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Precision laser spectroscopy of fast radioactive beams and trapped ions

Monday, October 3, 2022 2:00 PM (30 minutes)

Laser spectroscopy techniques provide nuclear-model independent access to nuclear electromagnetic moments, spins and charge radii. Advances in radioactive ion beam instrumentation and laser technologies have enabled the study of a wide range of elements and isotopes, pushing out far from the valley of stability towards the drip lines.

In this contribution, I will present experimental progress along several important frontiers in the field. I will discuss the use of methods based on laser ionization spectroscopy and how they have allowed us to reach exotic nuclei such as ^{96}Ag or ^{52}K . Crucially, these measurements relied on the use of decay detection or ultra-selective mass separation tools to provide low-background measurement conditions.

Besides using efficient laser ionization and particle detection methods, another important area of research relies on the use of ion traps. I will show a recent example of how ions trapped in a linear Paul trap can be optically pumped into a beneficial metastable state. In particular, I will show how this approach enabled fluorescence spectroscopy of neutron-deficient singly-charged cobalt isotopes. Finally, I will conclude with a discussion of future avenues for spectroscopy, which entail doing optical and radiofrequency spectroscopy of radioactive ions while they are trapped in a linear Paul trap.

Presenter: Prof. DE GROOTE, Ruben

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