# Progress on Attosecond time-delays in Photoionization

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2025-05-07 Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU), China.



#### **Outline of lecture:**

- *Review of attosecond pulse characterization* - Simple models based on SFA\*
- How large is the atomic response?
  - Argon photoionization delay experiment
  - Delays in other noble gas atoms
- How can we interpret the atomic delays?
  - Coulomb potential and laser field
  - Many electron effects ("Feynman diagrams")
- Special topics
  - Autoionization processes
  - Rabi oscillations
  - Beyond dipole approximation
- Conclusion and Outlook

\* SFA=Strong Field Approximation

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- Review of attosecond pulse characterization [Basic level]
   Simple models based on SFA\*
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- Special topics [Research frontier]
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- Conclusion and Outlook
- Problems for the PhD-studends (*Task* : *i*) https://www.matfys.lu.se/staff/faculty/marcus-dahlstroem/

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#### Observation of a Train of Attosecond Pulses from High Harmonic Generation

P. M. Paul,<sup>1</sup> E. S. Toma,<sup>2</sup> P. Breger,<sup>1</sup> G. Mullot,<sup>3</sup> F. Augé,<sup>3</sup> Ph. Balcou,<sup>3</sup> H. G. Muller,<sup>2\*</sup> P. Agostini<sup>1</sup>

In principle, the temporal beating of superposed high harmonics obtained by focusing a femtosecond laser pulse in a gas jet can produce at train of very short intensity spikes, depending on the relative phases of the harmonics. We present a method to measure such phases through two-photon, two-color photoionization. We found that the harmonics are locked in phase and form a train of 250-attosecond pulses in the time domain. Harmonic generation may be a promising source for attosecond time-resolved measurements.



[Paul et al. SCIENCE 1690 292 (2001)]



#### - "RABIT", "RABBIT", "RABITT" or "RABBITT"? Reconstruction of attosecond beating by interference of two-photon transitions



#### - "RABIT", "RABBIT", "RABITT" or "RABBITT"? Prof. Alfred Maquet: It should be spelled like the animal!





#### - "RABIT", "RABITT" or "RABITT"?

According to Harm Geert Muller (inventor of the method)

### Neon delay 2s-2p (7-year puzzle solved)



Ne: 2p – 2s [Schultze et al. Science 328, 1658 (2010)] [M. Isinger et al., Science 10.1126/science.aao7043 (2017)]

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#### The streaking experiment was wrong - theory was right :)

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#### The streaking experiment was wrong - theory was right :)

The RABBIT measurements (2017) could discriminate against additional shake-up satellite processes.

## Probing attosecond temporal structures

Photoelectron is manipulated using an phase-locked laser field



- Both methods rely on spectral-shearing interferometry
  - *i.e.* on coherent absorption and emission of laser photons.

[Paul et al. Science **292**, 1689 (2001)] [Mairesse and Quéré. PRA, **71** 011401, (2005)]

OK, "atomic delays" have been measured experimentally.
 Why is it so fascinating — what does it mean?

#### Probing Single-Photon Ionization on the Attosecond Time Scale

 $\tau_A = \tau_W + \tau_{CC}$ 

''The determination of photoemission time delays requires taking into account the measurement process, involving the interaction with a probing infrared field. This contribution can be estimated using a universal formula and is found to account for a substantial fraction of the measured delay.''

[K. Klünder et al. PRL 106, 143002 (5 April 2011)]

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## Time-resolved photoemission by attosecond streaking: extraction of time information

''We show that attosecond streaking ... contain ... Eisenbud-Wigner-Smith time delay matrix ... if ... the streaking infrared (IR) field ... is properly accounted for ...'' [S Nagele et al. JPB. 44, 081001 (11 April 2011)] - Why is a laser field needed to characterize attopulses?

#### Group-delay characterization of high-order harmonics RABBIT method

Linear interaction:  $P(\epsilon) \sim |\Psi(\epsilon)|^2 \sim |E(\Omega)|^2$ 

- No phase information about attopulses -



Photoelectron peaks due to absorption of one XUV harmonic photon  $\Omega_{2q+1} = (2q+1)\omega$ 

#### Group-delay characterization of high-order harmonics RABBIT method

Spectral shearing by absorption/emission of laser photon - How the phase of attopulse varies with energy -





Redistribution of three harmonic peaks due laser dressing: Formation of sidebands.



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## – How can the atomic delay, $\tau_{Atom}$ , be determined? Is it important or negligible?

#### Model: atom in multi-color electromagnetic fields Atomic units: $e = m = \hbar = 4\pi\epsilon_0 = 1$

Hamiltonian for interaction with field and ion:

$$H = H_V + V_A$$

Kinetic energy of electron in a *uniform* electromagnetic field:

$$H_V = rac{1}{2}[\hat{\mathbf{p}} + \mathbf{A}(t)]^2$$

Vector potential of both attopulses and laser fields:

$$\mathbf{A}(t) = \mathbf{A}_X(t) + \mathbf{A}_L(t)$$

Atomic potential for hydrogen:

$$V_A(r) = -\frac{1}{r}$$

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Argon potential\* within *single-active electron* approximation:

$$V_A(r) = -rac{1}{r}(1+5.4e^{-r}+11.6e^{-3.682r})$$

\* PT: [E S Toma and H G Muller JPB 35, 3435 (2002)] TDSE: [J Mauritsson et al. PRA 72, 013401 (2005)]

#### Amplitude and phase of two-photon matrix elements

**Table 1.** The atomic phases  $\Delta \varphi_{atomic}^{f}$  and the relative strengths  $A_{f}$  of each two-photon transition responsible for the sideband peaks. The numbers within the parentheses represent the values of the angular and magnetic quantum numbers of the initial 3p state and the final continuum state of the listed energy.

Sideband	$\Delta arphi_{ extsf{atomic}}^{f}$ (rad) / amplitude $A_{f}$ (arbitrary units)				
	(1,0) → (1,0)	(1,0) → (3,0)	$(1, \pm 1) \rightarrow (1, \pm 1)$	$(1,\pm 1) \rightarrow (3,\pm 1)$	
$\begin{aligned} E_{o} &+ 12\hbar\omega \\ E_{o} &+ 14\hbar\omega \\ E_{o} &+ 16\hbar\omega \\ E_{o} &+ 18\hbar\omega \end{aligned}$	0.438/6094 0.292/5135 0.221/3645 0.192/2444	0.060/3659 0.102/2311 0.100/1349 0.090/742	0.125/1914 0.125/1281 0.108/763 0.090/427	0.060/2440 0.102/1541 0.100/899 0.090/494	

If we know the amplitudes and phases then we can compute  $\tau_{Atom}$ and deduce the group delay of the attopulses  $\tau_{GD}$  in experiments.

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If we know the amplitudes and phases then we can compute  $\tau_{Atom}$  and deduce the group delay of the attopulses  $\tau_{GD}$  in experiments. But how sure are we about this model? Can it be tested?

[Paul et al. SCIENCE 1690 292 (2001)]

## Study of correlation effects in $Ar3p^{-1}$

Experimental binding energies (not HF values):



- At 34.1 eV (SB22) the atomic delay is small ( $\sim$  5 as).
- The atomic delay exhibits a negative peak of  $\sim -120$  as.

[J M Dahlström and E Lindroth JPB 47 124012 (2014) ]

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- The atomic delay exhibits a negative peak of  $\sim -120\,{
  m as}.$
- Electron correlation effects amount to  $\sim$  40 as (Muller).

[J M Dahlström and E Lindroth JPB 47 124012 (2014) ]

Jan Marcus Dahlström Lund University, Sweden

## One-photon ionization cross-section for argon $[3p^{-1}]$



- Cooper minimum because dipole matrix element vanishes.\*
- Intra-orbital correlation is enough for 3p (6 e<sup>-</sup> in 3p orbital).

\* [J W Cooper Phys. Rev. 128 681 (1962)] Fig: [J M Dahlström and E Lindroth JPB 47 124012 (2014)]

## One-photon ionization cross-section for argon $[3p^{-1}]$



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- Intra-orbital correlation is enough for 3p (6 e<sup>-</sup> in 3p orbital).
- Ground-state correlation is important (beyond TDCIS).

\* [J W Cooper Phys. Rev. 128 681 (1962)] Fig: [J M Dahlström and E Lindroth JPB 47 124012 (2014)]

- How can the time and energy pictures be connected? Many applications of Strong-Field Approximation (SFA)... Plane-wave approximation

#### Simplest possible model for RABBIT Atomic units: $e = m = \hbar = 4\pi\epsilon_0 = 1$

Assumption: Photoelectron is unaffected by atomic potential.

Plane wave:

$$\varphi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{3/2}} \exp[i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{r}]$$

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Momentum eigenstate:

$$\hat{\mathbf{p}}arphi_{\mathbf{k}}\equiv-i
ablaarphi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r})=\mathbf{k}arphi_{\mathbf{k}}$$

Solution to the free particle Schrödinger equation (SE):

$$H_0\varphi_{\mathbf{k}} = \frac{\hat{\mathbf{p}}^2}{2}\varphi_{\mathbf{k}} = \frac{k^2}{2}\varphi_{\mathbf{k}} \equiv \epsilon_k\varphi_{\mathbf{k}}$$
Second-order perturbation theory\*:

$$M_{\mathbf{k}}^{(2)} pprox \int d^{3}k' rac{\langle \, \mathbf{k} \mid O \mid \mathbf{k}' \, 
angle \langle \, \mathbf{k}' \mid O \mid g \, 
angle}{(\epsilon_{g} + \omega - \epsilon_{\mathbf{k}'})}$$

Perturbation by external field (dipole approximation):

Velocity : 
$$O = \mathbf{A}(\omega) \cdot \hat{\mathbf{p}}$$
  
Length :  $O = \mathbf{E}(\omega) \cdot \mathbf{r}$ 

Vector potential and electic field (uniform in space):

$$\tilde{\mathsf{E}}(t) = -rac{\partial \hat{\mathsf{A}}}{\partial t}$$

\* In depth discussion: [A Jimenez-Galan, F. Martin and L. Argenti RPA 93, 023429 (2016)]

(*Task* : 1) Approximate two photon matrix element:

$$M_{\mathbf{k}}^{(2)} pprox -2A(\Omega)A(\omega)rac{\epsilon_k}{\omega}\cos^2 heta_{\mathbf{k}}\,\langle\,\mathbf{k}\,|\,g\,
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(Task : 2) Projection of ground state (1s) on plane wave:

$$\langle \mathbf{k} | g \rangle = \frac{2^{3/4}}{\pi} \frac{I_p^{5/4}}{(I_p + \epsilon_k)^2}, \ I_p = \frac{Z^2}{2}$$

The two-photon matrix goes like  $1/\epsilon_k$ ,  $\epsilon_k \gg l_p$  and it is *real* within *plane-wave* approximation.

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$$ightarrow$$
 The atomic delay is zero!?

Strong-field approximation (application of KFR theory)

Electron driven in a field (Volkov state) Atomic units:  $e = m = \hbar = 4\pi\epsilon_0 = 1$ 

Time-dependent Schrödinger equation (TDSE):

$$i\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial t} = H_V\psi(\mathbf{r},t)$$

Volkov Hamiltonian (velocity gauge):

$$H_V = rac{1}{2} \left[ \mathbf{p} + \mathbf{A}(t) 
ight]^2$$

Ansatz using plane wave with time-dependent phase:

$$\psi_{\mathbf{k}}^{V}(\mathbf{r},t) = \phi_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{r}) \exp[-i\Phi_{\mathbf{k}}(t)]$$

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(Task : 3) Insert into TDSE to obtain the Volkov phase:

$$\Phi_{\mathbf{k}}(t) = \int_{ ext{ref.}}^{t} dt' rac{1}{2} [\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{A}(t')]^2$$

## Photoionization to laser dressed continuum

Laser-dressed time-dependent perturbation theory \*

$$c_{\mathbf{k}}(t) = rac{1}{i} \int_{-\infty}^{t} dt' A_{X}(t') \langle \Psi^{V}_{\mathbf{k}} \mid \hat{p}_{z} \mid ilde{g} 
angle$$

where the conjugate Volkov state is

$$\Psi_{\mathbf{k}}^{V*}(\mathbf{r},t) = \phi_{\mathbf{k}}^{*}(\mathbf{r}) \exp[i\Phi_{\mathbf{k}}(t)]$$

and the ground state is with binding  $I_p > 0$  is

$$\tilde{g}(\mathbf{r},t) = g(\mathbf{r}) \exp[-i\epsilon_g t] \equiv g(\mathbf{r}) \exp[il_\rho t]$$

\* [M Kitzler, N Milosevic, A Scrinzi, F Krausz, and T Brabec PRL 88, 173904 (2002)] or "KFR theory"

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#### Amplitude for final momentum k:



\* [M Kitzler, N Milosevic, A Scrinzi, F Krausz, and T Brabec PRL 88, 173904 (2002)] or "KFR theory"

- How does the photon picture arise?

#### Connection to the photon picture

Amplitude for laser-dressed one-photon ionization:

$$c_{\mathbf{k}}(t) = \frac{1}{i} \langle \varphi_{\mathbf{k}} | \hat{p}_z | g \rangle \int_{-\infty}^t dt' A_X(t') \exp i \int^{t'} dt'' \left\{ \frac{[\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{A}_L(t'')]^2}{2} + I_p \right\}$$

Assume weak laser  $[\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{A}_L(t'')]^2 \approx k^2 + 2\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{A}_L(t'')$ and slowly varying *laser* envelope  $\Lambda_L(t)$  compared to laser oscillation  $\omega_L$  with  $A_L(t) = \Lambda_L(t) \sin \omega_L t$ 

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$$\times \exp[i(\epsilon_{k} + I_{p} - \omega_{X} + n\omega_{L})t'] \quad (Task : 4)$$

- Photon energy conservation given by exponential factor.
- Multiphoton transition determined by real Bessel function, J<sub>n</sub>.

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- Photon energy conservation given by exponential factor.
- Multiphoton transition determined by real Bessel function,  $J_n$ .

 $\rightarrow$  The atomic delay is zero?!?!

# Bessel functions



The Bessel functions describe the magnitude of laser stimulated continuum transitions as a function of  $x = \mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{A}_L / \omega_L$ .

Jan Marcus Dahlström Lund University, Sweden Progress on Attosecond time-delays in Photoionization

# Multiphoton interaction phase shifts

#### Assumptions:

- Rotating wave for XUV field.
- Constant IR envelope.

$$\begin{split} c_{\mathbf{k}} &\approx \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} (-i)^n \exp[in\varphi] J_n\left(\frac{\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{\Lambda}_{\omega,0}}{\omega}\right) \langle \mathbf{k} | \hat{p}_z | g \rangle \exp[i\delta] \\ &\times \int \mathrm{d}t \; \Lambda_\Omega(t) \exp[i(\epsilon_k + I_p + U_p - \Omega - n\omega)t], \end{split}$$

Many applications for attosecond experiments: Bertolino and Dahlström Phys. Rev. Research 3, 013270 (2021)

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Model for photoelectron interferometry:

$$c_{\mathbf{k}}^{(n)} = (-i)^{|n|} J_{|n|} \left(\frac{\mathbf{k} \cdot \mathbf{\Lambda}_{\omega,0}}{\omega}\right) \exp[in\varphi] f_{\mathbf{k}g}(n).$$
$$f_{\mathbf{k}g}(n) = \frac{1}{2} \langle \mathbf{k} | \hat{p}_z | g \rangle \exp[i\delta] \int \mathrm{d}t \, \Lambda_{\Omega}(t) \exp[i(\epsilon_k + I_p + U_p - n\omega - \Omega)t],$$

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One photon absorption from XUV comb and dressing by laser field (Volkov approx.)



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#### Group-delay characterization of high-order harmonics RABBIT method based on higher-order laser photon processes



Fig. 8. Comparaison of the obtained phase differences for three different frequency components present in the experimental electron signal. The conventional RABITT includes contribution from sidebands 14 to 26. The  $4\omega_B$ component has been extracted from harmonics 15 to 23 and the  $6\omega_B$ -modulation was obtained from sidebands 18 to 24. The curves have been shifted for better comparison.

[Swoboda et al. Laser Physics 19 1591 (2009)]

- What if a single attopulse is used? (instead of an attosecond pulse train)

- How does "streaking" relate to RABBIT?

#### Group-delay characterization of coherent XUV continuum FROG-CRAB method (=...Complete Reconstruction of Attosecond Burst)

No temporal information by one-photon ionization



Broad photoelectron peak due to absorption of one XUV harmonic photon  $\Omega$ 

#### Group-delay characterization of XUV continuum FROG-CRAB method (=...Complete Reconstruction of Attosecond Burst)

#### Laser field will induce complex inteference











#### Connection to the streaking picture

Amplitude for laser-dressed one-photon ionization:

$$c_{\mathbf{k}}(t) = rac{1}{i} \langle arphi_{\mathbf{k}} | \hat{p}_{z} | g 
angle \int_{-\infty}^{t} dt' A_{X}(t') \exp\left[ i \int^{t'} dt'' rac{[\mathbf{k} + \mathbf{A}_{L}(t'')]^{2}}{2} + I_{p} 
ight]$$

Assume short XUV pulse given by  $A_X(t) = \Lambda_X(t - t_0) \sin \omega_X t$ , then the laser vector potential appears static:  $t'' \approx t' \approx t_0$ .

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$$c_{\mathbf{k}}(t) \approx \frac{1}{i} \langle \varphi_{\mathbf{k}} | \hat{p}_{z} | g \rangle \int_{-\infty}^{t} dt' \frac{1}{2} \Lambda_{X}(t'-t_{0})$$
$$\exp\{i[\epsilon_{k}+l_{p}-\omega_{X}+\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{A}_{L}(t_{0})]t'\} \quad (Task:5)$$

- Quasi-static vector potential approximation:  $A(t'') \approx A(t_0)$ .
- Energy conservation determined by exponential factor. The shift is given by instantaneous laser vector potential!

# Connection between multi-photon and streaking pictures

Identification of streaking mechanism as multi-photon processes:

$$\exp[i\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{A}_{L}(t_{0})t']\leftrightarrow\sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty}(-i)^{n}J_{n}\left(\frac{\mathbf{k}\cdot\mathbf{A}_{L}(t')}{\omega_{L}}\right)\exp[in\omega_{L}t']$$



Figure: Multi-photon processes leading to the same final state.

How can we "interpret" the delay in laser-assisted photoionization?

#### Application of WKB theory $\rightarrow$ "Asymptotic approximation"

Jan Marcus Dahlström Lund University, Sweden Progress on Attosecond time-delays in Photoionization

### Photoionization matrix elements



One-photon matrix element:

$$egin{aligned} \mathcal{M}^1(ec{k}) &= - \, i \mathcal{E}_\Omega \langle \ ec{k} \mid z \mid i \ 
angle \ \sim \exp[i \eta_\ell(k)] \end{aligned}$$

[J.M. Dahlström et al Chem.Phys.(2012)]

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Scattering state expansion in partial wave basis:

$$\phi_{\vec{k}}^{(-)}(\vec{r}) = \sum_{\ell,m} i^{\ell} e^{-i\eta_{\ell}} Y_{\ell,m}^{*}(\hat{k}) Y_{\ell,m}(\hat{r}) R_{k,\ell}(r)$$

Scattering phase,  $\eta_{\ell}$ , is specific to the target atom.

[J.M. Dahlström et al Chem.Phys.(2012)]
## Photoionization matrix elements



One-photon matrix element:

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Two-photon matrix element:

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{M}^{2}(\vec{k}) &= -iE_{\Omega}E_{\omega} \\ &\times \underbrace{\sum_{\kappa'}}_{\kappa'} \frac{\langle \vec{k} \mid z \mid \kappa' \rangle \langle \kappa' \mid z \mid i \rangle}{\epsilon_{i} + \Omega - \epsilon_{\kappa'}} \\ &\sim \exp[i\phi_{cc}(k,\kappa) + i\eta_{\ell}(\kappa)] \end{split}$$

[J.M. Dahlström et al Chem.Phys.(2012)]

## Continuum–continuum phases



Figure: Exact vs. asymptotic values of  $\phi_{cc}(k, \kappa)$ .

[K. Klünder *et al.* PRL. (2011)] Collaboration with A. Maquet and R. Taïeb at UPMC through COST.

## Continuum–continuum phases



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[J. M. Dahlström and D. Guénot *et al.* Chem. Phys. (2012)] Collaboration with A. Maquet and R. Taïeb at UPMC through COST.

## Explicit phase of ATI transition: $i \to \vec{\kappa} \to \vec{k}$ : $\arg[M^2(\vec{k})] \approx \pi + \arg[Y_{L,m_i}(\hat{k})] + \phi_\Omega + \phi_\omega$ $- \frac{\pi \ell}{2} + \eta_\ell(\kappa) + \phi_{cc}(k,\kappa),$

with XUV:  $\Omega$  first, then continuum–continuum IR:  $\omega$ .

( One intermediate angular momenta:  $\ell$ . )

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with XUV:  $\Omega$  first, then continuum–continuum IR:  $\omega$ .

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-Now we apply this "ansatz" to experimental schemes!



Figure: Ionization by APT.



Probability of emission along 
$$\hat{z}$$
:  

$$P(\vec{k}) \approx |M_a + M_e|^2$$

$$= |M_e|^2 + |M_a|^2 + 2\Re \{M_e M_a^*\}$$

Figure: Ionization by APT+IR.



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The phase of the cross-term:

$$\arg\{M_e M_a^*\} \approx -2\omega \times \tau$$
$$+\phi_{\Omega_>} + \eta_{\kappa_>,\ell} + \phi_{cc}(k,\kappa_>)$$
$$-\phi_{\Omega_<} - \eta_{\kappa_<,\ell} - \phi_{cc}(k,\kappa_<)$$



Figure: Ionization by APT+IR.

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Probability of emission along  $\hat{z}$ :  $P(\vec{k}) \approx |M_a + M_e|^2$   $= |M_e|^2 + |M_a|^2 + 2\Re \{M_e M_a^*\}$  Max of modulation!  $\tau = \frac{\Delta \phi_{\Omega}}{\Delta \omega} + \frac{\Delta \eta_{\kappa,\ell}}{\Delta \omega} + \frac{\Delta \phi_{cc}}{\Delta \omega}$ 

(Finite-difference derivatives)

Figure: Ionization by APT+IR.





(Finite-difference derivatives)

Figure: Ionization by APT+IR.



## What have we learned about "atomic delay" since 2001?

#### Interpretation:

"Atomic delay"  $\approx$  Wigner delay + CC delay:



- Target-specific Wigner delay of photoelectron.
- Noble gas universal CC delay due to laser transition.

[Dahlström, L'Huillier and Maquet, JPB 45, 183001 (2012)] [Lindroth and Dahlström, PRA 96, 013420 (2017)]

## What have we learned about "atomic delay" since 2001?

#### Interpretation:

"Atomic delay"  $\approx$  Wigner delay + CC delay:



- Target-specific Wigner delay of photoelectron.
- In negative ions the CC delay is small but not universal!

[Dahlström, L'Huillier and Maquet, JPB 45, 183001 (2012)] [Lindroth and Dahlström, PRA 96, 013420 (2017)]

#### WARNING:



#### APPROXIMATIONS ARE NOT EXACT

## The atomic delays vary over angle of emission



[Heuser et al. Phy. Rev. A 94, 063409 (2016)]

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#### Asymptotic approximation works well along polarization axis :)

## Fano's propensity rules in laser-assisted photoionization



FIG. 3. Angular dependence of the photoionization time delay. Contributions of the absorption  $(A^{(+)}, \text{ blue})$  and emission  $(A^{(-)}, \text{ yellow})$  paths and atomic delay  $(\tau_A, \text{ black})$  in SB 20 in He.

[Busto et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 123, 133201 (2019)]

## Nodal structures in laser-assisted photoionization



[M. Bertolino et al. Phys. B: At. Mol. Opt. Phys. 53, 144002 (2020)]

#### Can we measure a delay in photoionization?



- Is it a delay of the attopulse or of the photoelectron !?

#### Experimental breakthrough = Relative delay measurements

- Inter-orbital delay experiments ("between states")
- Inter-species delay experiments ("between atoms") using the same attosecond pulses.

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#### Theoretical proposal for latency-free pulse characterization

- Photoionization of coherent bound wave packets (PANDA)
- Pabst and Dahlström PRA 94, 013411 (2016)
- Tutorial: Dahlström et al. APL Photon. 4, 011101 (2019)

## Inter-orbital photoionization delay experiment

Differential delay between initial orbitals *i* and *j* Idea: Use the same attopulse to ionize from different orbitals!



Ne: 2*p* – 2*s* [*Schultze et al.* Science **328** (2010) 1658] Ar: 3*p* – 3*s* [*Klünder et al.* PRL **106** (2011) 143002]

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# Inter-orbital photoionization delay experiment (in attoseconds, $1 as = 10^{-18} s$ )



[Klünder et al. PRL 106 143002 (2011)] [Guenot et al. PRA 85,053424 (2012)]

# Inter-orbital photoionization delay experiment (in attoseconds, $1 as = 10^{-18} s$ )



#### How to treat continuum transition in theory?

$$\lim_{\eta \to 0} \frac{1}{\Delta E + i\eta} = \text{p.v.} \frac{1}{\Delta E} - i\pi \delta(\Delta E)$$

## Calculation of correlated two-photon matrix elements: (RPAE=Random Phase Approximation with Exchange)



- "Feynman diagrams": ↑=electron and ↓=hole
- Absorption of XUV photon with RPAE correlation effects.
- Stimulated electron continuum transition by IR field.

[Dahlström et al. Phys. Rev. A 86, 061402 (2012)] [J M Dahlström and E Lindroth JPB 47 124012 (2014) ]

## Evaluation of IR-driven continuum transition

The perturbed wavefunction (PWF) is an outgoing wave



Figure: A perturbed wavefunction (PWF) is setup on **B-splines** (kord=7) with exterior complex scaled knot sequence (nknot=250). The PWF is **matched to Coulomb functions** before the scaled region (x < 100). The remaining analytical integral is evaluated along the imaginary axis.

## One-photon ionization cross-section for argon $[3s^{-1}]$



- Cooper minimum in 3s due to correlation with 3p.\*\*
- Intra-orbital correlation between 3s and 3p is required.

\*\* [M Ya Amusia et al PHYS. LETT. 40A 361 (1971)] [J M Dahlström and E Lindroth JPB 47 124012 (2014)]

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- Cooper minimum in 3s due to correlation with 3p.\*\*
- Intra-orbital correlation between 3s and 3p is required.
- Ground-state correlation is important (beyond TDCIS).

\*\*[M Ya Amusia et al PHYS. LETT. 40A 361 (1971)] [J M Dahlström and E Lindroth JPB 47 124012 (2014)]

## Study of correlation effects in $Ar3s^{-1}$

Experimental binding energies (not HF values):



- Large *positive* delay peak ( $\sim$  300 as) close to 40 eV<sup>\*</sup>.
- $\bullet\,$  Electron correlation effects amount to  $\sim400\,as.$
- At 34.1 eV (SB22) the delay is  $\sim -50$  as.

[J M Dahlström and E Lindroth JPB 47 124012 (2014)] \*[A S Kheifets PRA 87, 063404 (2013)]

## Argon delay 3s-3p



## Electron correlation effect affect the 3s delay dramatically. Negative delay "RPA" $\rightarrow$ **Positive delay: "RPAE"**

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[J.M. Dahlström and E. Lindroth 47, 124012 (2014)]

"RPAE" was the best we could do for a very long time...
 Gauge invariance, correlation on the second photon, and relativistic effects...
 [Vinbladh et al. PRA 2019 and Atoms 2022]

## Argon delay 3s\*-3p (10-year unsolved puzzle in 2021)



\*At low sidebands the shake-ups (4p and 3d) contribute to 3s signal. [C. Alexandridi et al. PRR 3, L012012 (2021)]
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### "The ATTO problem"

# Argon delay 3s\*-3p (14-year soluton to the argon puzzle)



\*Virtual shake-up (SU) processes affect 3s signal (beyond "RPAE").

[Experiment by Sizuo Luo et al.] [Calculations performed by Eva Lindroth]

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**The RPAE theory was insufficient - experiments are right :)** Attosecond physics advances our understanding of electron-electron correlation.

## Electron wavepackets from 3s in argon



Manifestation of the Amusia-Cooper minimum in the time domain.

[Analytical model performed by Rezvan Tahouri and Jan Marcus Dahlström]

## Electron wavepackets from 3s in argon



Manifestation of the Amusia-Cooper minimum in the time domain.

[Analytical model performed by Rezvan Tahouri and Jan Marcus Dahlström]

A small SU correction to the correlation phase  $(0.12\pi)$  reverses the delay.

### - Thank you!

See original lecture with all problems and solutions: https://www.matfys.lu.se/staff/faculty/marcus-dahlstroem/

Swedish Research Council, Olle Engkvist Foundation, and Knut and Alice Wallenberg Foundation

#### BERTOLINO AND DAHLSTRÖM

#### PHYSICAL REVIEW RESEARCH 3, 013270 (2021)



### Original experiment: Laurent et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 109, 083001 (2012).

#### BERTOLINO AND DAHLSTRÖM

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Simple model:  $f_{odd} = f_{even} = 1$ 

$$P \approx |J_0 - iJ_1(e^{i\varphi} + e^{-i\varphi})|^2 = |J_0 - iJ_12\cos\varphi|^2$$

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Jan Marcus Dahlström Lund University, Sweden

Progress on Attosecond time-delays in Photoionization

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#### MULTIPHOTON INTERACTION PHASE SHIFTS ...

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### Original experiment: Maroju et al. Nature 578, 386 (2020).

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### Simple model: f = 1 for upper sidaband

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### Simple model: f = 1 for both sidebands

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 :D

Original experiment: Maroju et al. Nature 578, 386 (2020).

## Continuum-continuum delays in hydrogen (H)



Exact calculations by R. Taïeb (UPMC) for hydrogen using Sturmians. [J. M. Dahlström and D. Guénot *et al.* Chem. Phys. (2012)]

## The atomic delays vary over angle of emission



## Comparison between theory and the argon experiment

Table of results for argon delays:Experiment\* $\tau_{3s} - \tau_{3p} = -80 \pm 50 \text{ as}$  (SB22)Theory: $\tau_{3s} - \tau_{3p} \approx -55 \text{ as}$ 

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Experiment*	$ au_{3s} -  au_{3p} = +10 \pm 50$ as	(SB26)
Theory:	$ au_{3s} -  au_{3p} pprox +$ 300 as	

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## Other ideas?

- The  $3s^{-1}$  is only 69% a single hole state.\*\*
- Shake-up processes:  $3s^{-1} \rightarrow 3p^{-2}n\ell$ .
- Laser-stimulated hole transitions.
- Final state correlation (after absorption of IR).

## \*\* T Carette et al . PRA 87, 023420 (2013)

## Comparison between experiment and TDDFT



## Comparison between experiment and TDDFT



- Time to revisit the simpler atom: NEON

## "Atomic delays" from 2p and 2s states in Ne



• Small delay in 2s due to inter-orbital correlation with 2p.

[Dahlström et al. Phys. Rev. A 86, 061402 (2012)], \* [Schultze et al. Science 328, 1658 (2010) ]

## Neon delay 2s-2p revisited



M. Isinger et al., Science 10.1126/science.aao7043 (2017).

## Delay in shake-up channels?



Simple model for shake-up based on RPAE agrees with hybrid MCHF+CLC+DLC calculation Feist et al., Phys. Rev. A 89, 033417 (2014),

## Delay in shake-up channels?



Simple model for shake-up based on RPAE agrees with hybrid MCHF+CLC+DLC calculation Feist et al., Phys. Rev. A 89, 033417 (2014), Too small compared to experiment = OPEN QUESTION OK, "atomic delays" have been measured experimentally.
Why is it so fascinating — what does it mean?

What happens if a resonance is embedded in the continuum?

# Streaking with a resonance

Direct and autoionizing processes


### Asymmetric Fano peak

Photoelectron distribution depends on *q*-parameter



FIG. 1. Natural line shapes for different values of q. (Reverse the scale of abscissas for negative q.)

# The parameter q measures the relative strength of the formation of the "bound" state and the direct continuum.

[U Fano Phys. Rev. 124 1866 (1961)]

Fano theory transition probability ratio:

$$\frac{|\langle \Psi \mid T \mid g \rangle|^2}{|\langle \psi \mid T \mid g \rangle|^2} = \frac{(q+\epsilon)^2}{1+\epsilon^2}$$

where the  $\epsilon = (E - E_r)/(\Gamma/2)$  and q describes the resonance.

Corresponding complex amplitude:

$$\langle \Psi \mid T \mid g \rangle = \underbrace{\frac{q+\epsilon}{1-i\epsilon}}_{f_F(E)} \langle \psi \mid T \mid g \rangle$$

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Can this phase shift be measured?

# RABBIT with a resonance

Direct and autoionizing processes



Two-photon matrix element with two continuum and one resonance:

$$M = M^{(1)} \frac{q+\epsilon}{\epsilon+i} + M^{(2)}$$

[Kotur et al. NATURE COMMUNICATIONS - 7:10566 (2015)]

Corresponding complex amplitude:

$$\langle \Psi \mid T \mid g \rangle = \underbrace{\frac{q+\epsilon}{1-i\epsilon}}_{f_F(E)} \langle \psi \mid T \mid g \rangle$$

Find time domain representation: (*Task* : 6)

$$F_F(\tau) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int dE f_F(E) \exp[-iE\tau] = i\delta(\tau) + \frac{\Gamma}{2}(q-i)e^{-iE_r\tau - \Gamma\tau/2}\Theta(\tau)$$

See: [Z X Zhao and C D Lin PRA 71, 060702 (2005)]

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The Fano phase is proportional to  $\epsilon$  for q = 0 (*Task* : 7) which implies that the  $\tau_W$  at the resonance is  $2/\Gamma$ .

See: [Z X Zhao and C D Lin PRA 71, 060702 (2005)]

# Streaking with a resonance

Direct and autoionizing processes



Direct path + Decay (exponential tail)

One photon absorption to dressed continuum with autoionization



One photon absorption to dressed continuum with autoionization



One photon absorption to dressed continuum with autoionization



One photon absorption to dressed continuum with autoionization



One photon absorption to dressed continuum with autoionization



One photon absorption to dressed continuum with autoionization



#### **Conclusion and Outlook:**

- Attosecond pulse metrology has shifted focus to make connection with the field of theoretical atomic physics.
- The simple approximations based on SFA are not sufficient to describe attosecond photoelectron dynamics.
- The Wigner delay can not be directly measured, but it can be extracted based on assumptions regarding the interaction with the probe field.
- Inter-orbital delays can be used to test electron correlation effects.
- Non-linear interaction with the fields and ion.

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