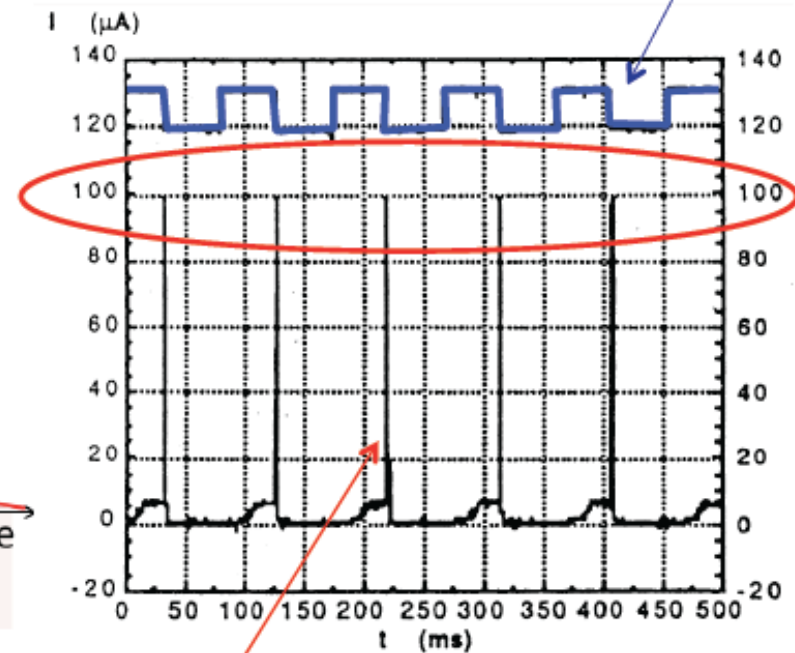
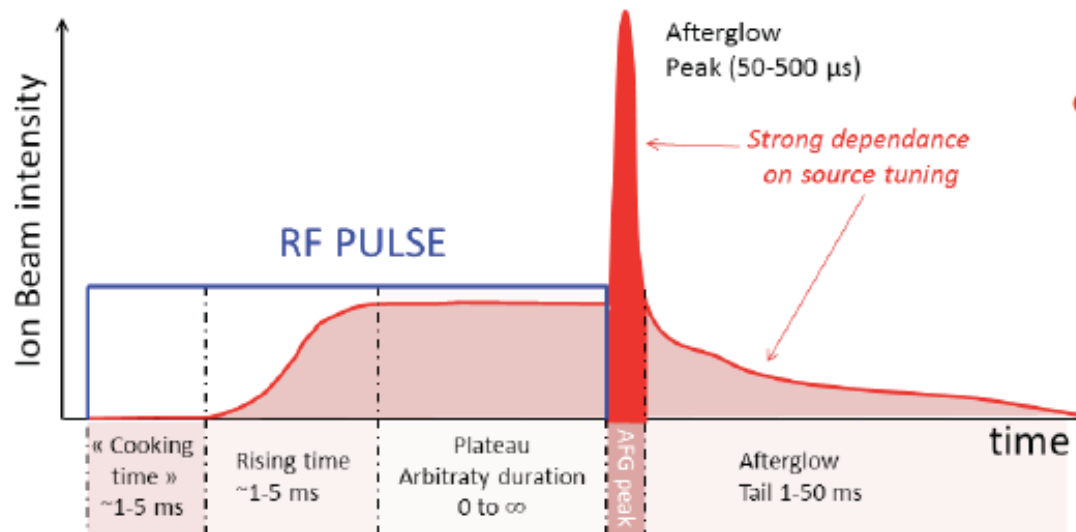
## Example of Today High Charge state production

- Today ECRIS Argon beam performance



## Pulse Mode operation for Synchrotrons: The Afterglow

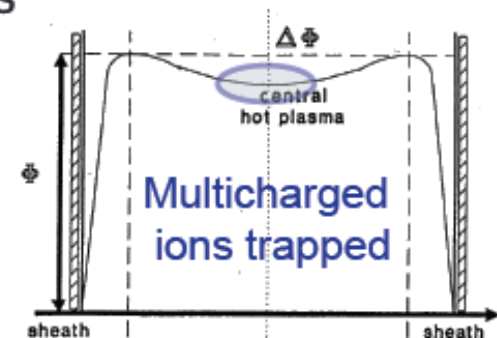
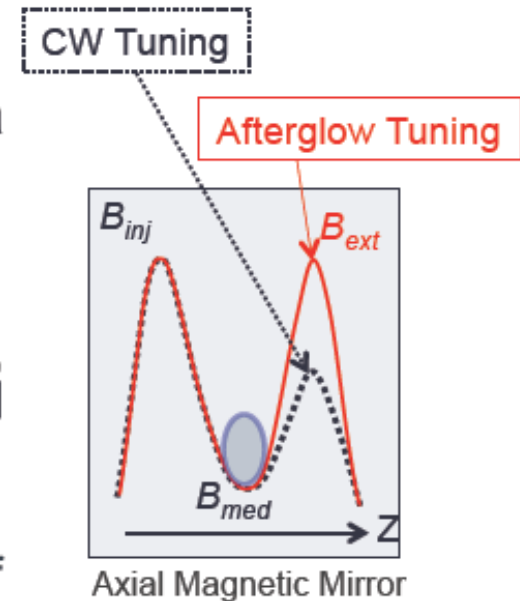
- When the RF is pulsed, ECRIS can be tuned to produce a high intensity peak with a duration  $\delta t \sim 50 - 400 \mu\text{s}$ , suitable for multi-turn Synchrotron injection
- LHC Lead beams are produced in Afterglow mode (GTS ECR) **RF**





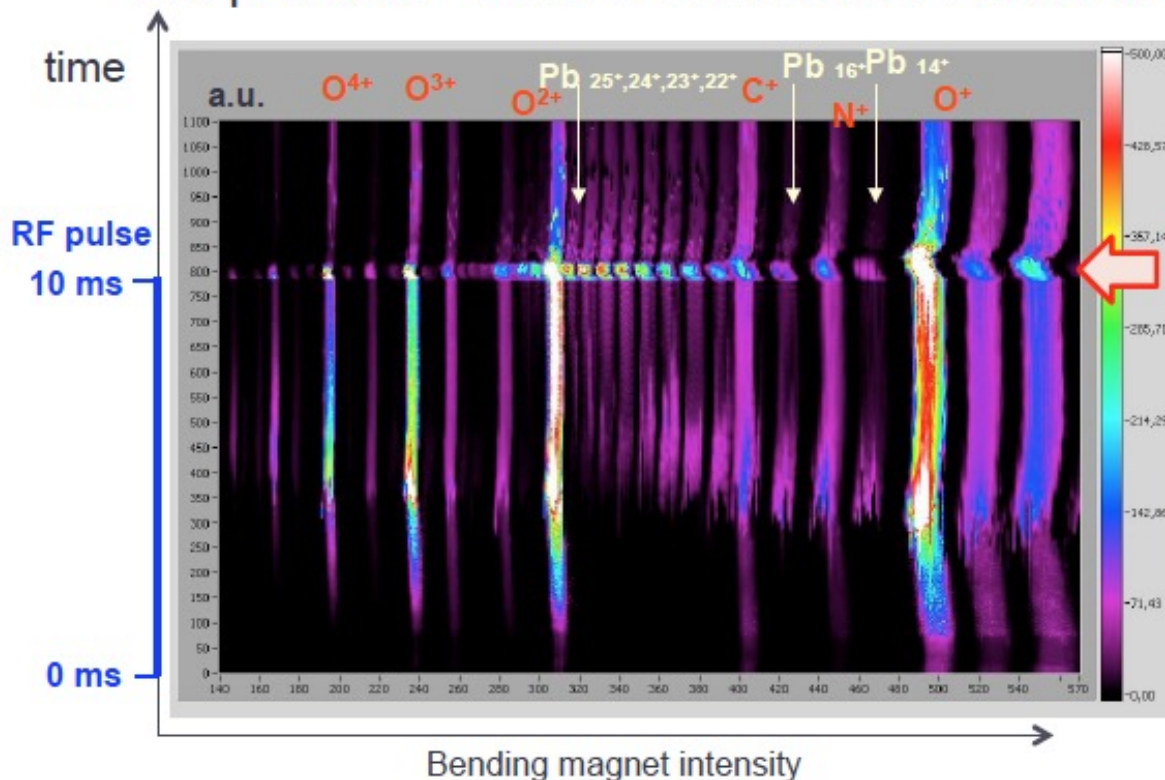
# The Afterglow mechanism

- The ECR is tuned to provide High plasma confinement
  - $B_{ext} \sim B_{inj} \Rightarrow$  very small loss cone
  - $\Leftrightarrow$  Very low extracted current in CW mode
- The hot confined electrons population, maintained by the RF, build a large potential dip  $\Delta\Phi$  around the axis
  - Pastukov, 1974
  - $\Rightarrow$  Accumulation of ions trapped at the center of the source
- At RF stop: the electron heating stops brutally:
  - $\Rightarrow$  Fast destruction of the potential dip  $\Delta\Phi \rightarrow 0$
  - $\Rightarrow$  Deconfinement of multicharged ions
  - $\Rightarrow$  High intensity peak of multicharged ions



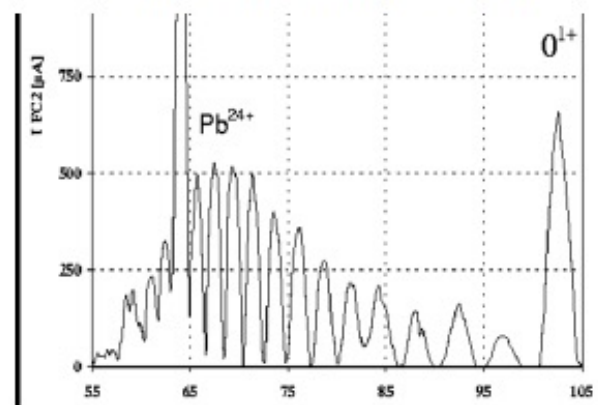
# Lead Afterglow Spectrum

- 650  $\mu\text{A}$  Pb25+ - 28 GHz- PHOENIX V1 SOURCE (LPSC) - 10 ms/10 Hz



AFTERGLOW

Very stable tuning at 500  $\mu\text{A}$



## Ion Extraction from the plasma

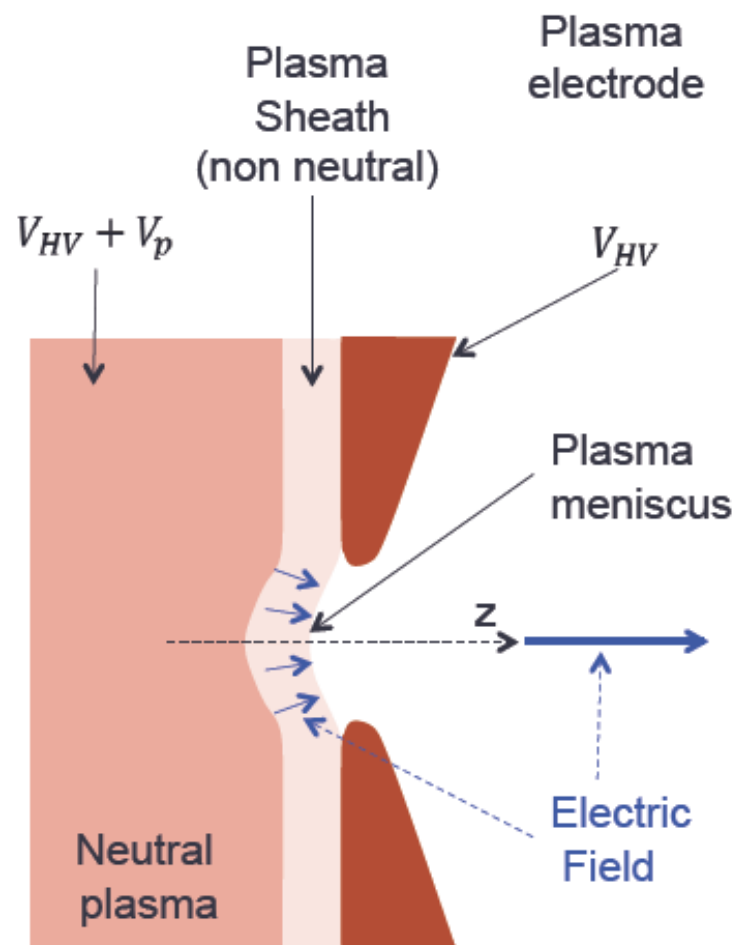
- The plasma potential is  $V_p > 0$  (usually  $\sim 5\text{-}50$  eV)
- The plasma meniscus is the natural curvature of the plasma in front of the circular electrode hole
- The plasma meniscus shape is not predictable. A concave meniscus is optimum for ion extraction.
- The ions are extracted from the plasma sheath (non neutral area, see appendix).
- The ions incident velocity in the early sheath can be modeled by the Bohm criterion:

- $v_i = \sqrt{kT_e/m_i}$

- Ions extracted have escaped the magnetic mirror, so their initial velocity angle  $\theta$  with respect to  $\vec{B}$  are distributed in the loss cone ruled by the Axial Mirror ratio  $R = \sqrt{B_{\max}/B_{\min}}$  :

- $v_{\parallel} = v \cos \theta$

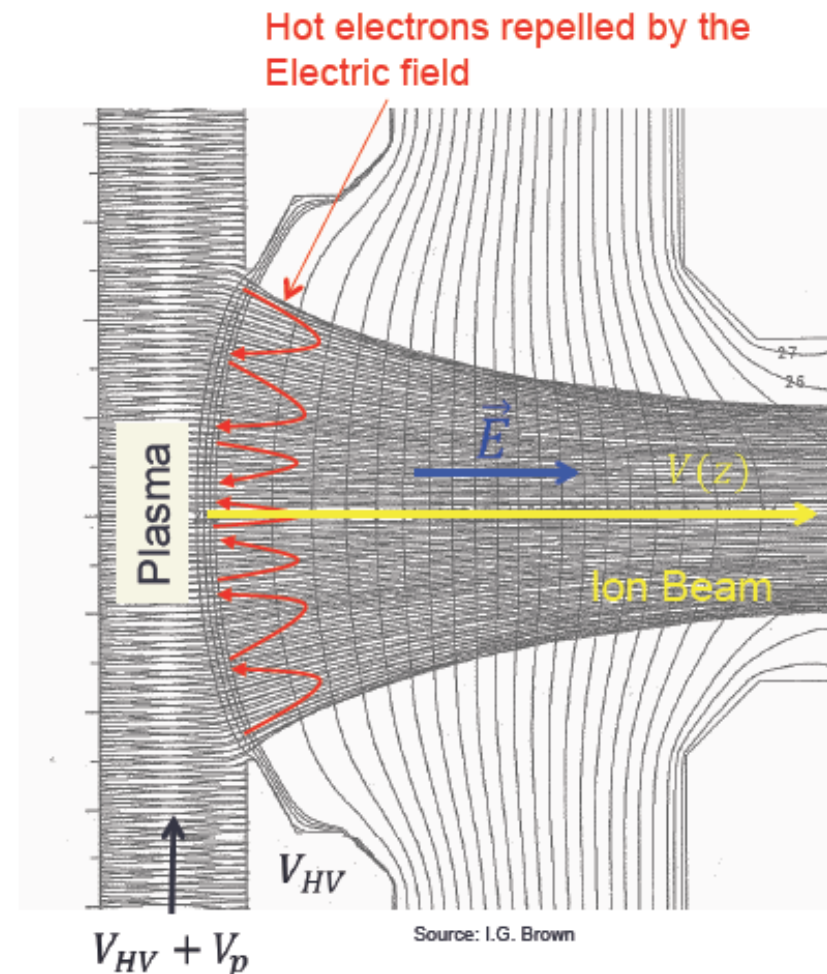
- $\sin \theta \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{R}}$



# Hot Electrons contribution to the emittance

- The hot electrons of ECRIS play an important role in the early beam formation, when the ions have very low energy
- Hot electrons ( $kT_e \sim 1 - 5 \text{ keV}$ ) penetrate into the extraction gap and neutralize partially the space charge induced by the ions, until a point where they are reflected back to the source
- The electron density in the ECR plasma sheath is usually approximated by the Boltzmann distribution function, assuming a gaussian electron distribution function:

- $$n_e = n_{e0} e^{\frac{e(V(z) - V_{HV} - V_p)}{kT_e}}$$
  - $n_{e0}$  is the electron density in the neutral plasma
  - $V(z)$  is the local potential at position  $z$  in the extraction area
  - $V_p$  is the plasma potential,  $V_{HV}$  the High Voltage



# Quizz

- Which physical process is used to create the ions in an ECR source?
  - (a) impact ionization
  - (b) impact excitation
  - (c) photo ionization
  - (d) surface ionization



# Answer (a)

- The source works by exciting electrons with RF so that they will hit and ionize atoms.

# Laser ion sources

The interaction of light with matter can give rise to two types of ion sources:

Laser *Ionization* Ion Sources

Laser *Plasma* Ion Sources

These two techniques are very different in the way that they produce ions.

# Laser *Plasma* ion sources

- A pulsed laser beam is focused onto a target.
- At some position the laser frequency couples to the free electron plasma frequency (either in the material, or the formed plasma).
- In the dense plasma, ions of the target material are formed through electron impact ionization.

$$\lambda = \frac{2\pi c}{e} \sqrt{\frac{m_e \epsilon_0}{n_e}}$$

- $n_e = 10^{21} \text{ cm}^{-3}$  corresponds to  $1 \mu\text{m}$ .
- Laser power density needs to be above  $10^6 \text{ W/cm}^2$ , which is easily available with pulsed lasers.

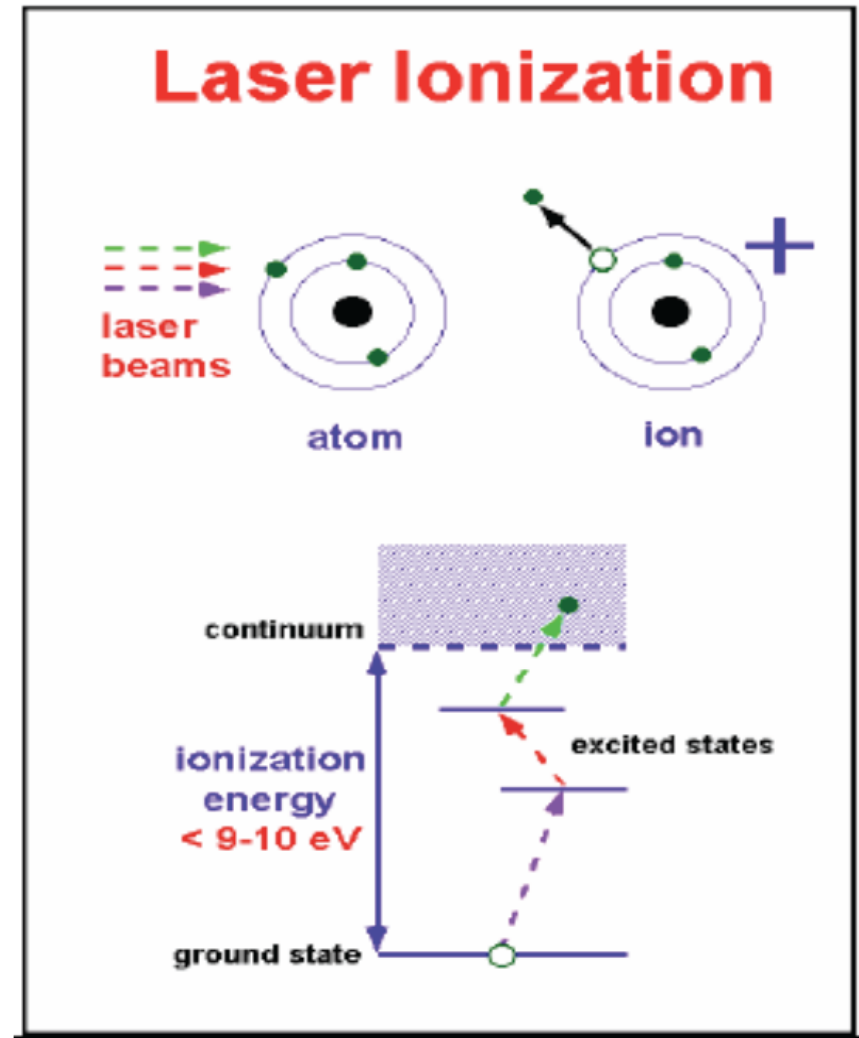


## Laser *ionization* ion sources

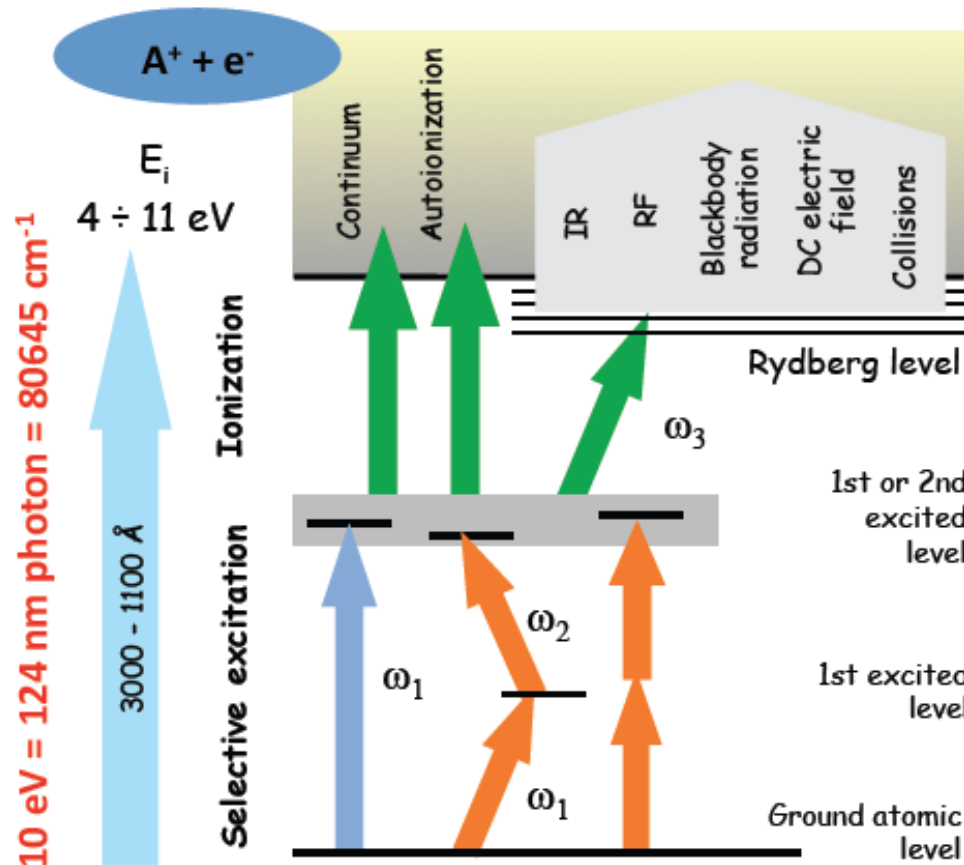
- It is not easy to ionize atoms directly with a laser.

$$\lambda = \frac{hc}{e\Phi_i} = \frac{1.24}{\Phi_i} \mu\text{m}$$

- For the lowest ionization potential (Francium, 3.83eV) this is already UV light.
- Usually necessary to use at least two steps (or more), first to an excited state (requiring a tunable laser) and then to ionize.
- This allows the excitation to be chemically selective.
- Typically the source works continuously with low ion currents (needing a CW laser).



# Laser ion source – using this fingerprint for selective ionization

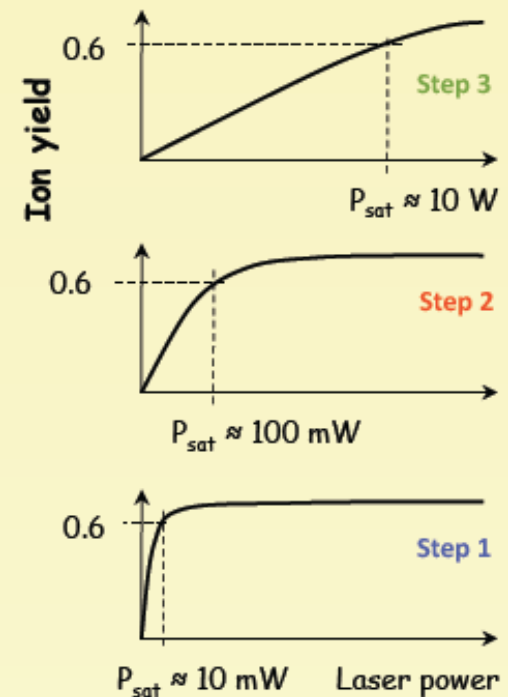


$$\omega_i(\text{laser}) = \omega_i(\text{atom}); \quad P_i(\text{laser}) \geq P_i(\text{saturation})$$

$$P_{\text{sat.}} = \bar{A}_{\text{sat.}} \times f_{\text{laser}} \times S_{\text{laser beam}}$$

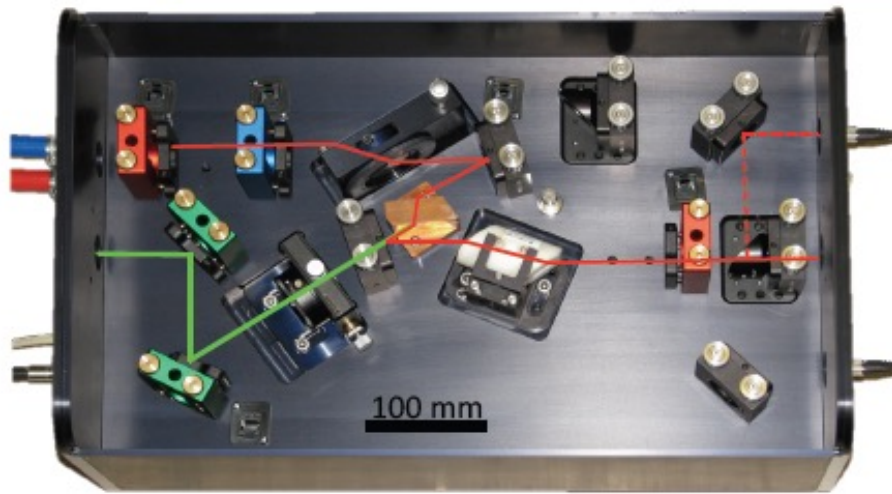
$$\bar{A}_{\text{sat.}} = \hbar \omega_i / 2 \sigma_i$$

$$f_{\text{laser}} = 10 \text{ kHz} \quad \varnothing_{\text{laser}} = 3 \text{ mm}$$





# The RILIS Ti:Sa lasers



**Pump laser: Nd:YAG (532 nm),**

**Photonics**

**Repetition rate: 10 kHz**

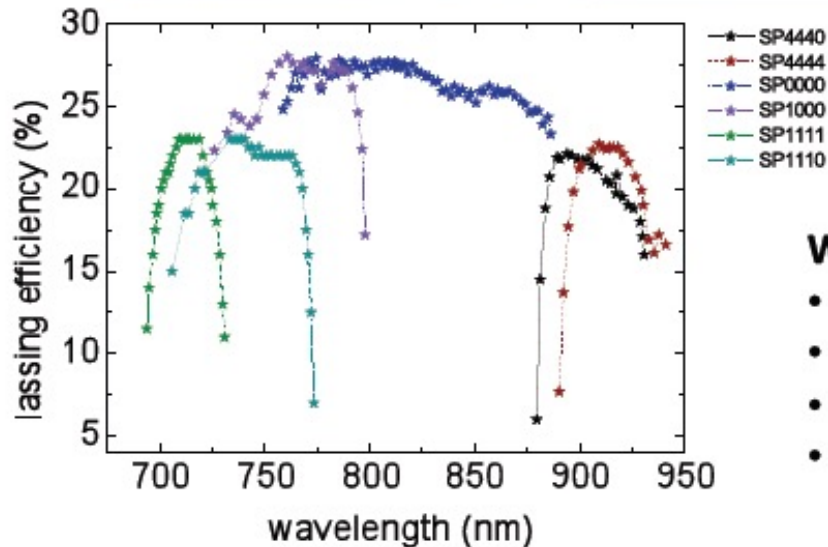
**Pulse length: 180 ns**

**Power: 60 W**

**Ti:Sa lasers:**

**Line width: 5 GHz**

**Pulse length: 30-50 ns**



**Wavelength tuning range (6 mirror sets):**

- Fundamental ( $\omega$ ) **690 - 940 nm** (5 W)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> harmonic ( $2\omega$ ) **345 - 470 nm** (1 W)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> harmonic ( $3\omega$ ) **230 - 310 nm** (150 mW)
- 4<sup>th</sup> harmonic ( $4\omega$ ) **205 - 235 nm** (50 mW)

**"A complementary laser system for ISOLDE RILIS"**

*S Rothe et al: Journal of Physics: Conference Series 312 (2011) 052020*

# Quizz

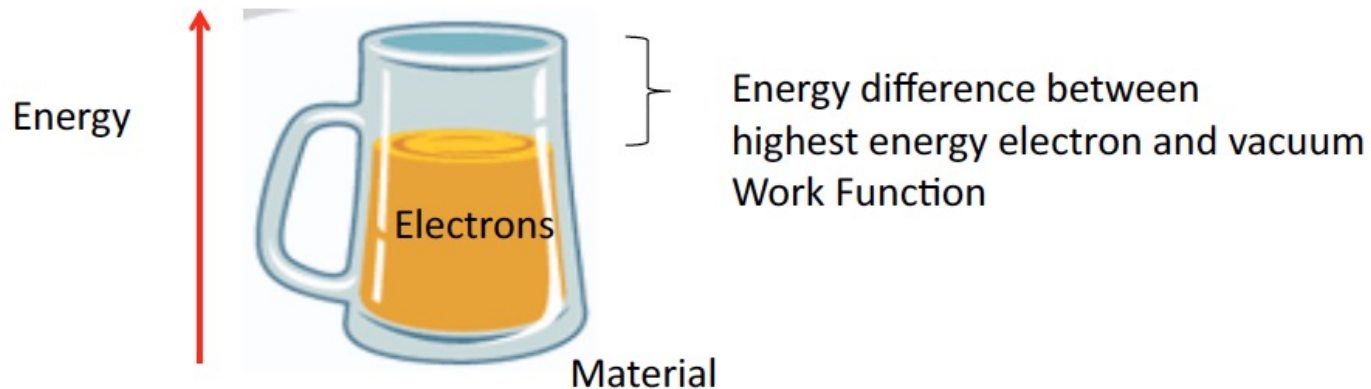
- Which physical process is used to create the ions in a laser ionization ion source?
  - (a) impact ionization
  - (b) impact excitation
  - (c) photo ionization
  - (d) surface ionization

# Answer (c)

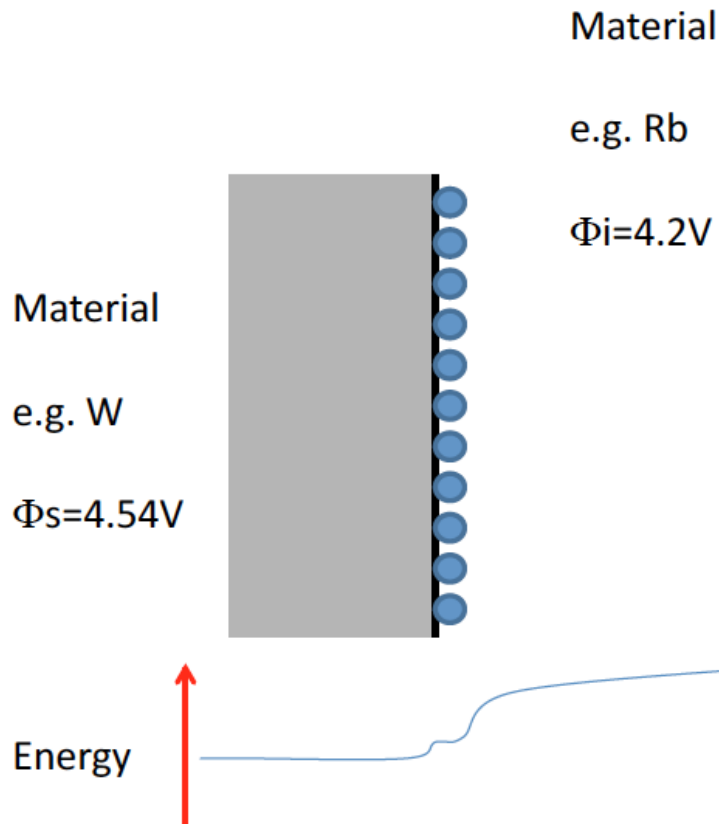
- The source works with a laser exciting electrons from an atoms so that it is ionized.

# Surface Ion Sources

- Inside a solid state material, conduction electrons are confined by the charge of the ions of the material.
- They are confined within the material by a binding energy (called the Fermi Energy).
- Energy in excess of the Fermi Energy must be applied in order to liberate an electron (e.g. through the photo-electric effect, or by heating).



# Surface Ion Sources



- Similarly the electron is trapped on the atom.
- But if a low ionization potential atom is in contact with a high work-function material, the electrons energetic preference is to be in the material.
- The material needs to be hot enough to evaporate the ions.
- The Saha-Langmuir equation predicts the ratio of ions to neutrals from the surface.

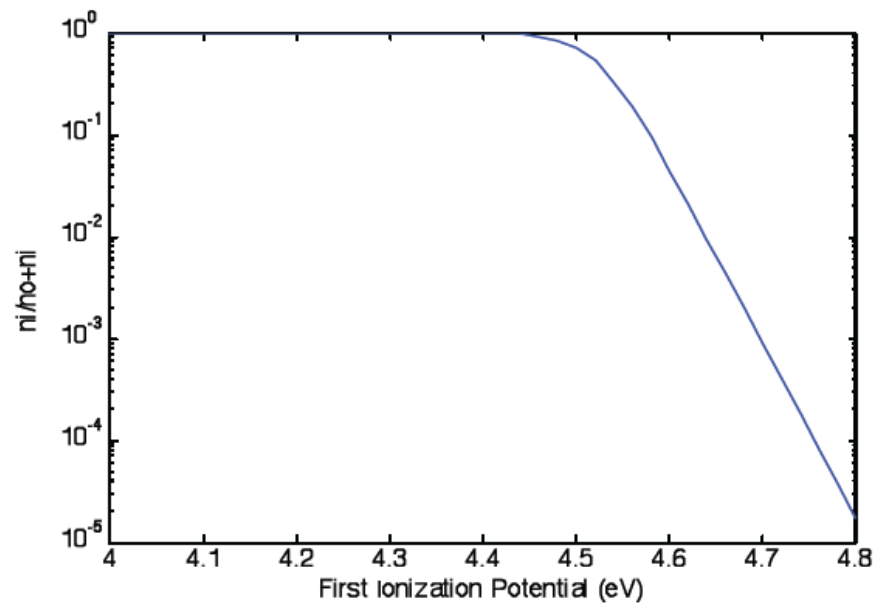
$$\frac{n_i}{n_0 + n_i} = \left( 1 + \frac{g_0}{g_i} e^{(\phi_i - \phi_s)/kT} \right)^{-1}$$



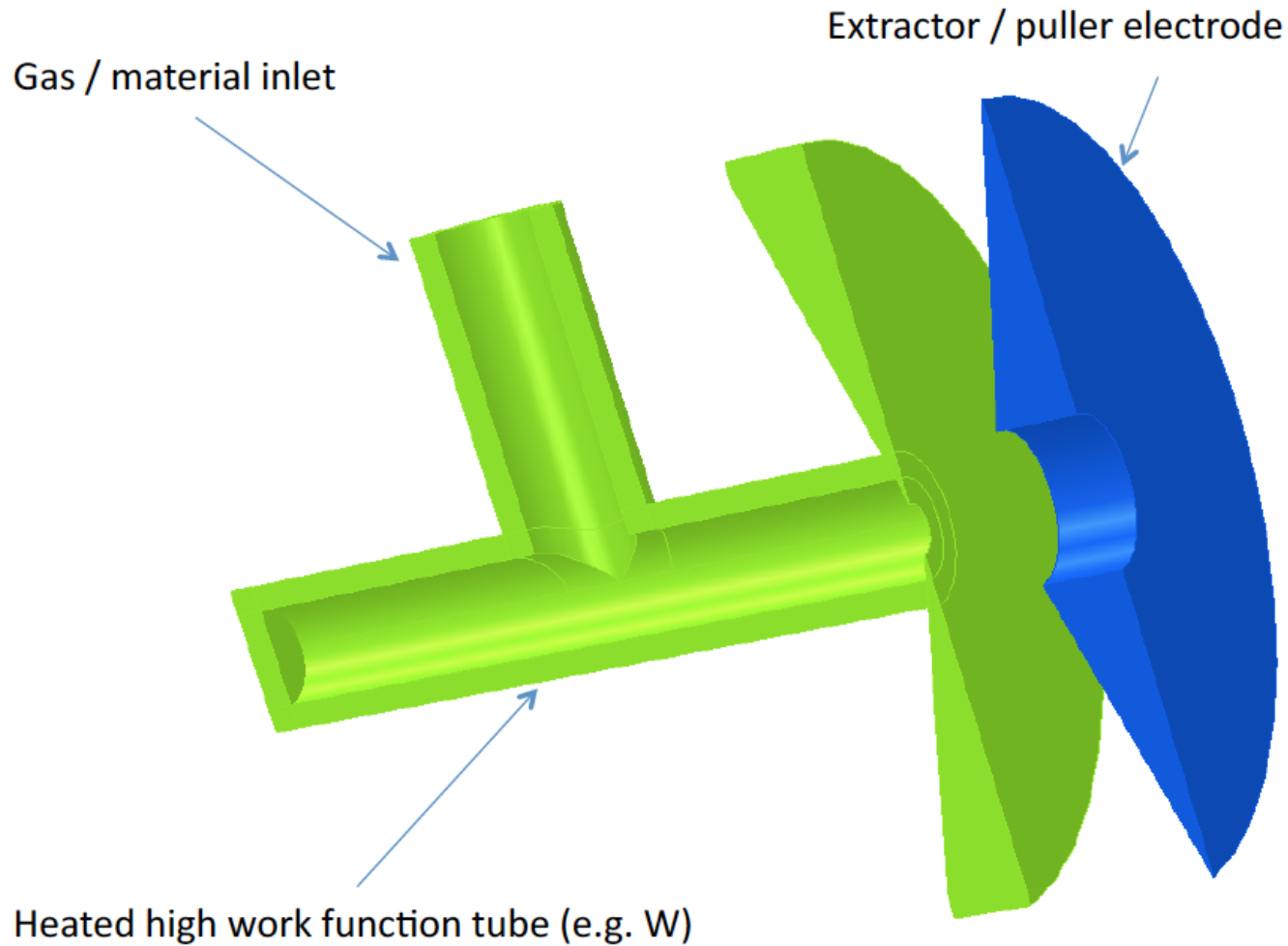
# Surface Ion Sources

$$\frac{n_i}{n_0 + n_i} = \left( 1 + \frac{g_0}{g_i} e^{(\phi_i - \phi_s)/kT} \right)^{-1}$$

Example ion fraction for  $\Phi_s=4.54\text{eV}$   
At room temperature



# Surface Ion Sources

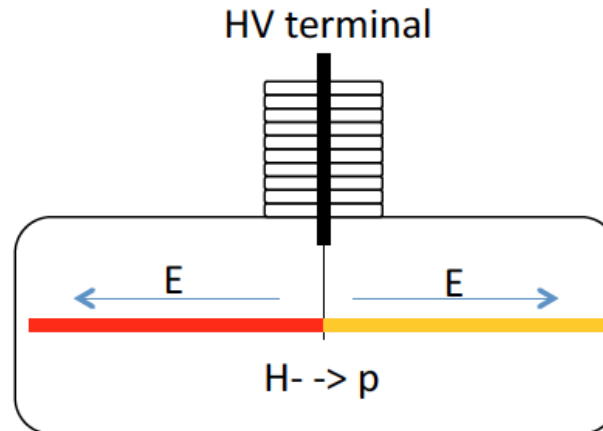


## Negative ions – Why?

- Negative ions are (generally) much harder to produce than positive ions.
- Their benefits for the following accelerator are:
  - They have the opposite charge (so are oppositely affected by E and V fields).
  - They are easily stripped to positive ions or neutrals (normally at higher energies).

### Tandem

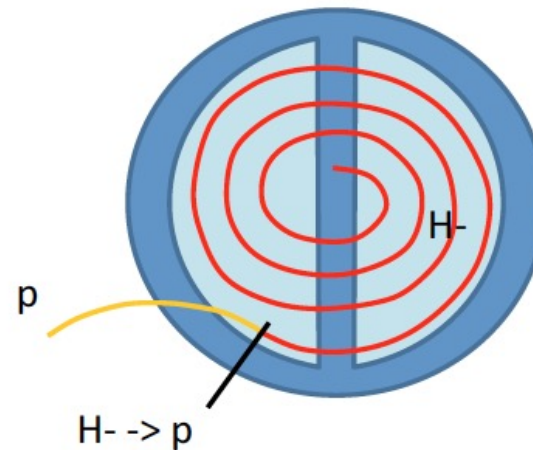
- Negative accelerated to foil, positive ion back to ground.



# Negative ions – Why?

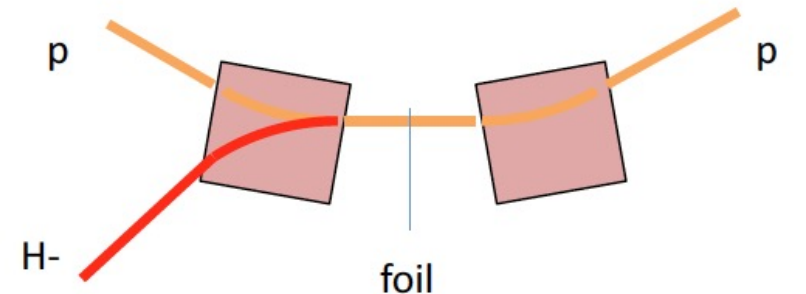
Extraction (from cyclotrons)

- Change the charge in a foil, and the positive ion extracts itself



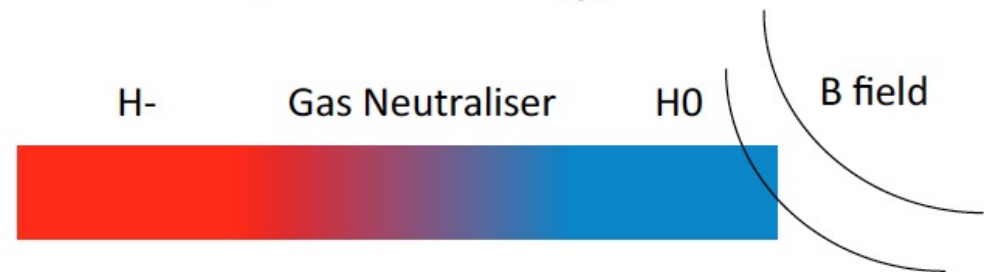
Charge exchange injection (to synchrotron).

- Overlap the negative and (circulating) positive ions – strip to positive – overcome Louville!



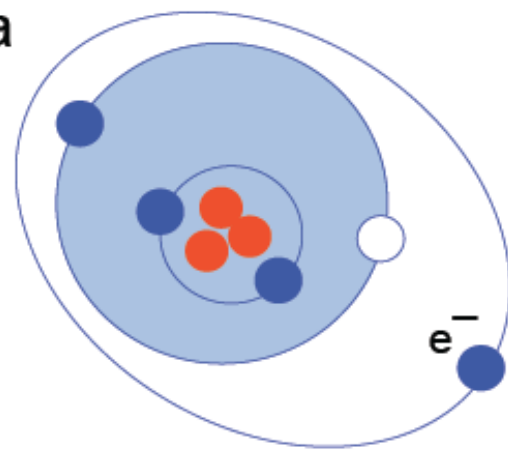
High Energy Neutral Beams (Magnetic Confinement Fusion)

- Efficient stripping to neutrals – to inject through a magnetic field.



## Negative Ions – There is one too many!

- Especially atoms with an open shell attract an **extra electron** and can **form** a **stable ion** with a **net charge of  $-e$** .
- The stability is quantified by the **electron affinity**, the **minimum energy required to remove the extra electron**.
- The electron affinities are substantially **smaller than the ionization energies**, covering the range between 0.08 eV for  $\text{Ti}^-$  and 3.6 eV for  $\text{Cl}^-$ , e.g. **0.75 eV for  $\text{H}^-$** .
- For electron energies above 10 eV, the  $\text{H}^-$  ionization cross section is  $\sim 30 \cdot 10^{-16} \text{ cm}^2$ ,  $\sim 30$  times larger than for a typical neutral atom!!
- For  $\text{H}^+$  energies below 1 keV, the recombination cross section is larger than  $100 \cdot 10^{-16} \text{ cm}^2$ .



*Negative  
ions are  
fragile!*

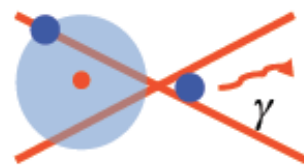
***Charged particle collisions destroy negative ions easily!!***



# So how are $\text{H}^-$ ions produced?

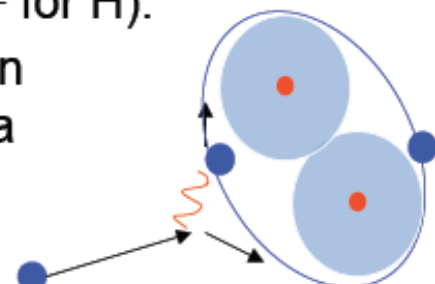
- Conserving energy and momentum when forming a negative ion through **direct electron attachment**, the excess energy has to be dissipated through a photon.  $\text{H} + \text{e} = \text{H}^- + \gamma$

But **Radiative Capture** is **rare** ( $5 \cdot 10^{-22} \text{ cm}^2$  for H).



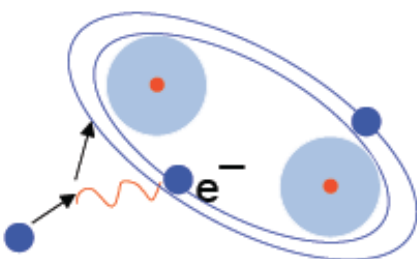
- More likely are processes where the **excess energy** can be **transferred to a third particle**, e.g. when dissociating a molecule (4.5 eV for  $\text{H}_2$ ):  $\text{H}_2 + \text{e} = \text{H} + \text{H} + \text{e}$

and sometimes  $= \text{H} + \text{H}^-$   
( $\sim 10^{-20} \text{ cm}^2$  for  $\text{H}_2$ )



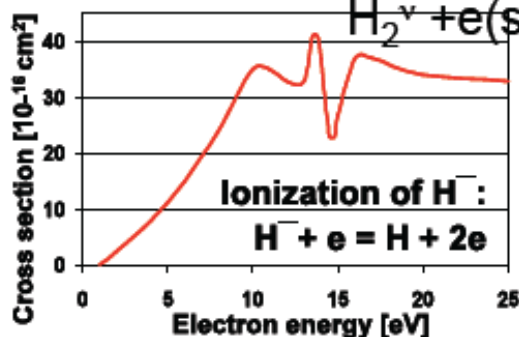
- and  $E_e > 10 \text{ eV}$
- Most likely are processes which excite a **molecule** to the edge of breakup (**rotationally excited**  $4 \leq v < 12$ )

$\text{H}_2 + \text{e}(\text{fast}) = \text{H}_2^v + \text{e}$   
( $\sim 5 \cdot 10^{-18} \text{ cm}^2$  for  $4 \leq v \leq 9$  and  $E_e > 15 \text{ eV}$ )



and then **dissociated by a slow electron**

$\text{H}_2^v + \text{e}(\text{slow}) = \text{H} + \text{H}^-$  ( $\sim 3 \cdot 10^{-20} \text{ cm}^2$  for  $4 \leq v \leq 9$  &  $E_e < 1 \text{ eV}$ )

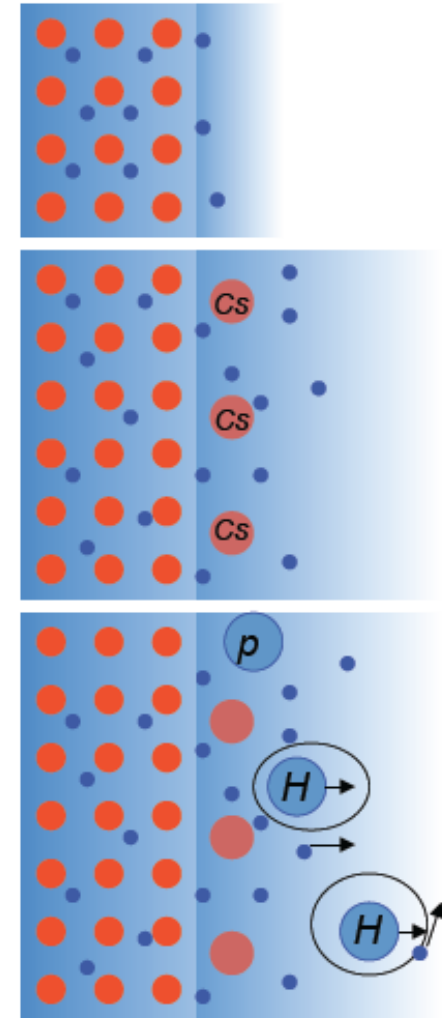
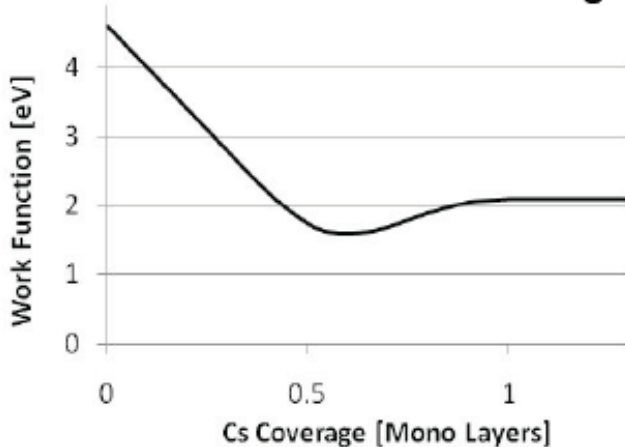


- However, **the fast electron** needed to excite the molecules, **destroy** ( $\sim 3 \cdot 10^{-15} \text{ cm}^2$ ) the  $\text{H}^-$  faster than they are produced!

**A catch 22!**

# Surface Production of $H^-$ Ions

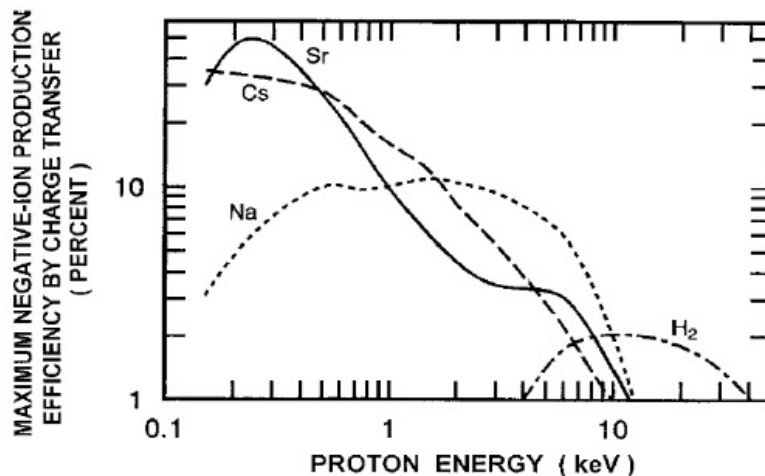
- Metals host an abundance of loosely bound electrons (conduction electrons) but it takes about 4.5 to 6 eV to remove an electron from the surface.
- Alkali metals have lower work functions (2-3 eV). When adsorbed on a metal surface as a partial monolayer, alkali atoms can lower the surface work function to values even below their bulk work function, e.g.  $\sim 1.6$  eV for Cs on Mo.
- Lowering the work function increases the probability that hydrogen atoms leaving the surface capture a second electron.
- The dominant process is protons capturing an electron when hitting the surface, and capturing a 2<sup>nd</sup> electron when bouncing back into the plasma.



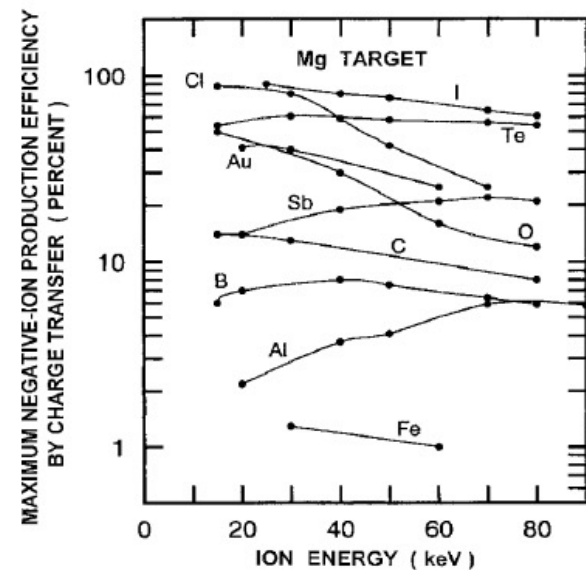
In the absence of Cs, residues on the surface ( $H_2O$ ) and/or sputtered atoms (especially alkali from ceramics) can also lower the work function!

# Charge Exchange Ion Sources – Negative Ions

- Ions travelling through a gas can undergo a double charge exchange, to produce negative ions.
- The cross section for the charge exchange is very high for good - electron donor - alkali metals,
- Although there are many sources for H<sup>-</sup>, not so many are well suited to other negative ion types.

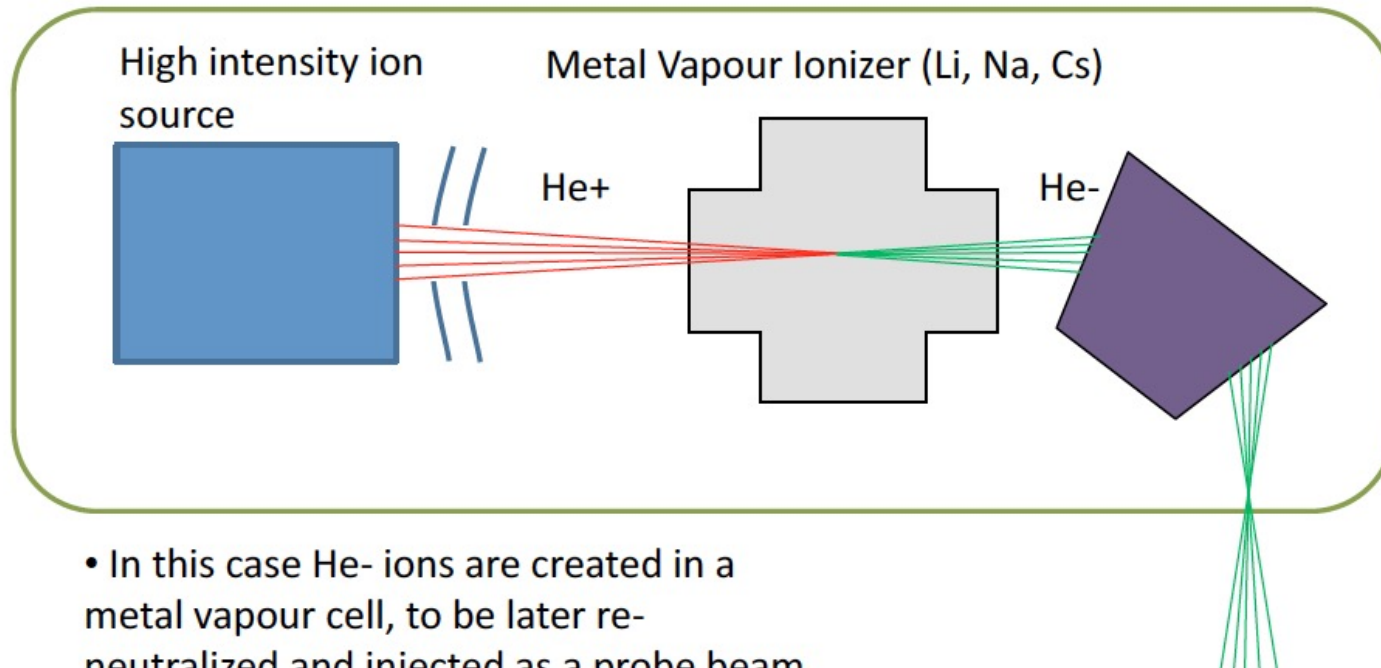


Schlachter and Morgan, AIP Conf. Proc. 111, p149 (1984)



Schlachter, AIP Conf. Proc. 111, p300 (1984)

# Charge Exchange Ion Sources – Negative Ions



- In this case  $\text{He}^-$  ions are created in a metal vapour cell, to be later re-neutralized and injected as a probe beam into ITER.
- If the outer electrons on the metal vapour are polarised, this can be transferred to the ion, which can be made to transfer the spin to the nucleus.

To second acceleration stage and neutraliser

# Quizz

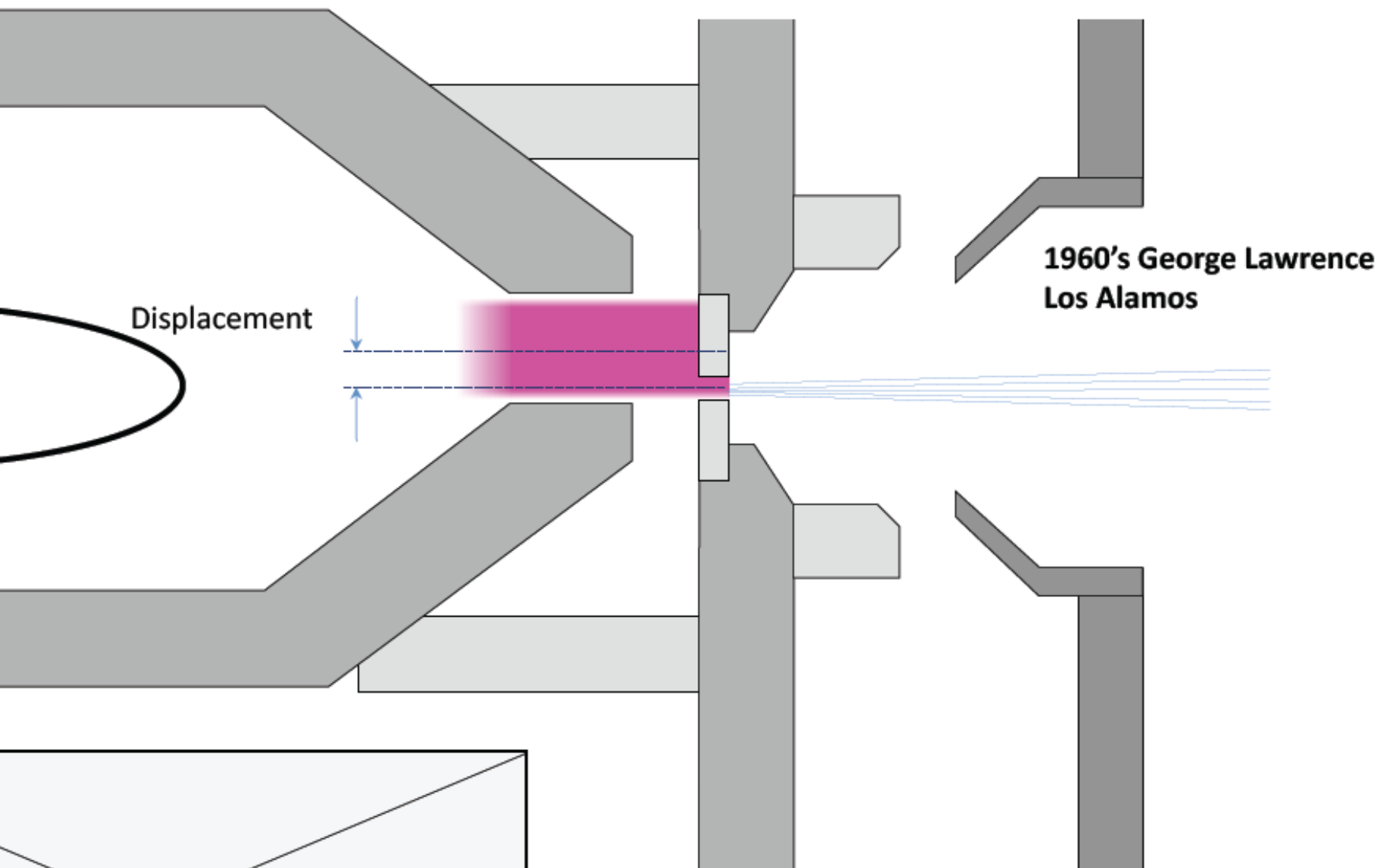
- Which physical process is used to create the ions in a charge exchange ion source?
  - (a) impact ionization
  - (b) impact excitation
  - (c) photo ionization
  - (d) surface ionization



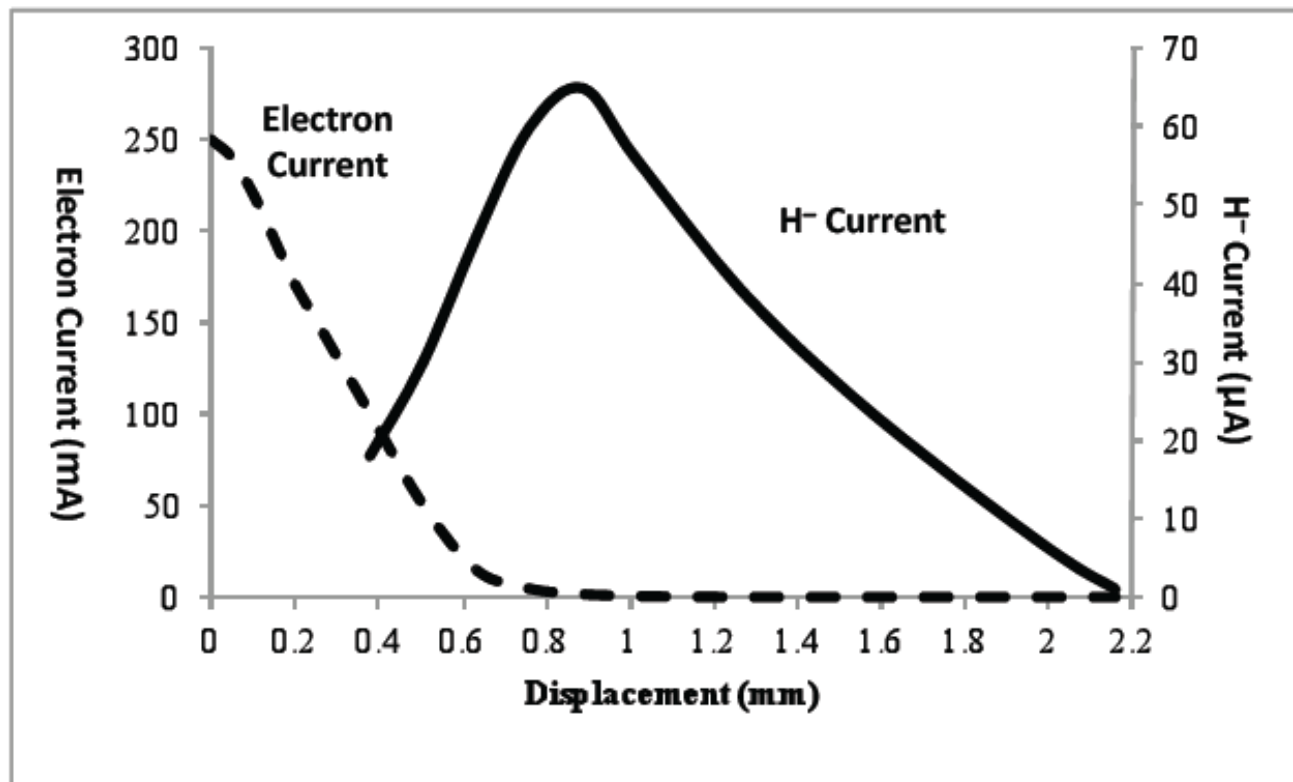
# Answer (d)

- The source works with ions exchanging their charge with metal vapour by adsorption/desorption and thus creating ions.

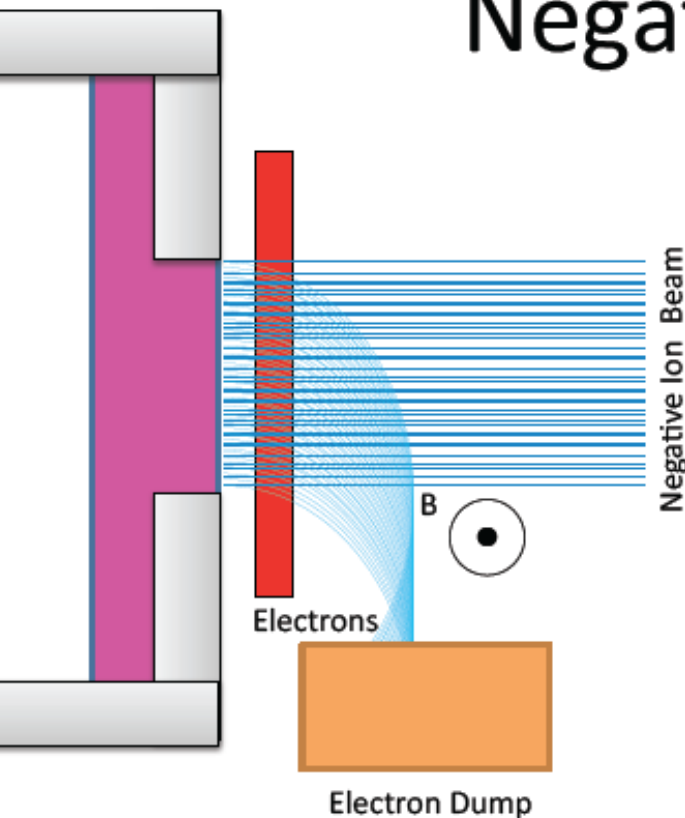
# Off Axis Duoplasmatron Extraction



# Off Axis Duoplasmatron Extraction



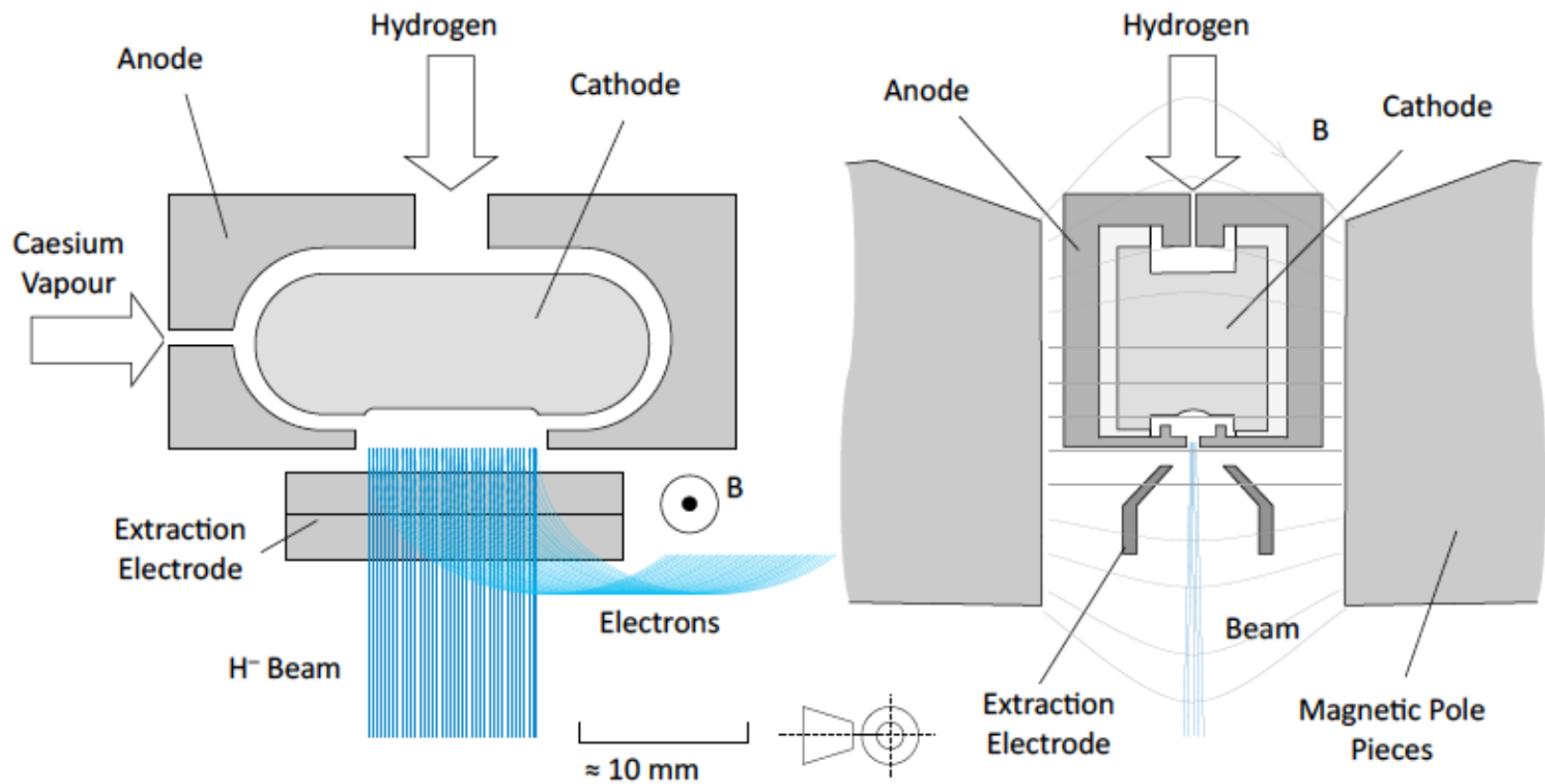
# Negative Ion Extraction



Electrons will also be extracted  
Up to 1000 times the  $H^-$  current!  
Use a magnetic field  
Dump must be properly designed

SPS sources:  
only 0.5 to 10 times  $H^-$  current

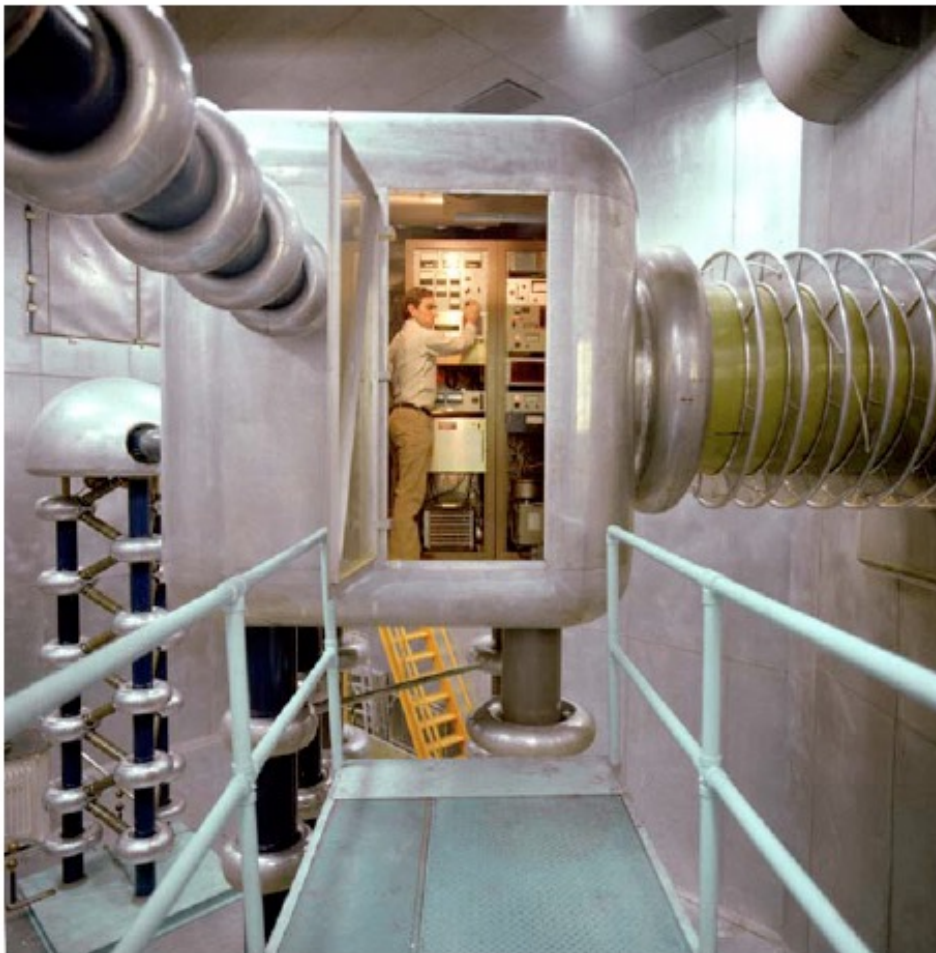
# Magnetron Source





# Fermilab Magnetron

750 kV Acceleration Column

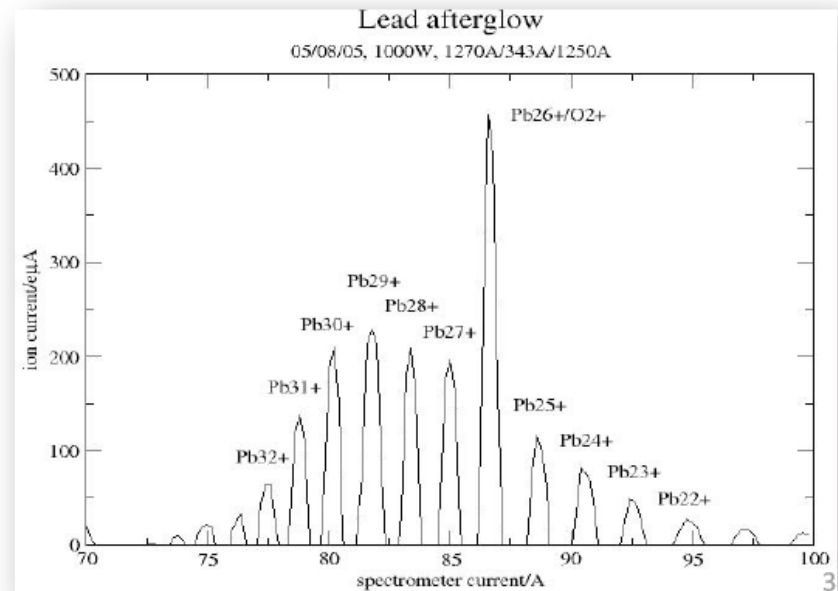


# Highly Charged Ions

- For heavy ions it is often necessary to create high charge states.
- The high charge state allows more energy to be gained in the accelerating electric field.
- To create highly charged ions need:
  - Direct ionization with a single electron impact is not feasible ( $A \rightarrow A^{n+}$ ).
  - So multi-step ionization is the only practical solution ( $A^{n+} \rightarrow A^{n+1+}$ ).
  - High Energy electrons – above the ionization potential of the ion charge state required.
  - Ions to remain in the plasma long enough for sufficient ionizing collisions to take place (long time, or dense plasma).
- 3 types of sources are generally used, we have already seen them:

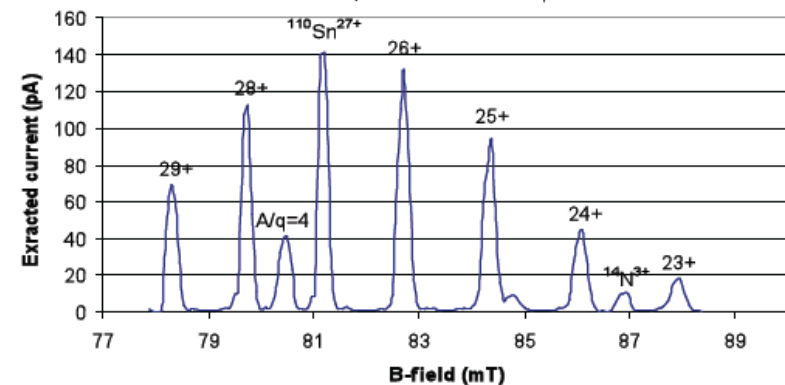
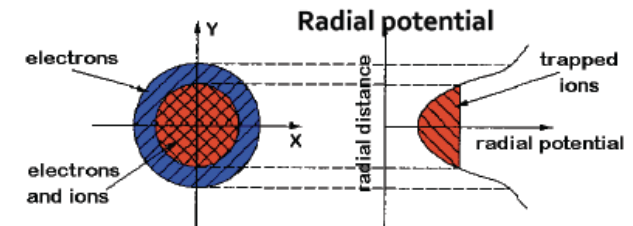
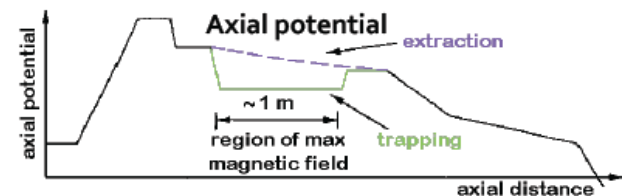
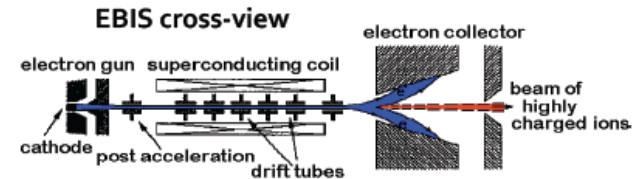
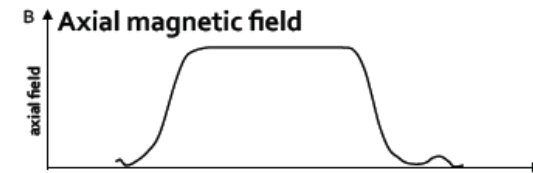
# Highly Charged Ions - ECRs

- The electrons are heated using the Electron Cyclotron Resonance.
- The Magnetic field is formed with co-linear solenoids, with a higher magnetic field at the ends, to confine the electrons with a magnetic mirror.
- Radially the confinement is made with a multi-cusp magnet.
- The inverse dynamics of collisional drift means the hot electrons are well confined.
- This leads to a charge density, that traps ions, sufficiently long for multi-step ionisation to take place.



# Highly Charged Ions - EBIS

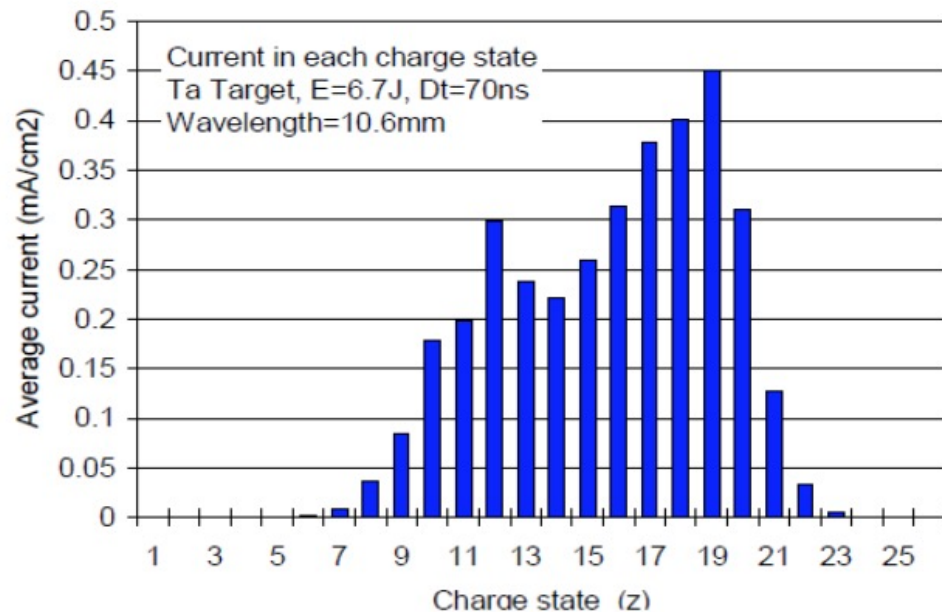
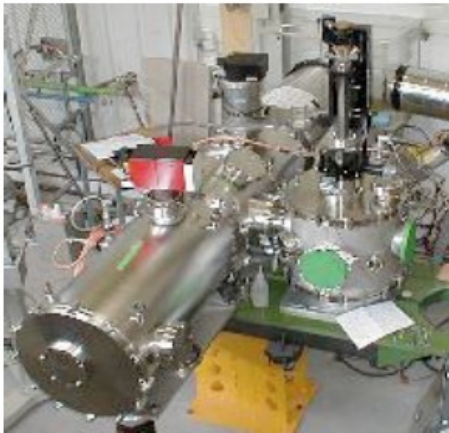
- The electrons are accelerated from a cathode into a drift region (usually in a solenoid field to increase the current density).
- Ions are trapped radially by the electron beam potential.
- Longitudinal trapping is done with electrodes.
- Neutral gas or  $1+$  ions are injected, and confined long enough for multi-step ionization.
- When the ion charge state is reached, one of the electrode barriers is reduced to allow the ions to escape.





# Highly Charged Ions – Laser Ion Sources

- Use the Laser Plasma Ion Source with a high power laser.
- Generate a very dense, hot plasma by coupling to the plasma frequency.
- Ions travel through the plasma, and due to the high density, they still undergo a large number of collisions.
- Spectrum from the Laser Ion Source :





# Ion source conclusion

- Accelerators require many different types of ion sources.
  - This can be achieved by relying on different physical processes.
  - There are different technical implementation to achieve these processes.
- => Ion sources are a very complex topic and there is still a lot of R&D happening.

# Quizz

- Which physical processes can be used to create ions (several answers)?
  - (a) impact ionization
  - (b) thermoelectric emission
  - (c) photo ionization
  - (d) Schottky emission
  - (e) surface ionization

# Answer (a,c,e)

The process are: impact ionization, photo ionization and surface ionization.

Thermoionic emission and Schottky emission are related to the emission of electrons.

# OTHER APPLICATIONS

Tsiolkovsky rocket equation:

$$v_e = v_T \ln \frac{m_0}{m_e}$$

Maximum speed = exhaust velocity x ln(Initial mass/final mass)

Chemical thrusters		small	large
Electrical thrusters	up to 25 x larger	large	small

- Small thrust (0.1 - 1 N) but
- Very reliable
- High propellant capacity
- propulsion energy provided by an electric source
- exact control of the thrust

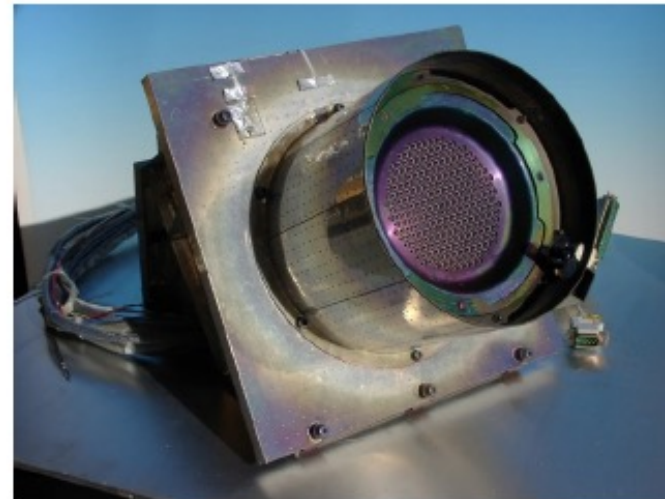
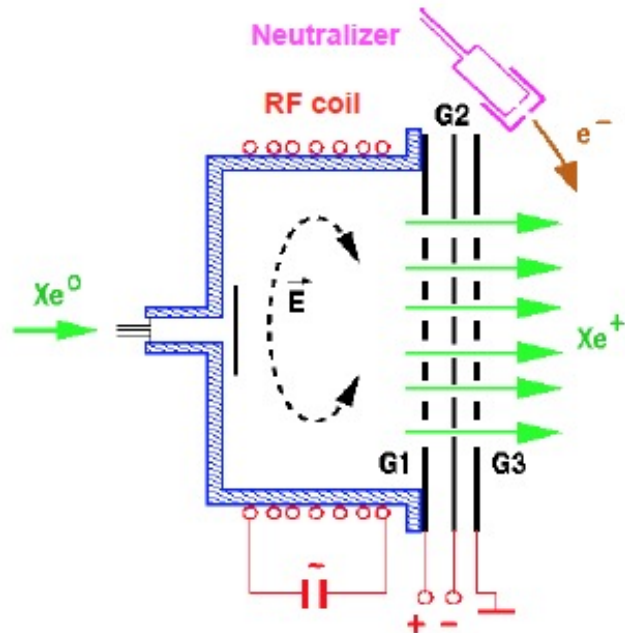
=> used for

space missions, space probes

orbit control of satellites



### RIT 10 Giessen university



Propellant: **Xenon**

(high mass => high momentum => high thrust)

10 cm diameter,

Thrust: 0.01 – 1 N

Acceleration voltage: ca 2 kV

Power supply: solar

4 MHz, few 100 W,

# Summary

- Ions for accelerators can be produced through 3 different phenomenon:
  - impact ionization
  - photo-ionization
  - surface ionization
- There is a large variety of ion sources design, suited to different ion requirements.

# Recommended readings

(and credits for some of the material used in this lecture)

- CERN Accelerator School (CAS) on Ion source, June 2012:

<http://cas.web.cern.ch/cas/Slovakia-2012/Senec-advert.html>

Lectures slides are at

[http://lal.delerue.org/teaching/2024\\_GI/](http://lal.delerue.org/teaching/2024_GI/)