

# 3-BODY AND 4-BODY ATOMIC COLLISIONS THEORY (THE MOST BORING TITLE EVER)

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UNIVERSITY  
*Illinois' first public university*

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

**XSEDE**

Extreme Science and Engineering  
Discovery Environment



# MY STORY (SHORT VERSION)





DEPARTMENT OF  
PHYSICS  
*Illinois State University*



- 130 majors
- 18 grads per year
- 11 faculty
- 4 degree sequences
  - Physics
  - Computational Physics
  - Physics Engineering
  - Physics Teacher Education



# ATOMIC COLLISIONS





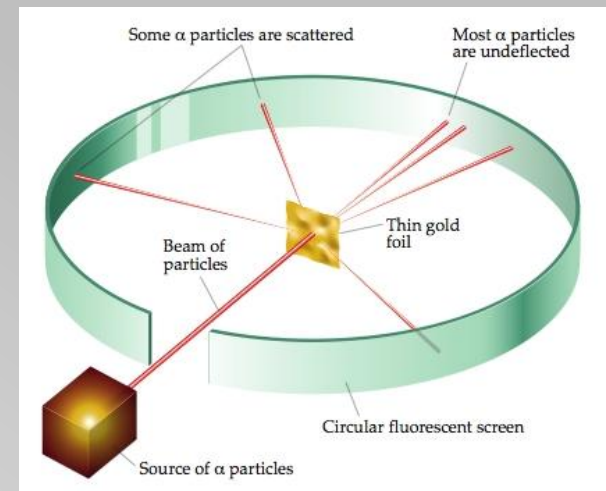
# ATOMIC COLLISIONS

- A very short historical Perspective

# ERNEST RUTHERFORD



- Nobel Prize in Chemistry (1908) *“for his investigations into the disintegration of the elements, and the chemistry of radioactive substances”*
- Gold Foil Experiment (1908-1913)



# CLASSICAL PICTURE

Target (atom)

Projectile



# ATOMIC COLLISIONS ARE GOVERNED BY QUANTUM MECHANICS

$$\left[ \frac{-\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + V \right] \Psi = i \hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi$$

- Goal is to understand about atomic structure and few-particle interactions
- If we know  $\Psi$ , we know everything
- Problem is that we don't know  $\Psi$ , and often times can't find  $\Psi$





# ATOMIC COLLISIONS

- Underlying problem

➤ Force governing collisions is known

➤ Coulomb Force

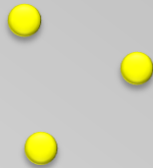
➤ Two body problem

$$F = \frac{kq_1q_2}{r^2}$$



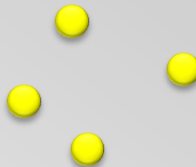
Analytical solution

➤ Three body problem



Numerical solution

➤ Four body problem



No solution, Much to learn,  
difficult

➤ Five body problem

Ask Nate Harshman!!!

# ATOMIC COLLISIONS

- Problems of Interest - Ionization
  - Frozen Core Approximation
  - Out-of-Plane Collisions

# 4-BODY COLLISIONS

## IONIZATION



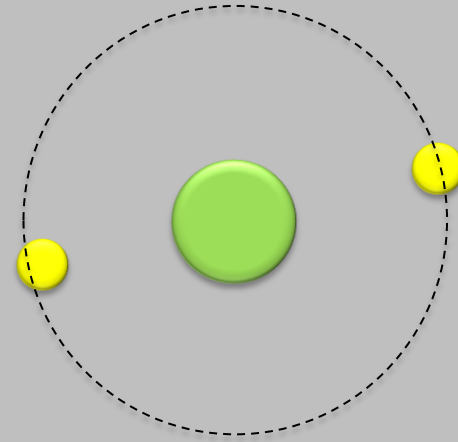
Projectile



Target atom

# FROZEN CORE 3-BODY MODEL

- **HELIUM ATOM APPROXIMATED AS 1-ELECTRON ATOM**
- **CORE CONSISTS OF NUCLEUS AND INACTIVE ELECTRON**





# SINGLE IONIZATION – FROZEN CORE 3-BODY MODEL



- **USED SUCCESSFULLY FOR DECADES**
- **SIGNIFICANTLY SIMPLIFIES CALCULATIONS**

**“PROBLEM”:**

**HELIUM HAS 2 ELECTRONS**

**WHAT EFFECT DOES THE  
SECOND, “INACTIVE” ELECTRON  
HAVE ON THE CROSS SECTION?**

# THE MODELS – PERTURBATION THEORY

## FULLY DIFFERENTIAL CROSS SECTIONS

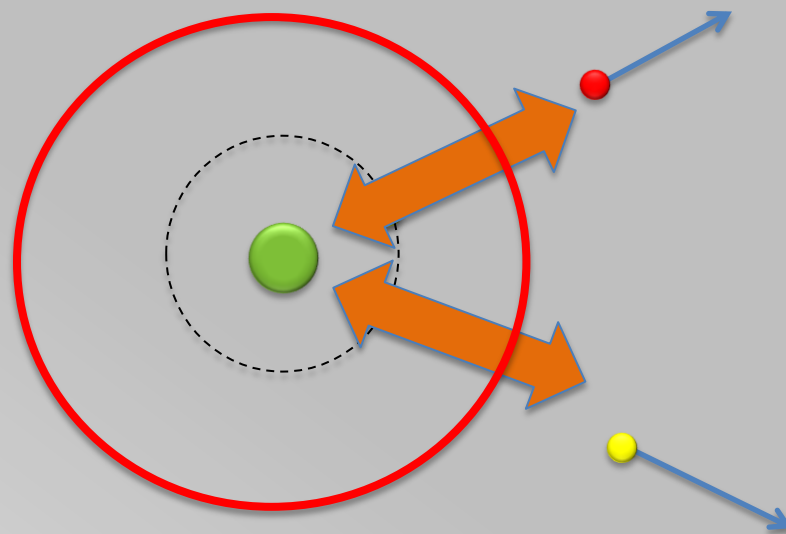
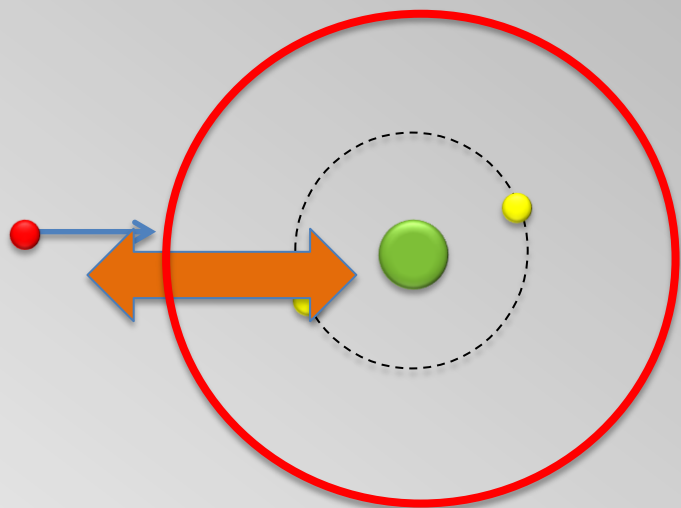
- Position and momentum of all particles before and after collision known (or measured).

$$FDCS \propto |T|^2 \qquad T = \langle \psi_f | V | \psi_i \rangle$$

# THE MODELS

## 4-BODY MODEL

$$T = \left( \chi_f^{proj} \chi_{e_1}^{ejected} \psi_{e_2}^{bound} \middle| V^{4-body} \middle| \chi_i^{proj} \Phi_{e_1, e_2}^{helium} \right)$$



# THE MODELS

## 3-BODY MODEL

$$T = \left\langle \chi_f^{proj} \chi_{e_1}^{ejected} \left| V^{3-body} \right| \chi_i^{proj} \varphi_{e_1}^{helium} \right\rangle$$



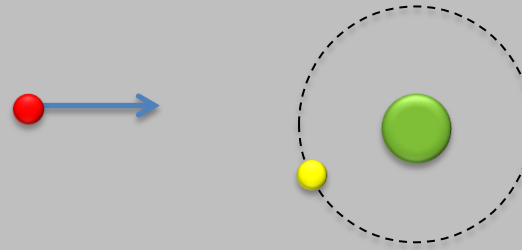


# 3-BODY AND 4-BODY MODEL DIFFERENCES

1. Initial state helium atom  
wave functions

3-body

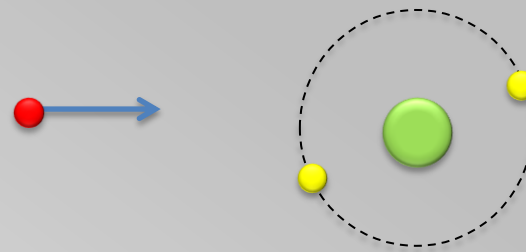
1 e<sup>-</sup> wf



3-body

4-body

2 e<sup>-</sup> wf with correlation



4-body

2. Initial state interaction  
potentials are different

3-body

$$V = -\frac{1}{r_p} + \frac{1}{r_{pe}}$$

4-body

$$V = -\frac{2}{r_p} + \frac{1}{r_{pe_1}} + \frac{1}{r_{pe_2}}$$

# 3-BODY AND 4-BODY MODEL DIFFERENCES

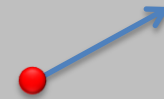
3. Final state  $\text{He}^+$  wave functions

3-body

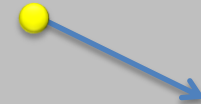
none

4-body

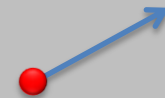
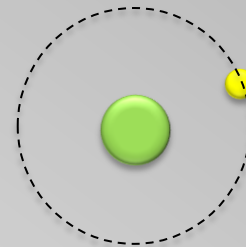
$\text{He}^+$  wf



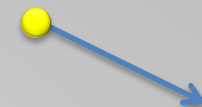
3-body



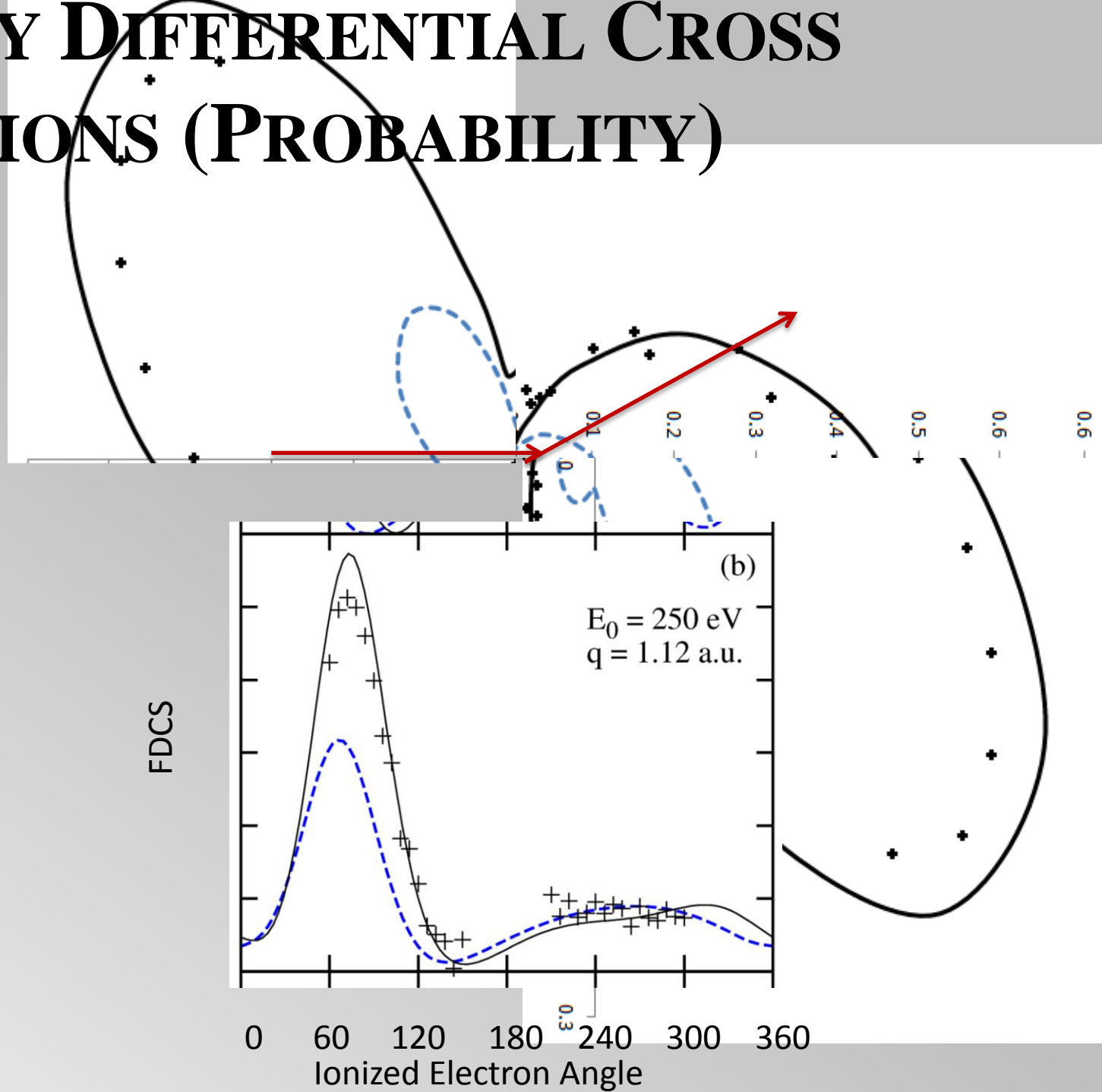
4. Final state free electrons move in different potentials



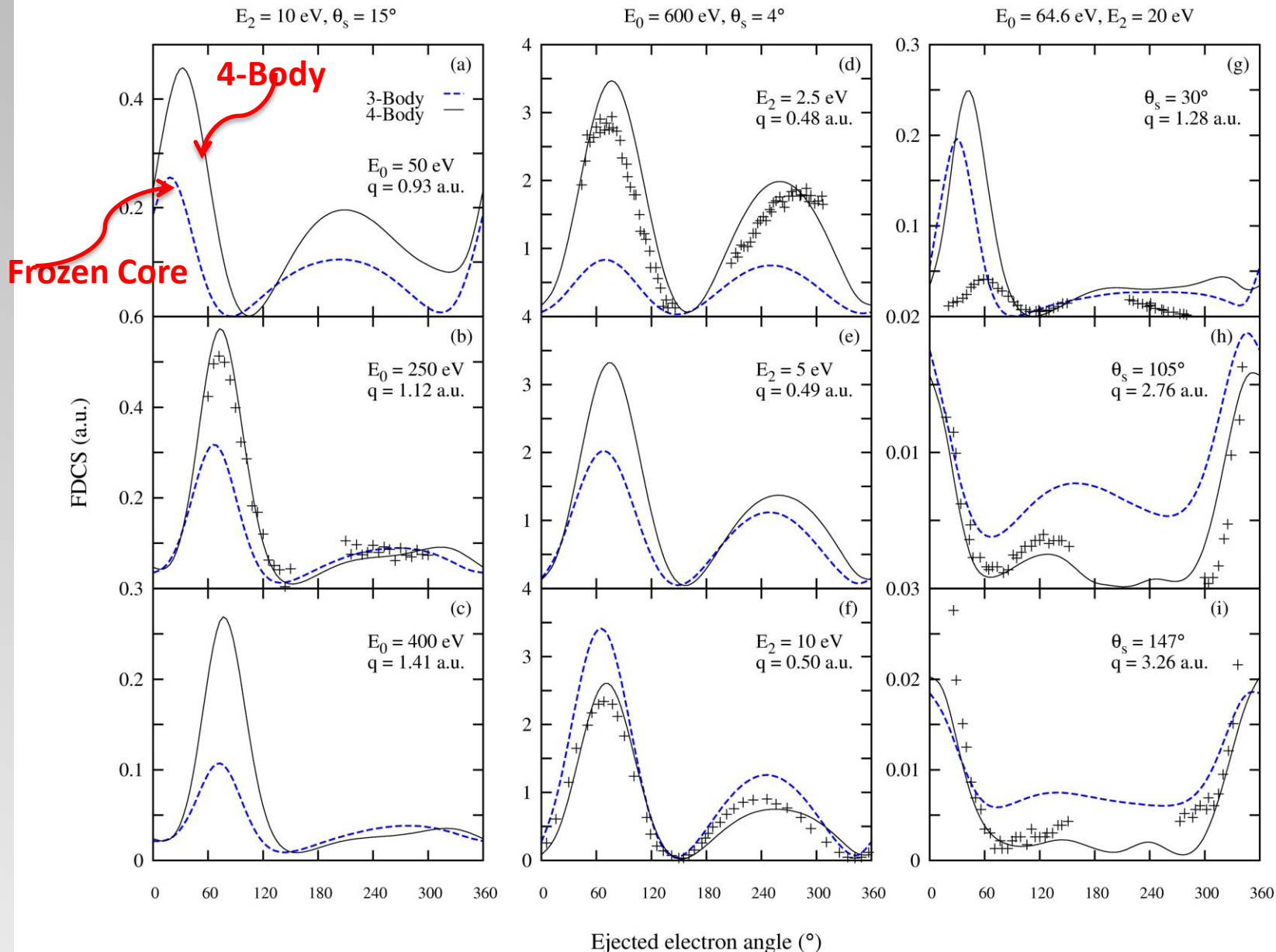
4-body



# FULLY DIFFERENTIAL CROSS SECTIONS (PROBABILITY)



# ELECTRON PROJECTILE



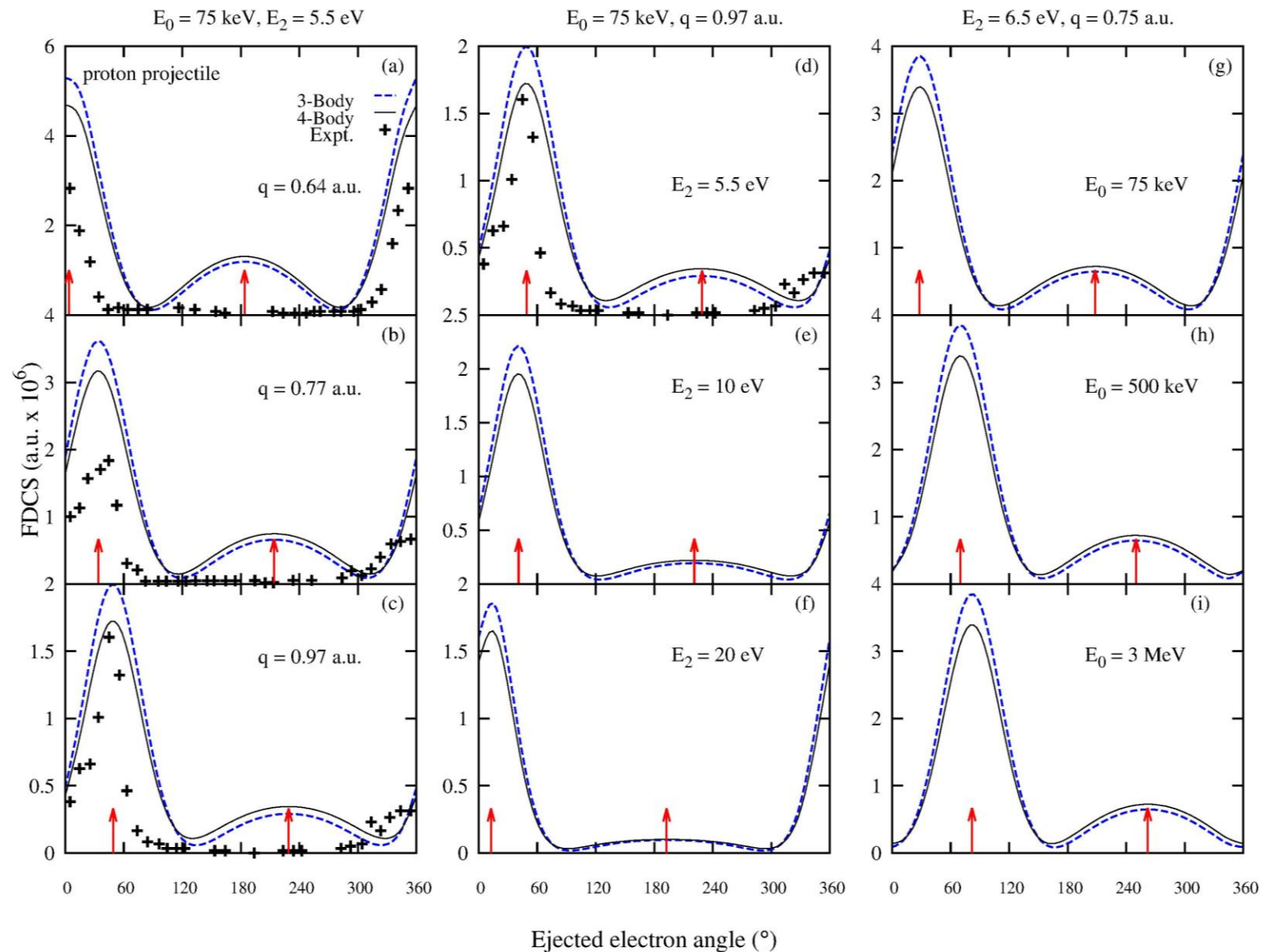
Expt: Schlemmer P, Srivastava M K, Rössel T and Ehrhardt H 1991 J. Phys. B: At. Mol. Opt. Phys. 24 2719

Jung K, Muller-Fiedler R, Schlemmer P, Ehrhardt H and Klar H 1985 J. Phys. B: At. Mol. Phys. 18 2955

Bray I, Fursa D V, Riederer J and Ehrhardt H 1997 J. Phys. B: At. Mol. Opt. Phys. 30 L101

**PUBLISHED IN**  
**J. PHYS. B 46, 145202 (2013).**

# PROTON PROJECTILE



PUBLISHED IN:  
**J. PHYS. B 48, 115203 (2015).**



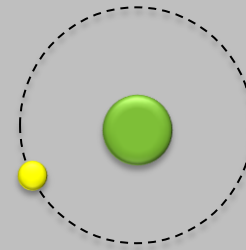
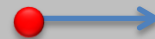
**WHAT PART OF FROZEN  
CORE APPROXIMATION  
CAUSES DIFFERENCES IN  
FDCS?**

# 1. INITIAL STATE HELIUM WAVE FUNCTION

- USE 4-BODY MODEL
- REPLACE 2 ELECTRON HELIUM WAVE FUNCTION WITH 2 INDEPENDENT 1-ELECTRON WAVE FUNCTIONS

3-body

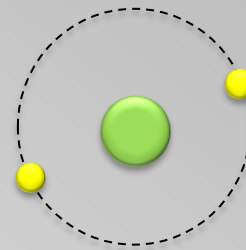
1 e<sup>-</sup> wf



3-body

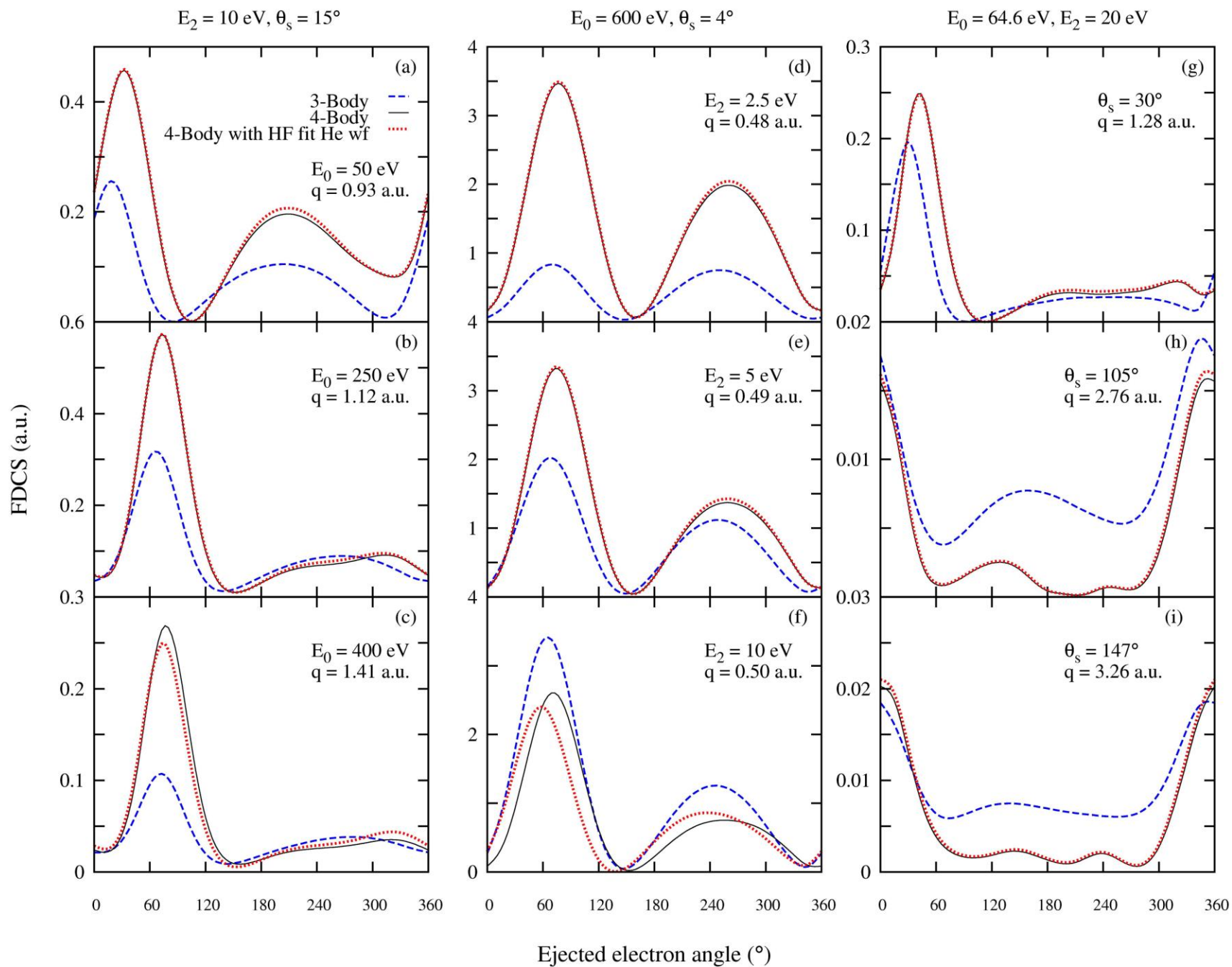
4-body

2 e<sup>-</sup> wf with correlation



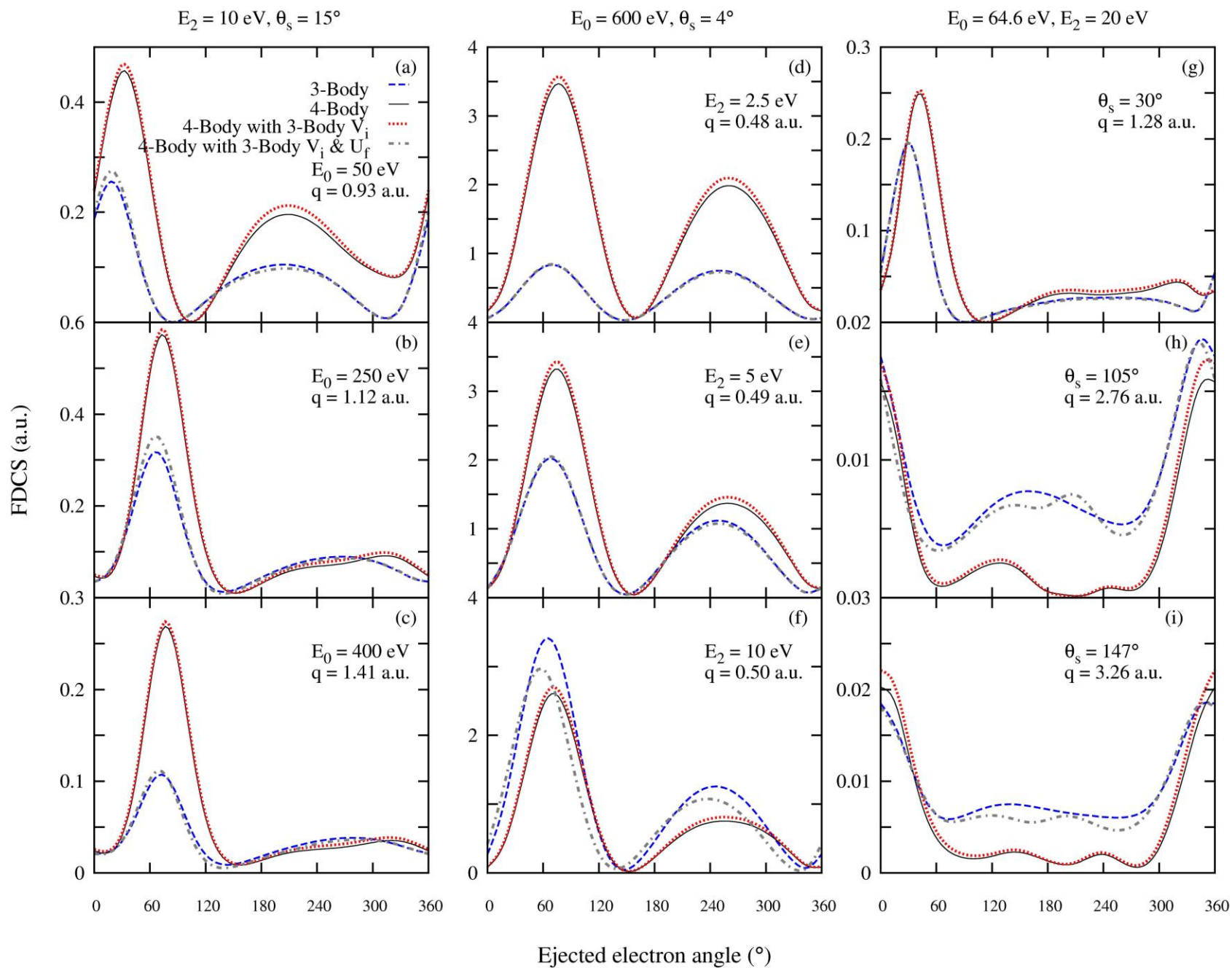
4-body

# ELECTRON PROJECTILE



- INITIAL STATE HELIUM WAVE FUNCTION NOT SOURCE OF DISCREPANCIES
- REPEAT TESTING PROCEDURE FOR OTHER POSSIBLE SOURCES
- .....
- THE ANSWER IS ...
- THE TREATMENT OF THE IONIZED ELECTRON COMBINED WITH THE INITIAL STATE PERTURBATION IS THE SOURCE
- TRUE FOR ELECTRONS AND HEAVY IONS

# PERTURBATION AND FINAL STATE POTENTIAL



# **FROZEN CORE APPROXIMATION CONCLUSIONS**

- **DIFFERENCES BETWEEN 3-BODY AND 4-BODY MODEL CAUSED PRIMARILY BY TREATMENT OF IONIZED ELECTRON**
- **SOME “ADDITIVE” EFFECT OF FINAL STATE POTENTIAL AND PERTURBATION POTENTIAL**

▪ **MORE INFO: J. PHYS. B 48, 115203 (2015).  
J. PHYS. B 46, 145202 (2013).**

# ATOMIC COLLISIONS

- Problems of Interest - Ionization
  - Frozen Core Approximation
  - Out-of-Plane Collisions



# CLASSICAL PICTURE



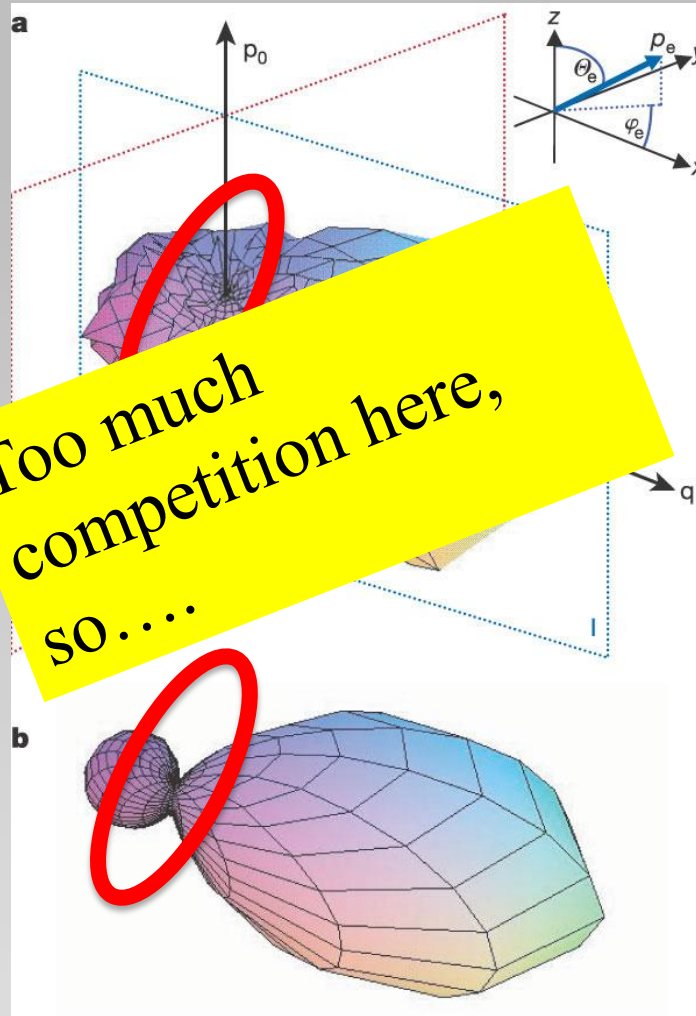
- Plane of table is called scattering plane
- Defined by initial and final momentum vectors of projectile





- Typically ionized electron stays in the scattering plane
- Can be found outside of scattering plane (off the table)
- Theory currently can't explain experimental results

# 3D FDCS FOR IONIZATION

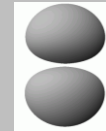


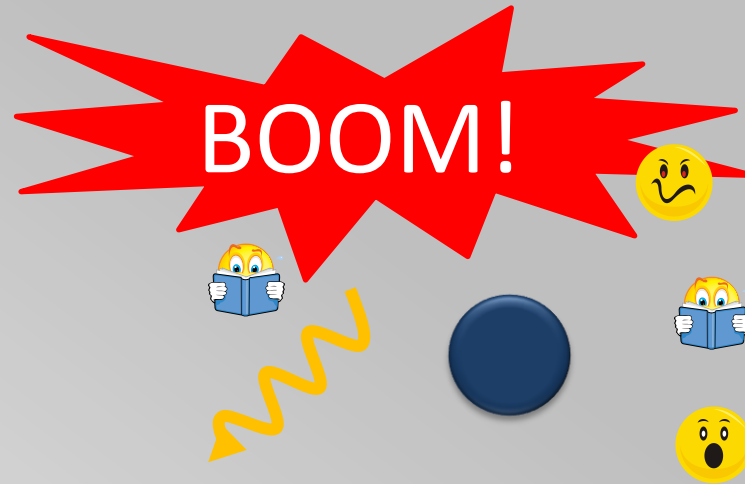
$C^{6+} + He$  ionization

Too much  
competition here,  
so....

# 3D FDACS FOR EXCITATION- IONIZATION

- True 4-body process
- Possible orientation effects of  $\text{He}^+$  ion





## EXCITATION-IONIZATION OF HELIUM

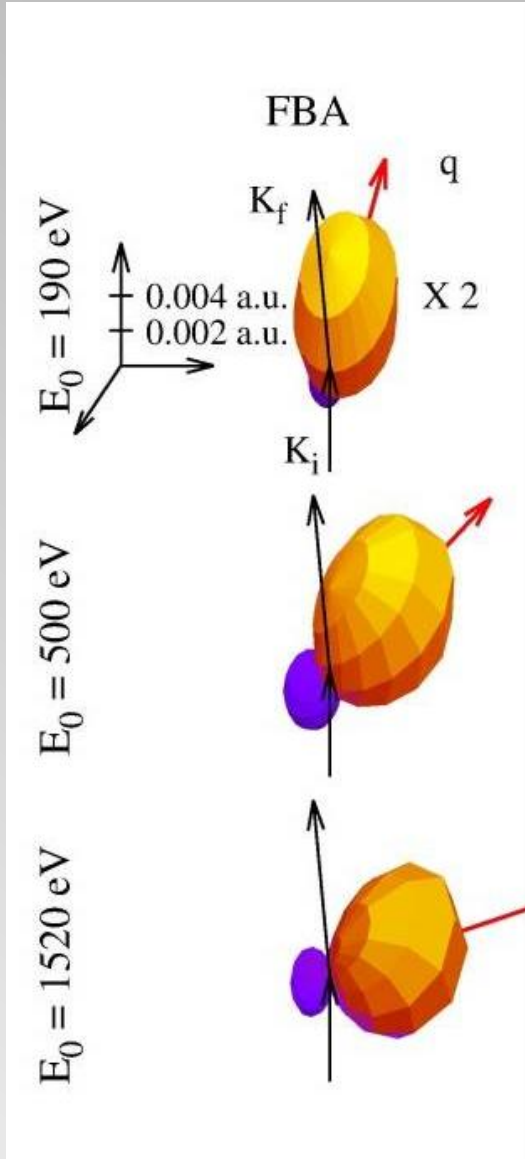
Oleg Zatsarinny and Klaus Bartschat, *J. Phys. B: At. Mol. Opt. Phys.* **47**, 06100 (2014)). See <http://iopscience.iop.org/0953-4075/47/6/061001/> for video

# MODELS

- FBA
  - Projectile plane wave (no interaction with target)
- 4DW – No PCI
  - Projectile distorted wave (interaction with target)
- 4DW
  - All 2-particle interactions, including between outgoing free particles



# 3D FDCS



# **3D EXCITATION-IONIZATION CONCLUSIONS (PRELIMINARY)**

- **PROJECTILE INTERACTIONS WITH TARGET  
ENHANCE BACKWARD EMISSION OF ELECTRON**
- **INTERACTION BETWEEN OUTGOING PARTICLES  
FURTHER ENHANCES BACKWARD EMISSION OF  
ELECTRON**
- **WHY? NOT SURE YET.....**

# STUDENTS



Tommy Esposito  
3D Excitation-  
Ionization

Evan Becker  
4-Body Ionization



Kayla Morrison  
Frozen Core  
Approximation



Annabelle Shaffer  
Computational  
Neuroscience



A solid red vertical bar is positioned on the left side of the slide, extending from the top to the bottom.

**THANK YOU!**