

# X-ray Free Electron Laser Driven Resonance Pumping of Spectral Lines of Highly Charged Ions in Dense Plasmas

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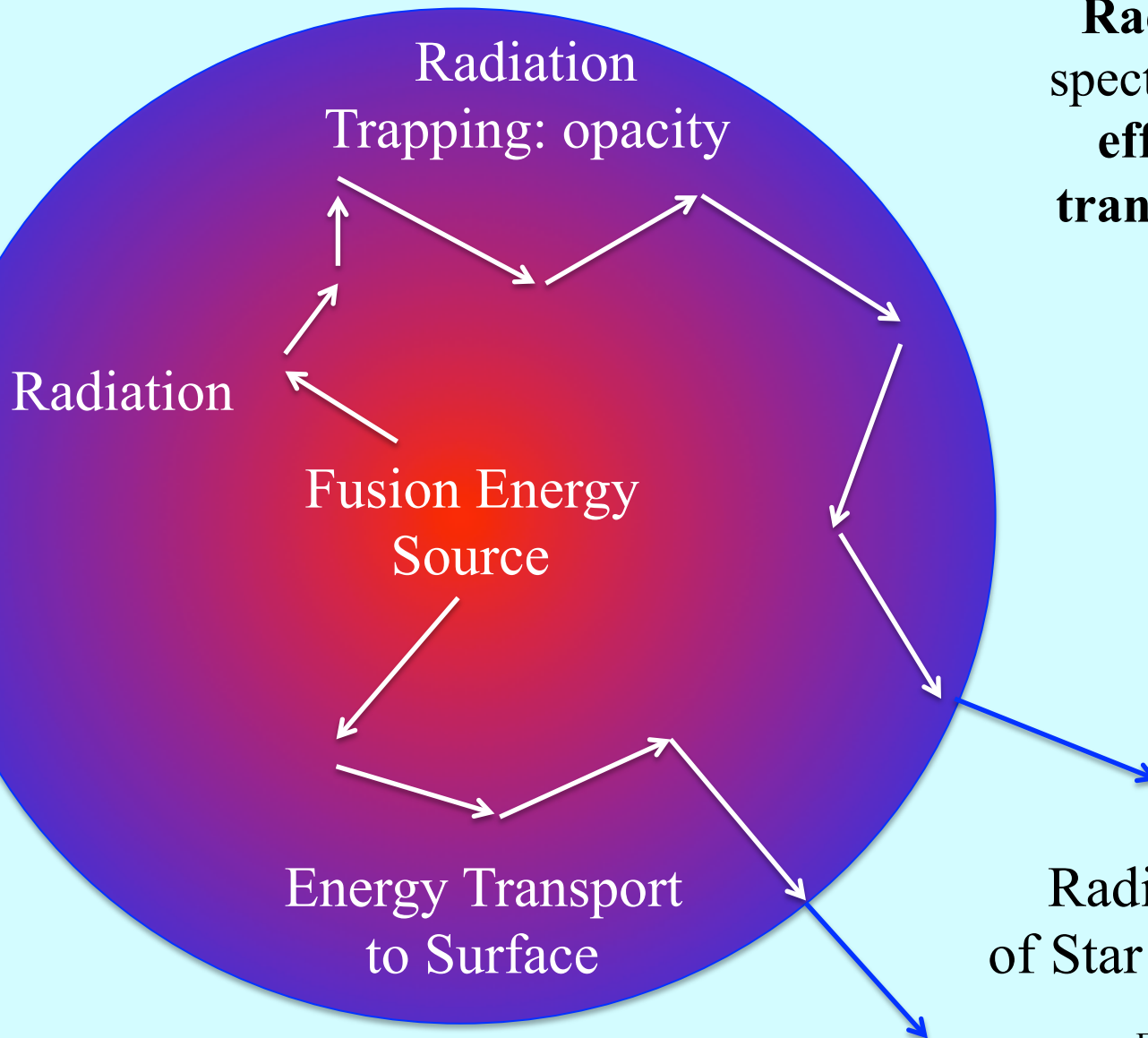
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# I. Motivation

# Energy balance in astrophysical objects



**Radiation trapping** in all spectral range determines the **efficiency of the energy transport** from the center to the surface

The energy transport in stars controls:

- Energy balance
- Temperature profile

Radiation of Star Surface



# Opacity, Atomic Physics & Population Kinetics

$$d\tau_{\omega}^{(i,j)} = \kappa_{\omega}^{(i,j)} dl \propto \frac{f_{ij}}{\omega} \cdot n_i \cdot dl \cdot \varphi_{ij}(\omega, \omega_{ij})$$

$\tau_{\omega}^{(i,j)}, \kappa_{\omega}^{(i,j)}$  : bound – bound opacity, absorption coefficient

$\hbar\omega$  : photon energy of absorption

$\hbar\omega_{ij}$  : atomic absorption energy

$f_{ij}$  : oscillator strength

$n_i$  : absorbing lower state density

$L$  : source size

$\varphi_{ij}$  : absorption profile

Opacity is a complex measure composed from detailed atomic physics properties and population kinetics

# Bound-bound opacity: strongly **width-dependent**

$$d\tau_{\omega=\omega_{ij}}^{(i,j)} = \kappa_{\omega=\omega_{ij}}^{(i,j)} \cdot dl \propto \frac{f_{ij}}{\omega_{ij}} \cdot n_i \cdot \frac{1}{FWHM} \cdot dl$$

$\tau_{\omega_{ij}}^{(i,j)}$ ,  $\kappa_{\omega_{ij}}^{(i,j)}$  : *b – b line center opacity, absorption coefficient*

$\hbar\omega_{ij}$  : *atomic absorption energy*

$f_{ij}$  : *oscillator strength*

$n_i$  : *absorbing lower state density*

$dl$  : *source size*

*FWHM: Full width at half maximum*

The greater the broadening the smaller the local absorption coefficient !

# Emissivity

$$\mathcal{E}_{\omega}^{(j,i)} \propto \omega \cdot A_{ji} \cdot n_j \cdot \varphi_{ji} \left( \omega, \omega_{ji} \right)$$

$\mathcal{E}_{\omega}^{(i,j)}$  : *emission coefficient*

$\hbar\omega$  : *photon energy of emission*

$\hbar\omega_{ij}$  : *central atomic transition energy*

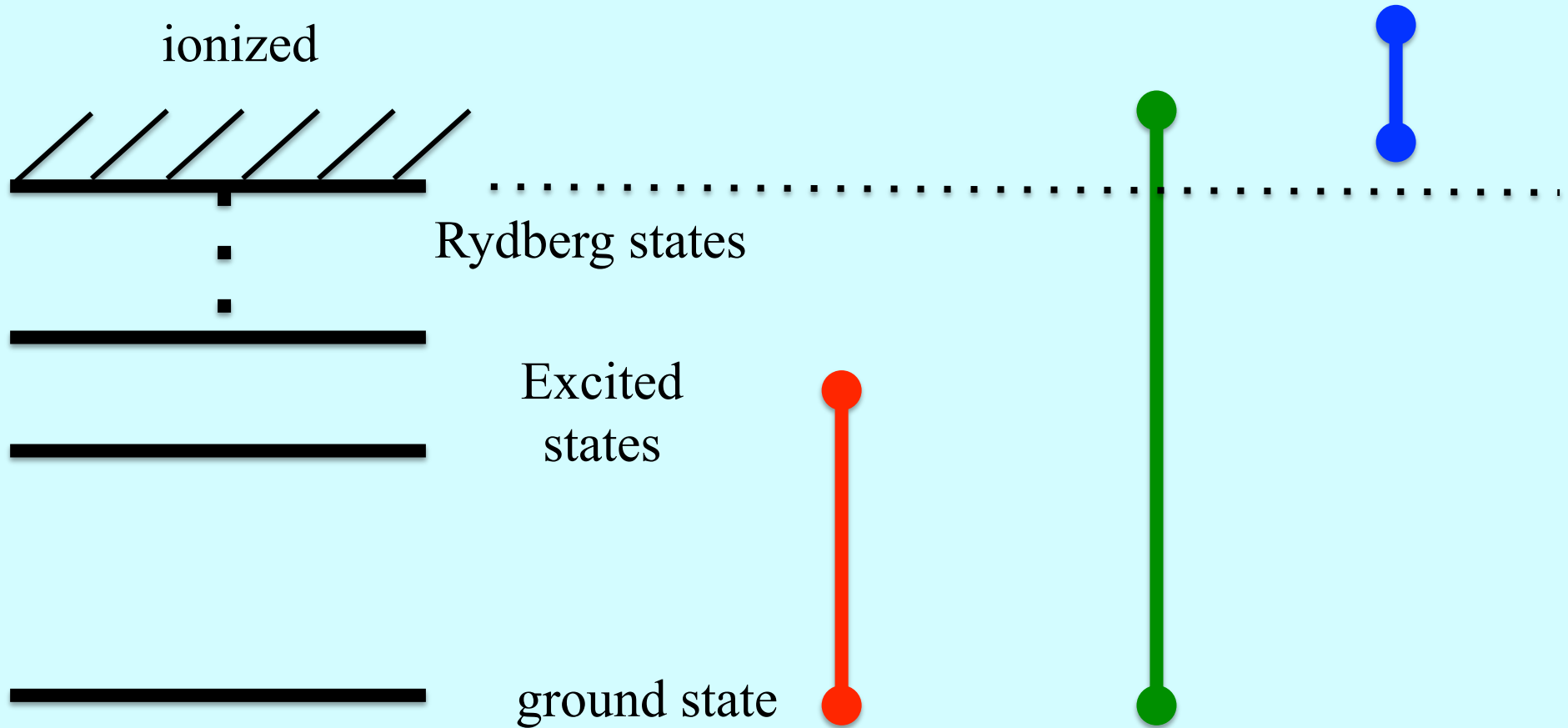
$A_{ji}$  : *spontaneous transition rate*

$n_j$  : *upper level density*

$\varphi_{ji}$  : *emission profile*

Emissivity is a complex measure composed from detailed **atomic physics properties** and **population kinetics**

# Total absorption: bound-bound + free part



$$K_{\omega}^{(total)} = K_{\omega}^{(bound-bound)} + K_{\omega}^{(bound-free)} + K_{\omega}^{(free-free)}$$

Ions, atoms

Ions, atoms

Free electrons

# Radiation transport

Transport equation

$$\frac{\partial I_{\omega}}{\partial \tau_{\omega}} = -I_{\omega} + S_{\omega}$$

Source function

$$S_{\omega} = \varepsilon_{\omega} / \kappa_{\omega}$$

Absorption coefficient

$$\kappa_{\omega}^{(total)} = \kappa_{\omega}^{(bb)} + \kappa_{\omega}^{(bf)} + \kappa_{\omega}^{(ff)}$$

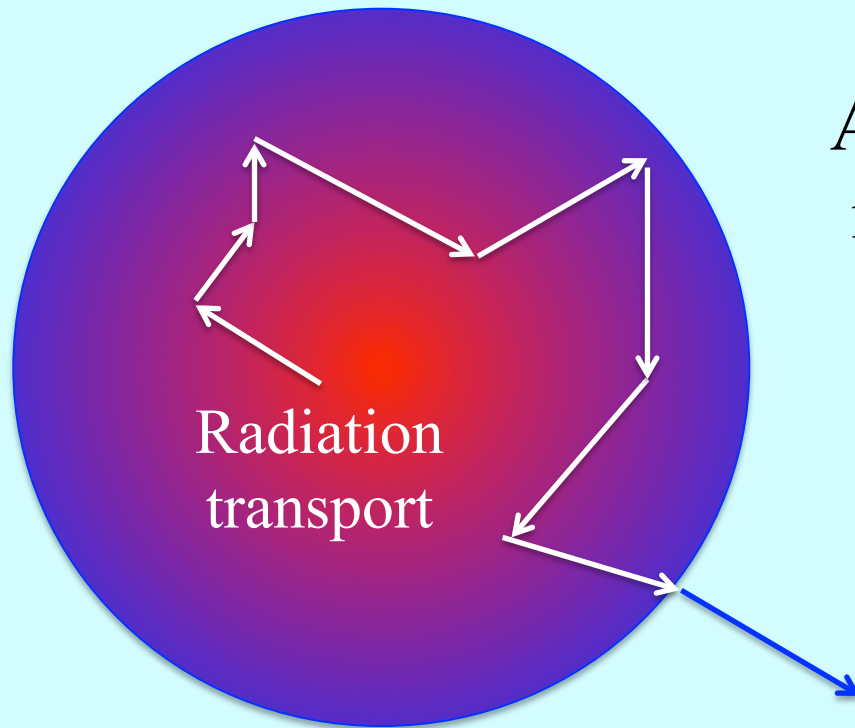
Opacity

$$d\tau_{\omega} = \kappa_{\omega}^{(total)} dx$$

=> Line transitions “bound-bound” are linked to the continuum via the absorption coefficient

# II. Interest in complex configurations

# What happens after absorption ?



After photo absorption....the photon is reemitted...absorbed...reemitted .... until it leaves the star...

Radiation of Star Surface

Energy transport in stars couples opacity  $\tau$  and emission  $I$  over the total frequency band !

**Solar opacity is a problem of absorption & re-emission in large energy bands where line shapes are important**

# Energy transport: large frequency band

## Radiation transport

Absorption and emission in a large frequency band

## Atomic physics language

Transitions in atoms, partially and highly ionized ions

Transitions of simple and complex atomic configurations

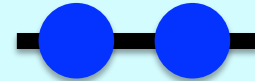


# Simple and complex configurations

**H-like**

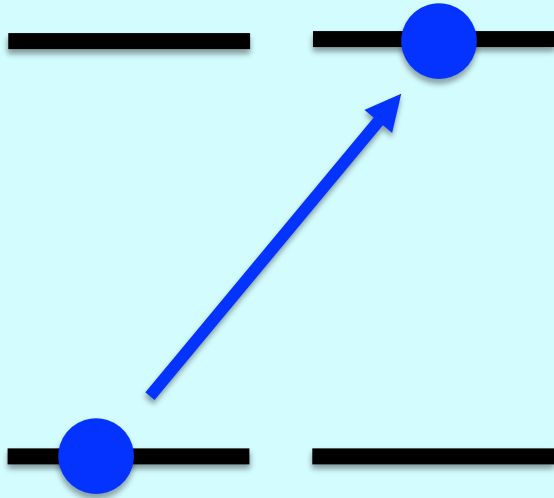
**He-like**

**Li-like**

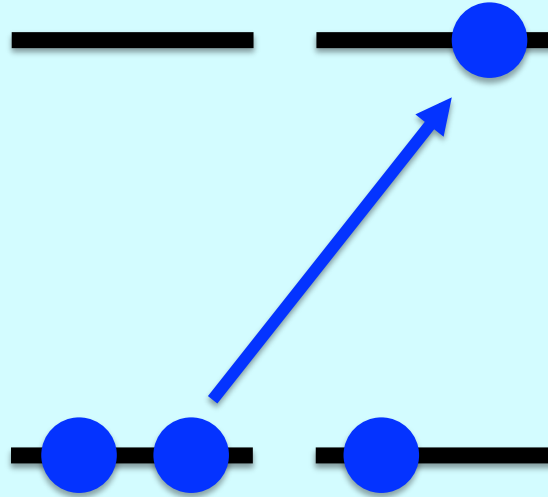


# Simple and complex configurations

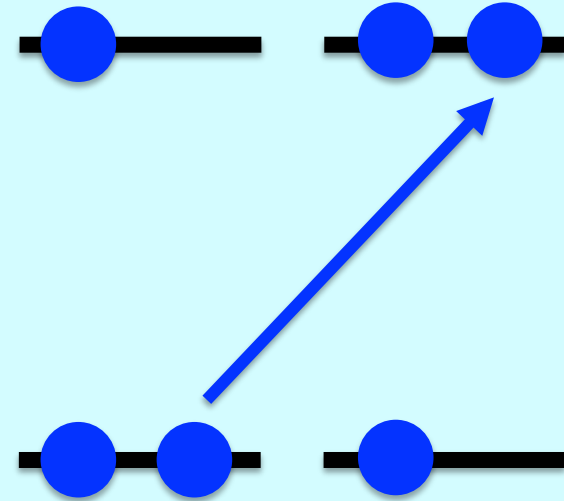
**H-like**



**He-like**

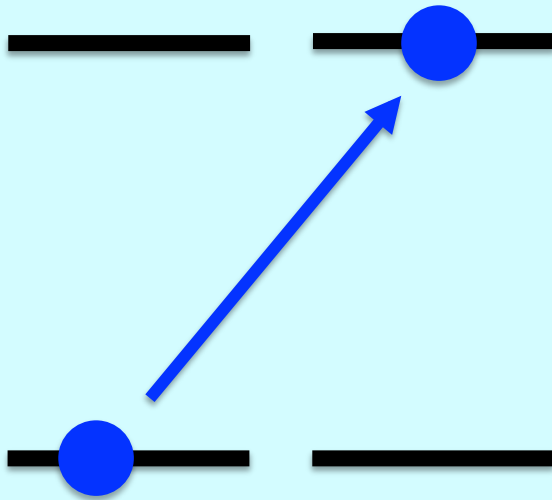


**Li-like**

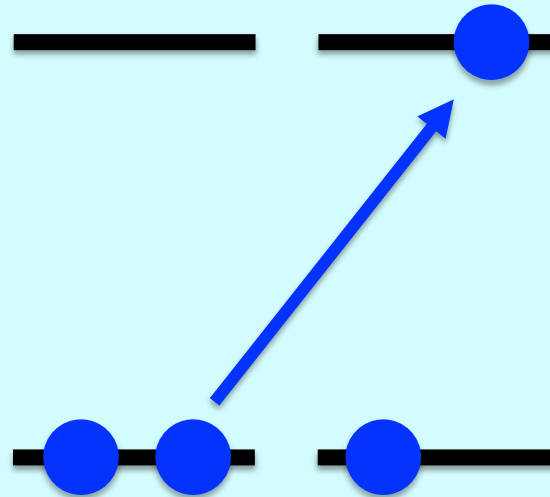


# Simple and complex configurations

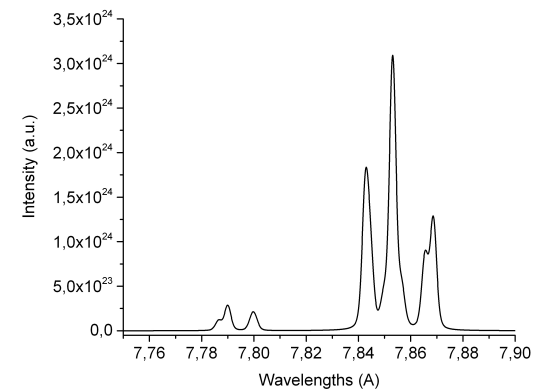
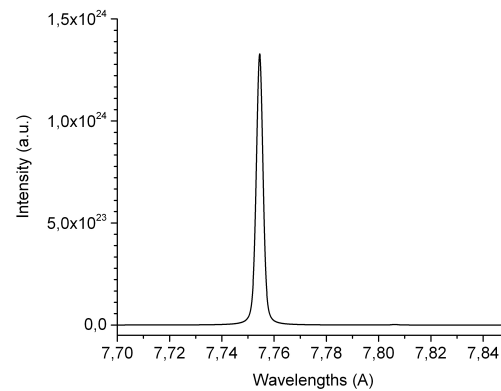
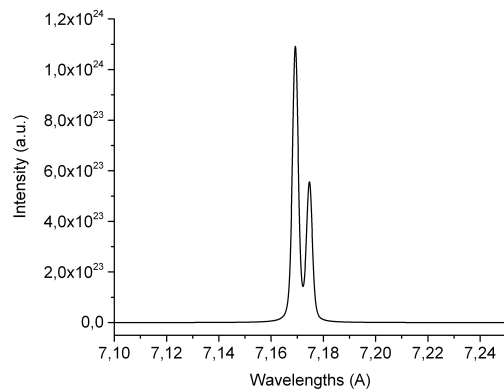
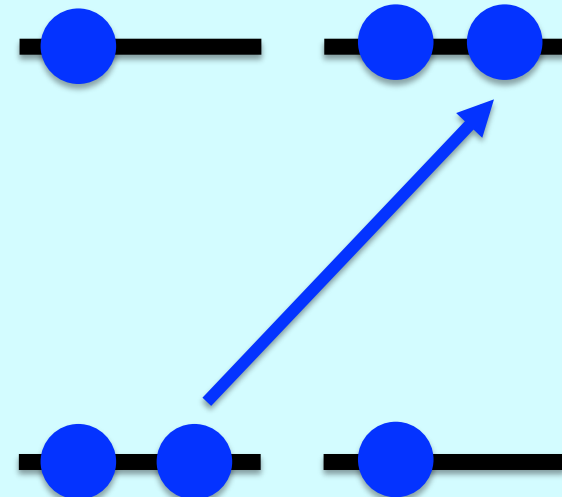
## H-like



## He-like

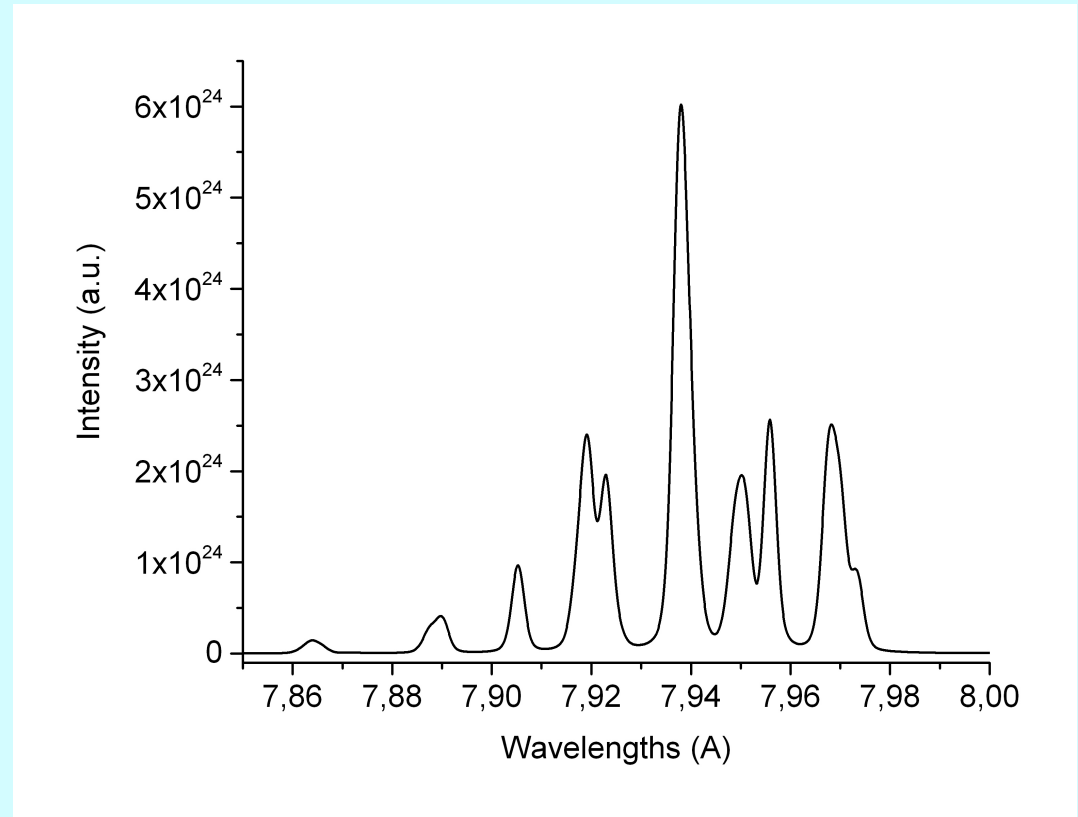
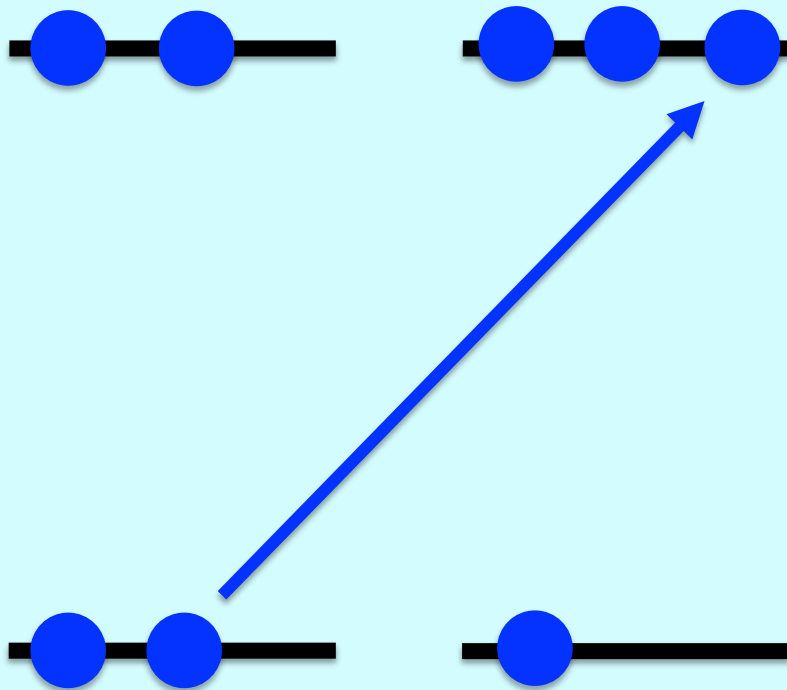


## Li-like



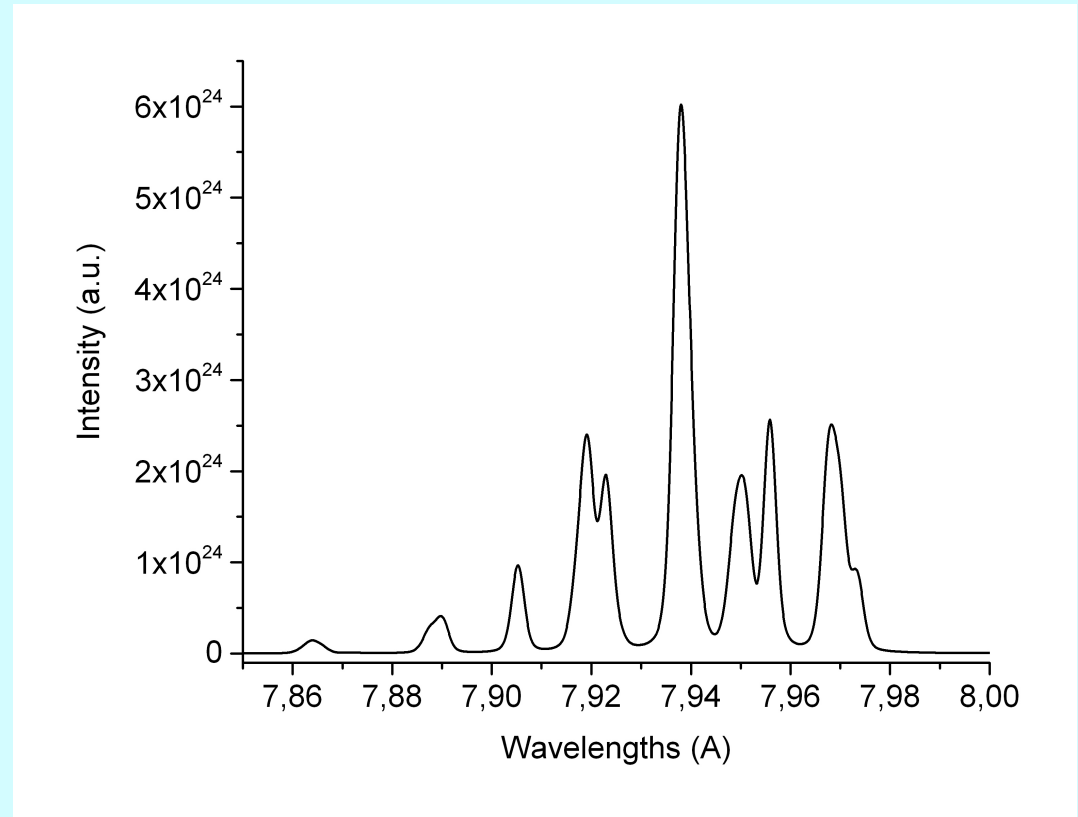
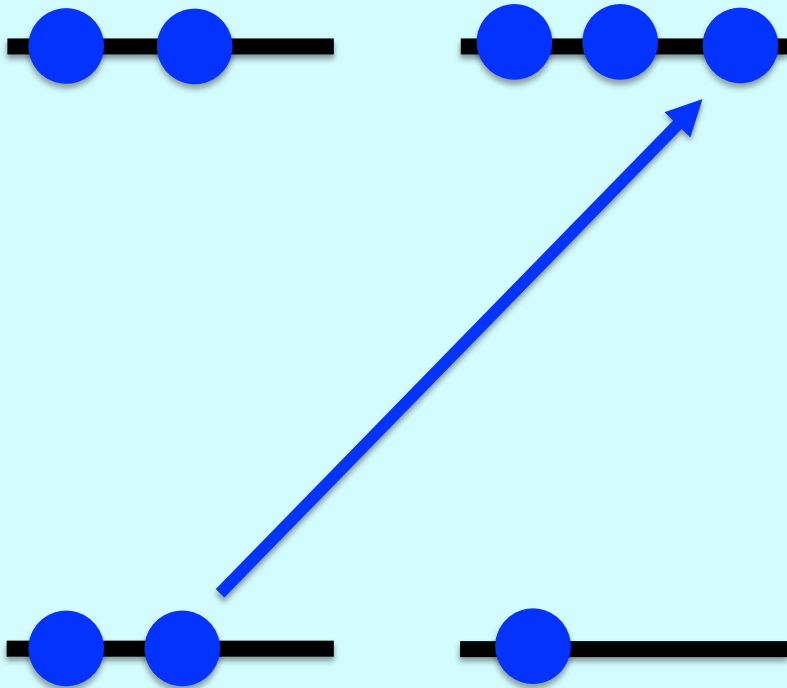
# Simple and complex configurations

## Be-like

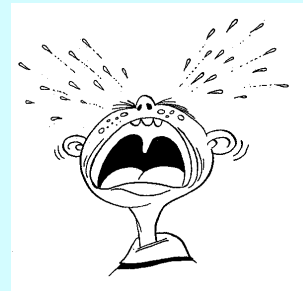


# Simple and complex configurations

## Be-like



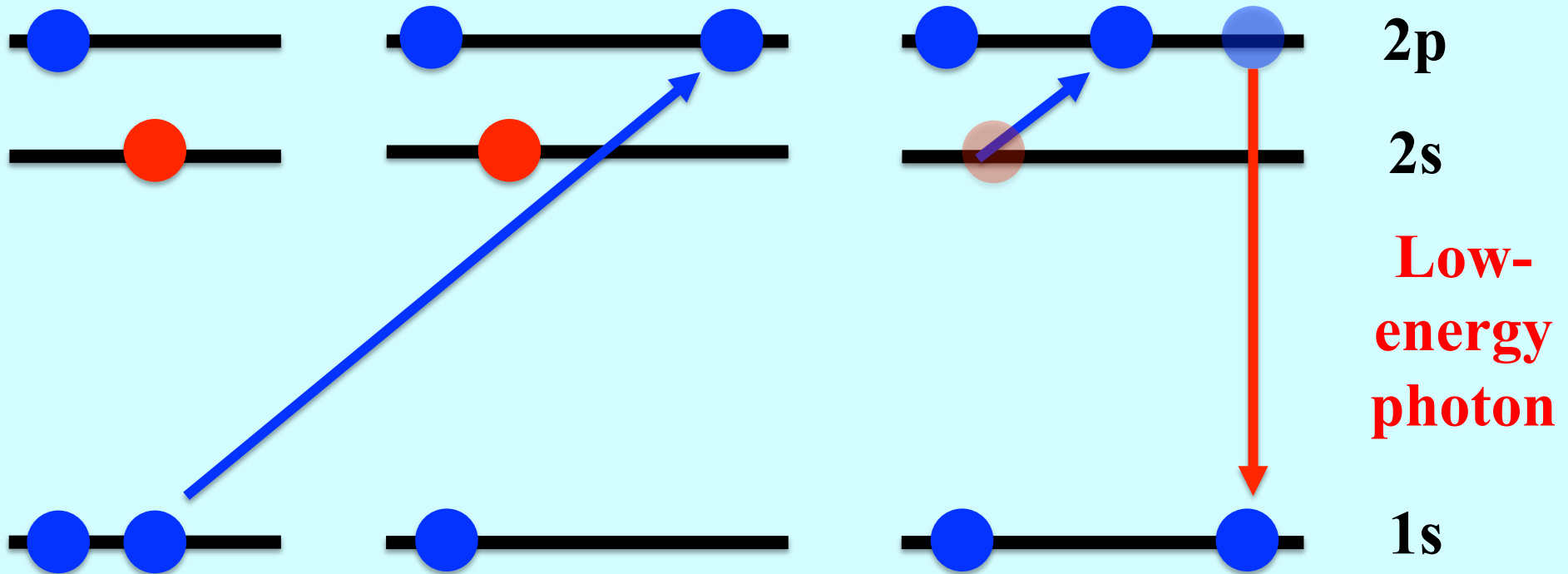
Too many and too close transitions for detailed studies



# III. Two-electron transitions

# One photon + two-electron transitions

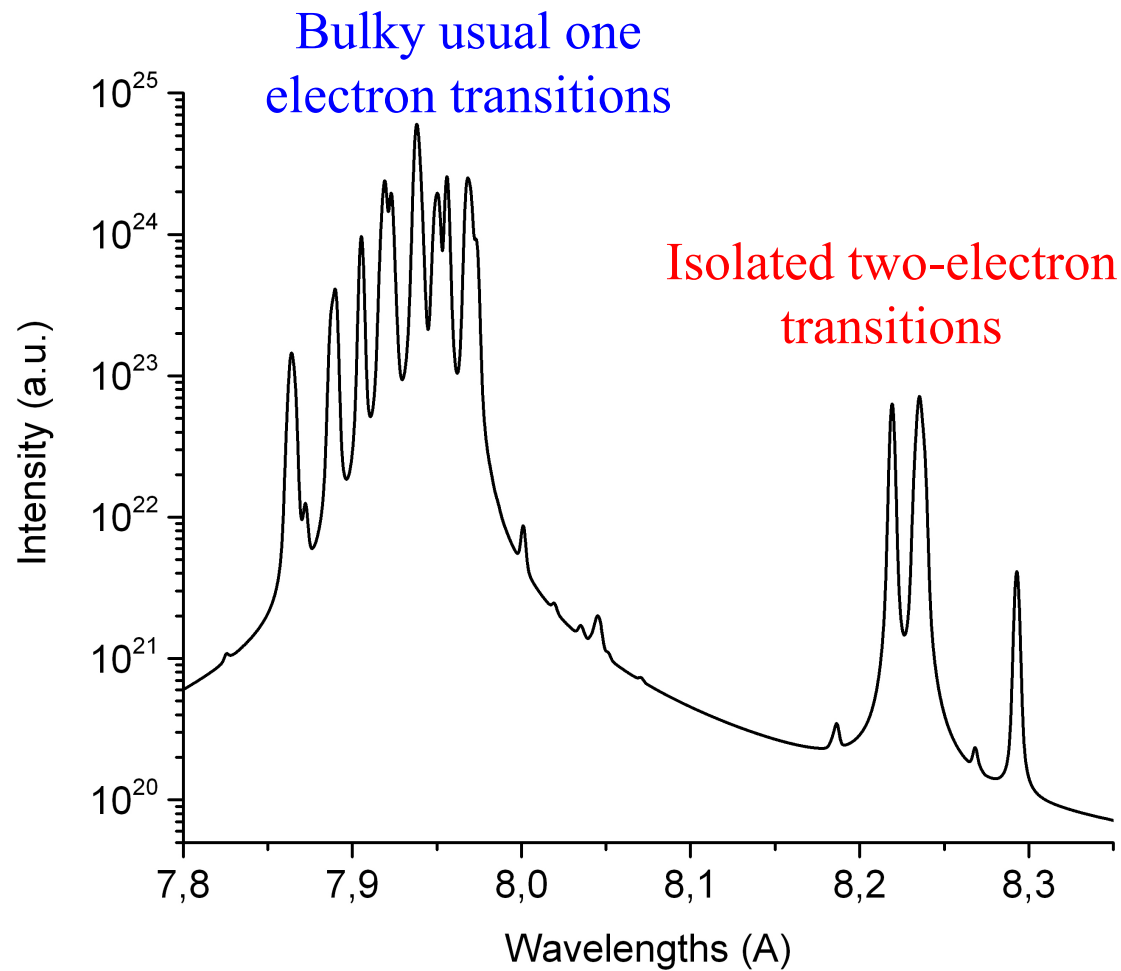
## Be-like



Low energy photon far away  
from “usual” one photon one  
electron transitions

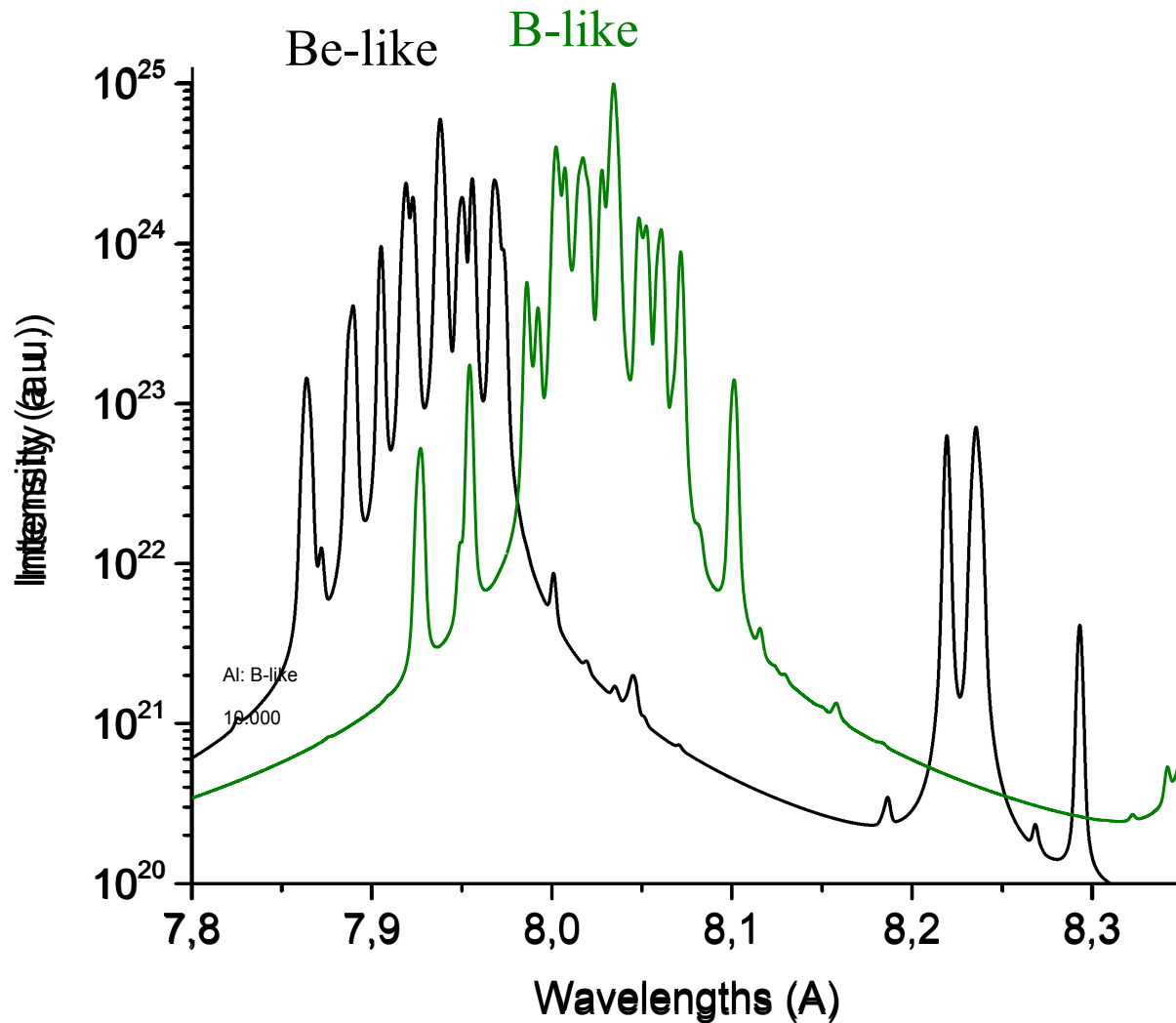


# Be-like two-electron transitions

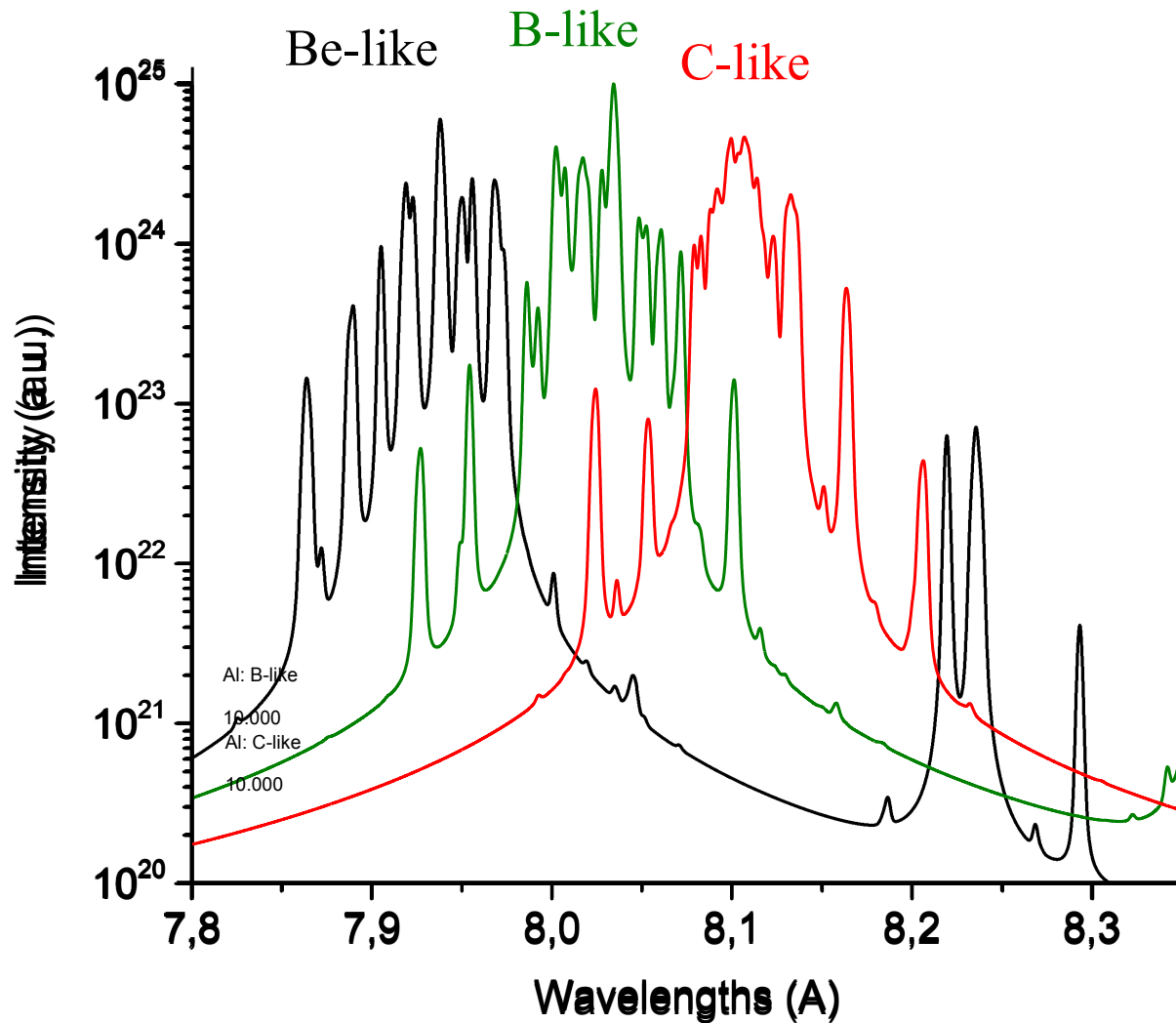




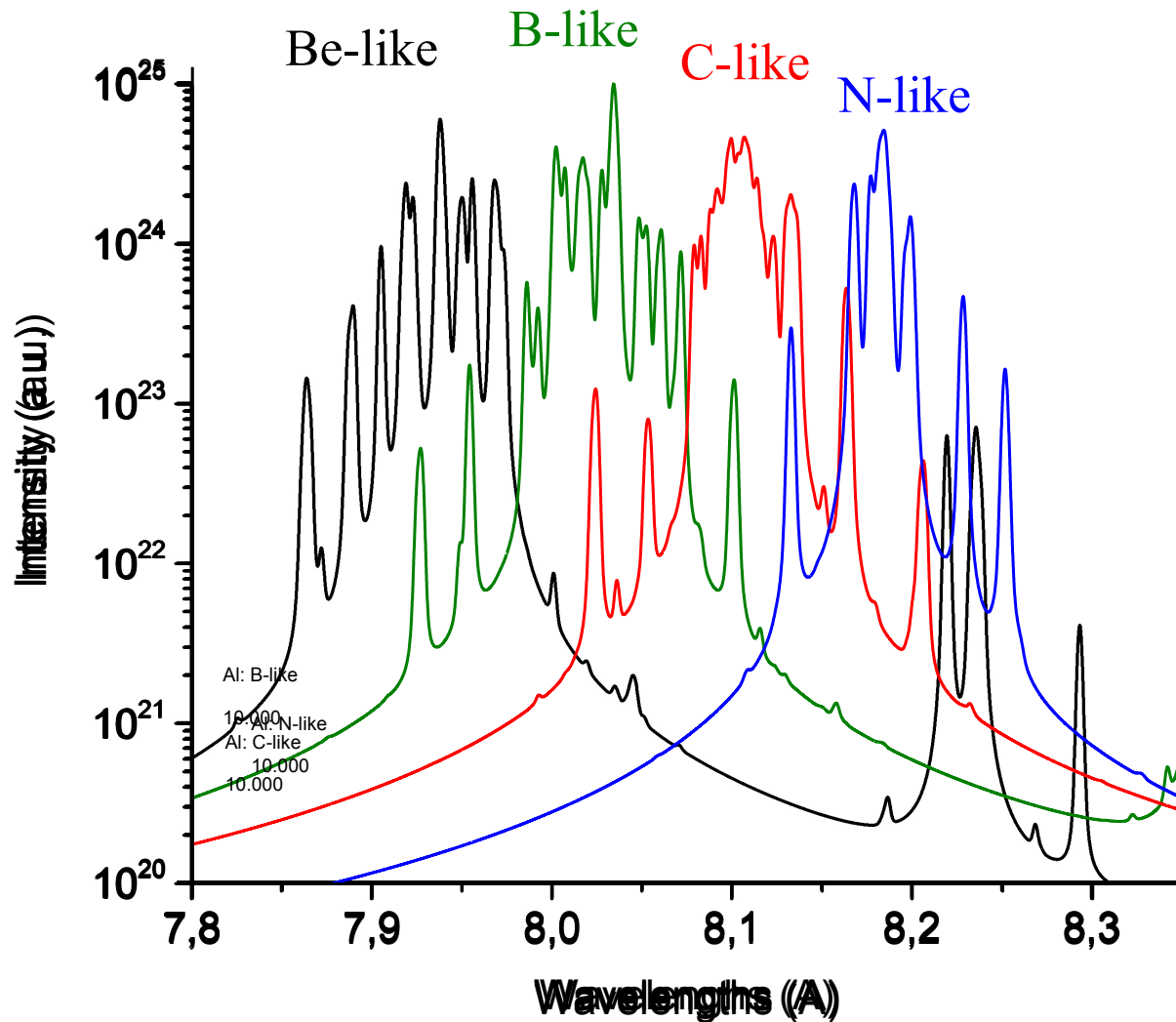
# Overlap of transitions in hot dense plasmas



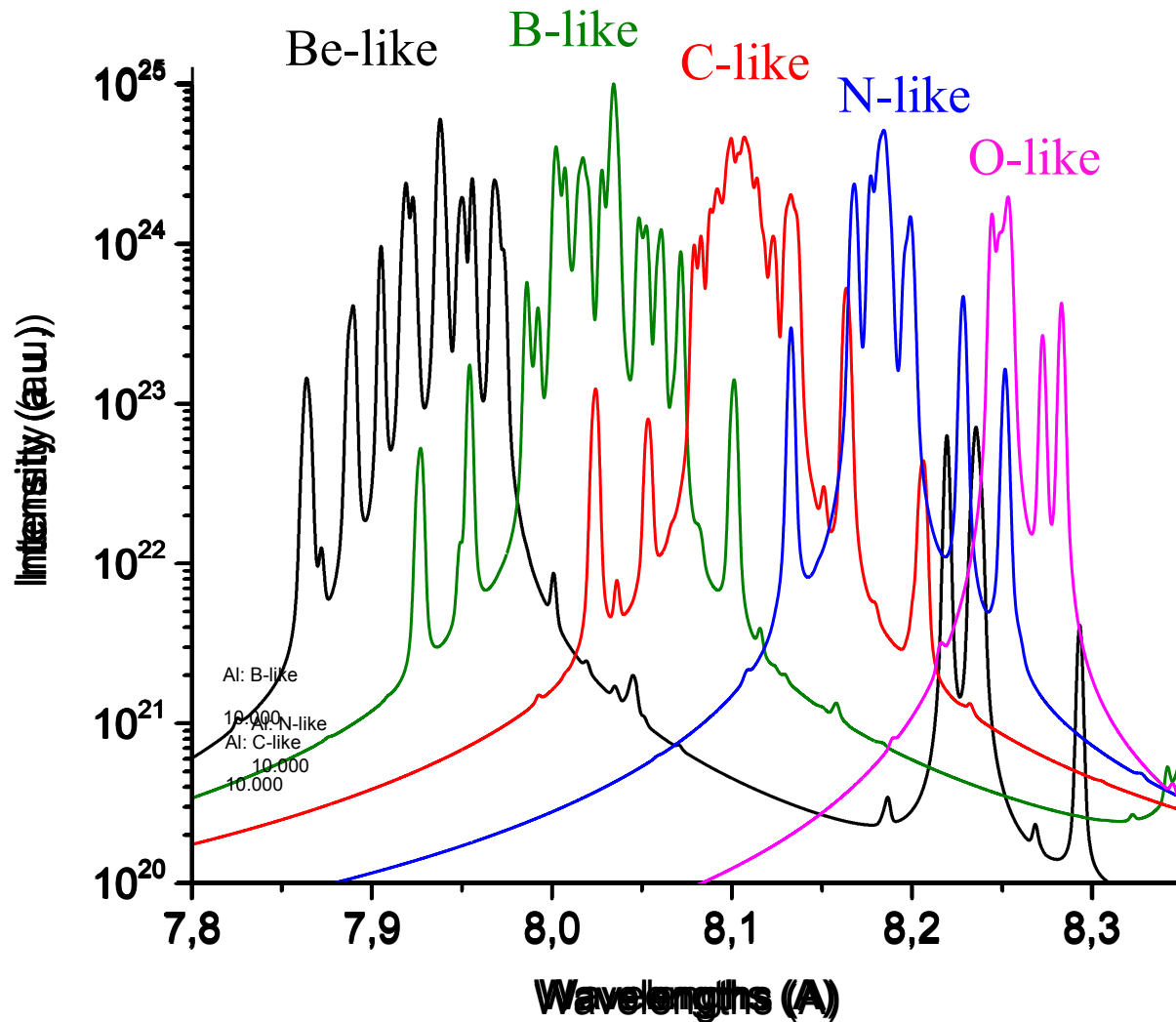
# Overlap of transitions in hot dense plasmas



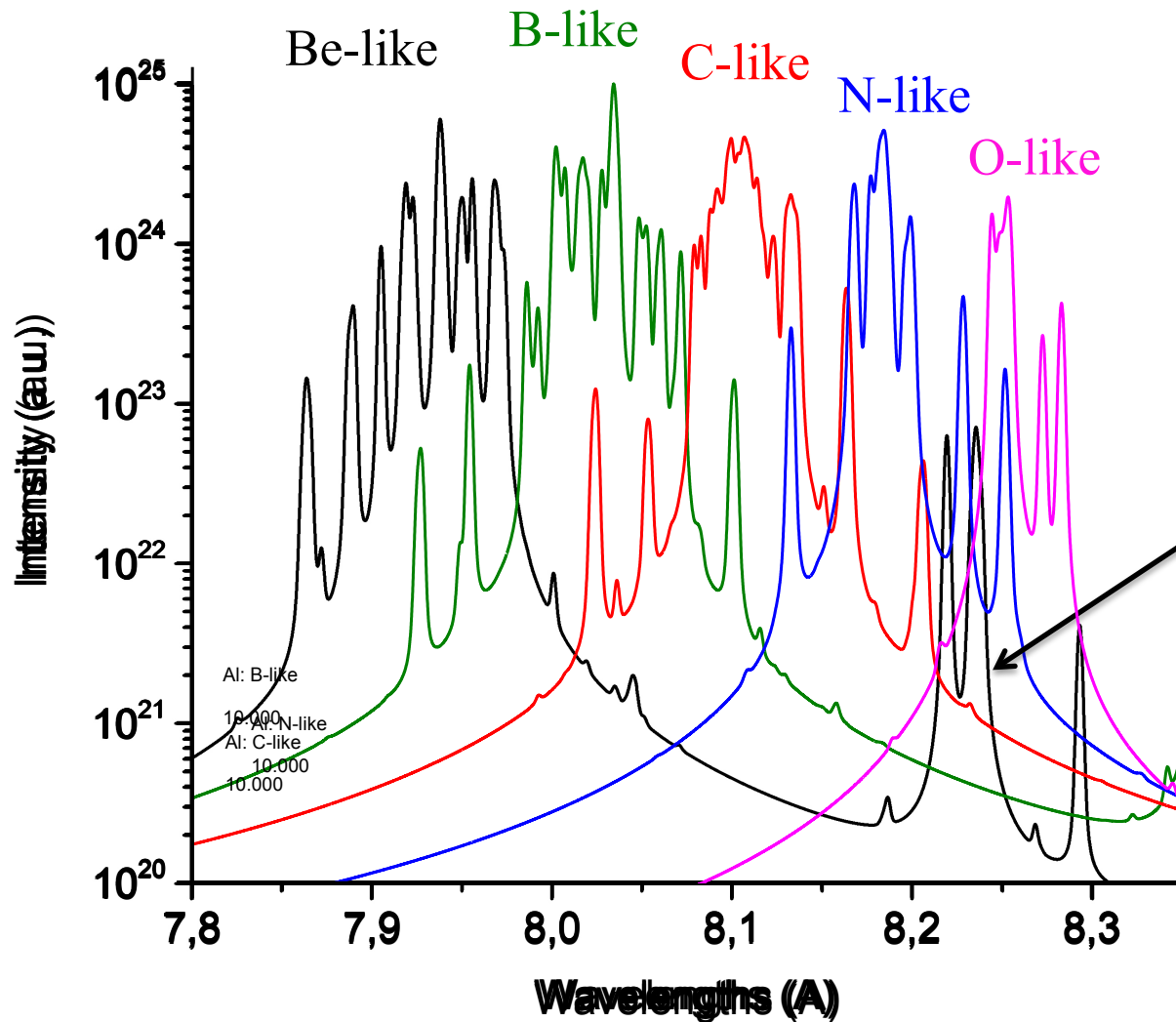
# Overlap of transitions in hot dense plasmas



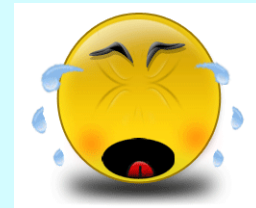
# Overlap of transitions in hot dense plasmas



# Overlap of transitions in hot dense plasmas

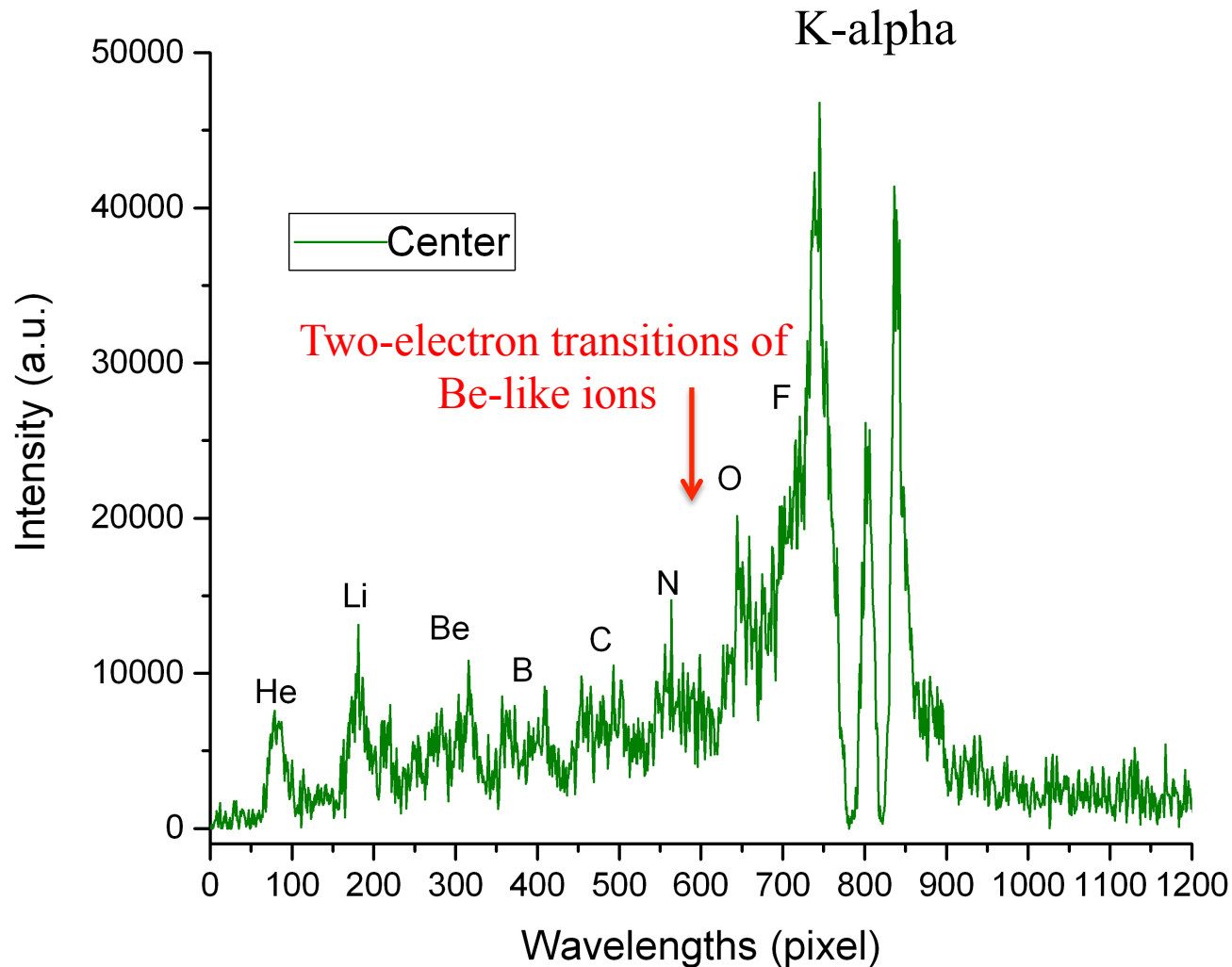


Two-electron transitions of Be-like ions overlap strongly with one electron transitions of N-like ions & O-like ions

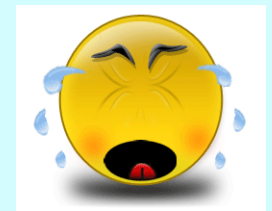


Difficult to observe in dense plasma experiment

# K-alpha series transitions in plasmas



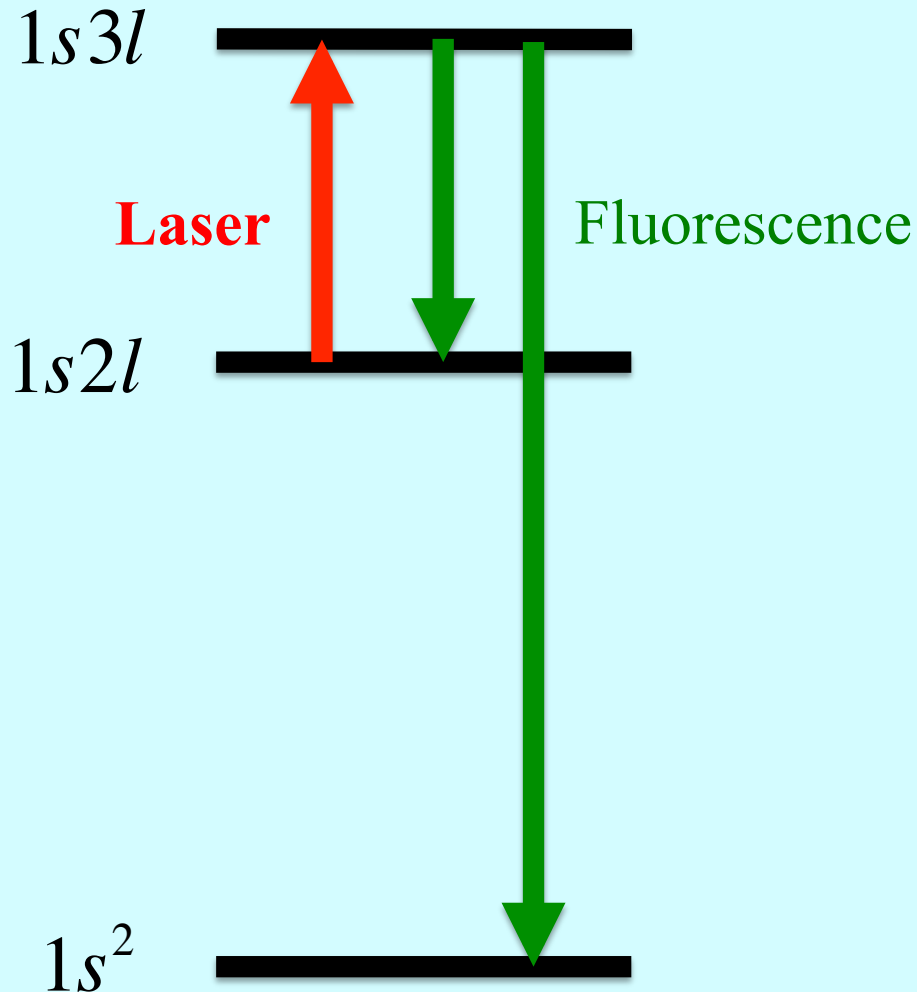
In plasmas, well separated two-electron transitions are usually masked by usual one-electron transitions from lower charge states



# IV. Probing matter with XFEL: X-LIF

# Laser induced fluorescence LIF in X-ray range: X-LIF

Laser induced fluorescence LIF lead to a “Revolution” in science and applications

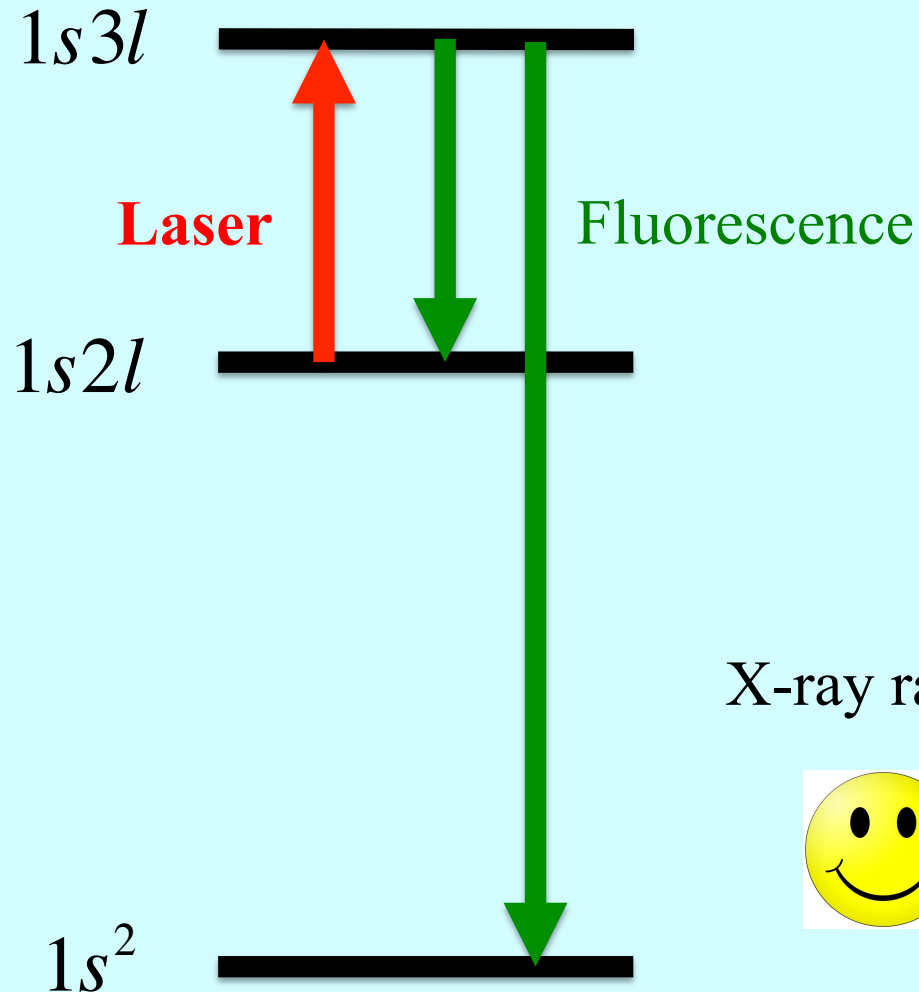


- Study of electronic structure of atoms and molecules
- Detection of species
- Flow visualization
- Field effects
- .....



# Laser induced fluorescence LIF in X-ray range: X-LIF

Laser induced fluorescence LIF lead to a “Revolution” in science and applications



- Study of electronic structure of atoms and molecules
- Detection of species
- Flow visualization
- Field effects
- .....

*Optical lasers: energy interval very limited, few eV*

- All advantages of LIF &
- Inner-shell phenomena
- Isoelectronic sequences
- Ionized atoms
- Matter heating

# Why X-LIF is difficult ?

Photo excitation:

the pump must be more effective than  
spontaneous emission

$$\text{pump rate} > A$$

Scaling relations of energy and Einstein coefficients

**pump**



radiative  
decay A

$$I_{XFEL} \propto \Delta E^3$$

$$\text{Energy} \propto Z^2$$

$$I_{XFEL} \propto Z^6$$

Very large  
installations

$10^{12}$  photons in 100 fs !

Synchrotrons will never make it !

# X-rays: Synchrotrons & Free Electron X-ray Lasers

XFEL:  $10^{13}$  X-ray photons in 10...100 fs

Intensities: up to  $10^{18}$  W/cm<sup>2</sup>, sub-micrometer focusing

Photon density: 
$$\tilde{N}_0 \approx \frac{N_{tot,\tau}}{0.76 \cdot A \cdot c \cdot \tau} \approx 6 \times 10^{22} \frac{\text{Photons}}{\text{cm}^3}$$

"solid" photon density

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"solid" photon density

*XFEL brilliance: 10 orders of magnitude higher than synchrotrons*

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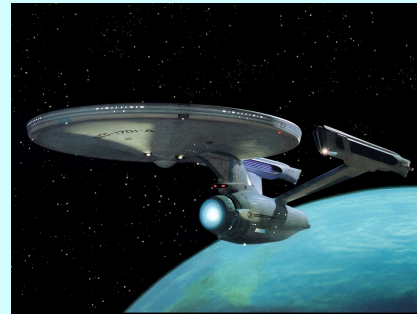
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*XFEL brilliance: 10 orders of magnitude higher than synchrotrons*



*10 orders of magnitude in velocity*



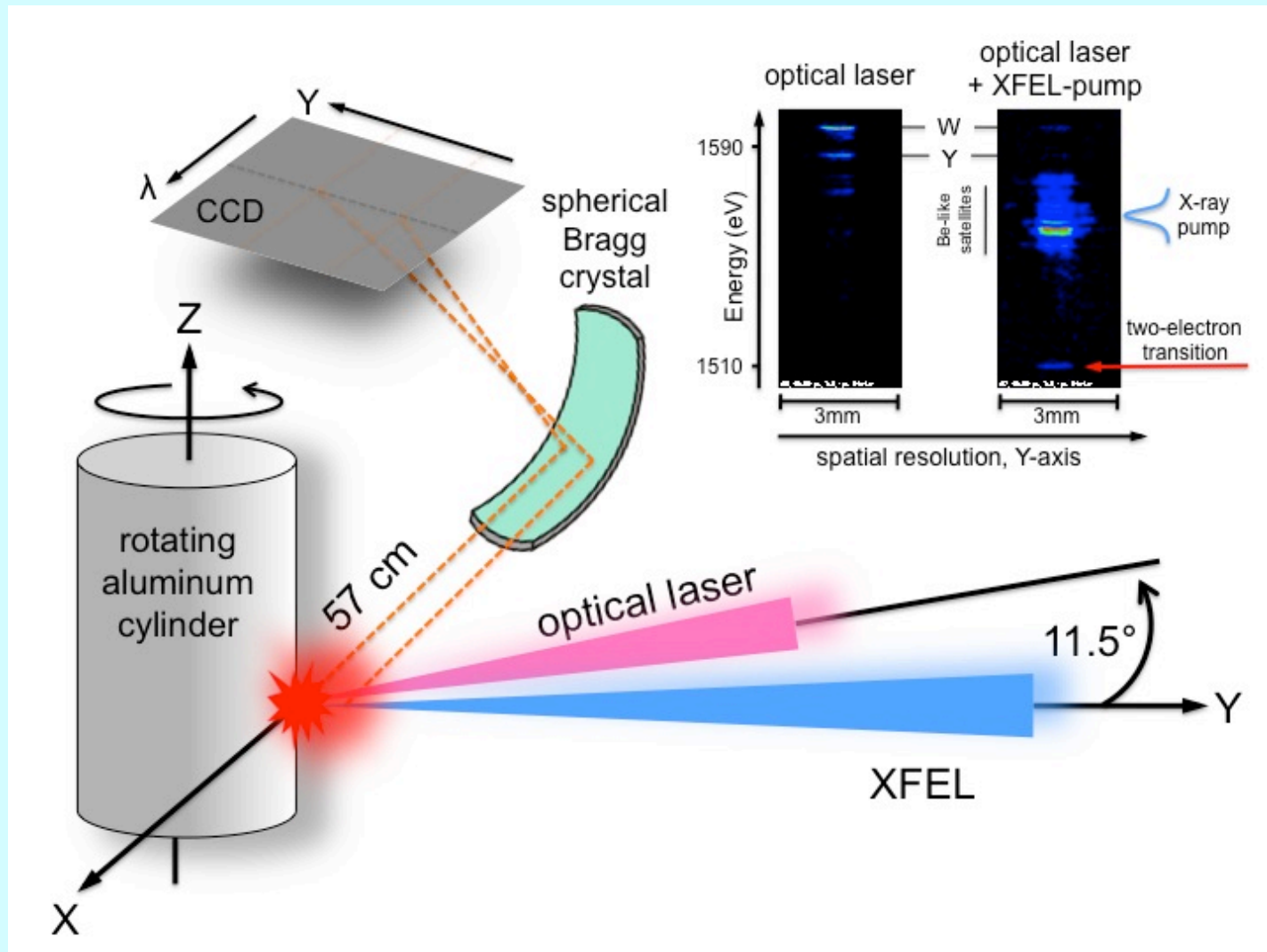
*Not just more quick  
...but  
completely different*

**Synchrotrons: rare  
"atomic" perturbations...**

**XFEL: Every atom is concerned  
New kind of matter samples !**

# V. Experiment

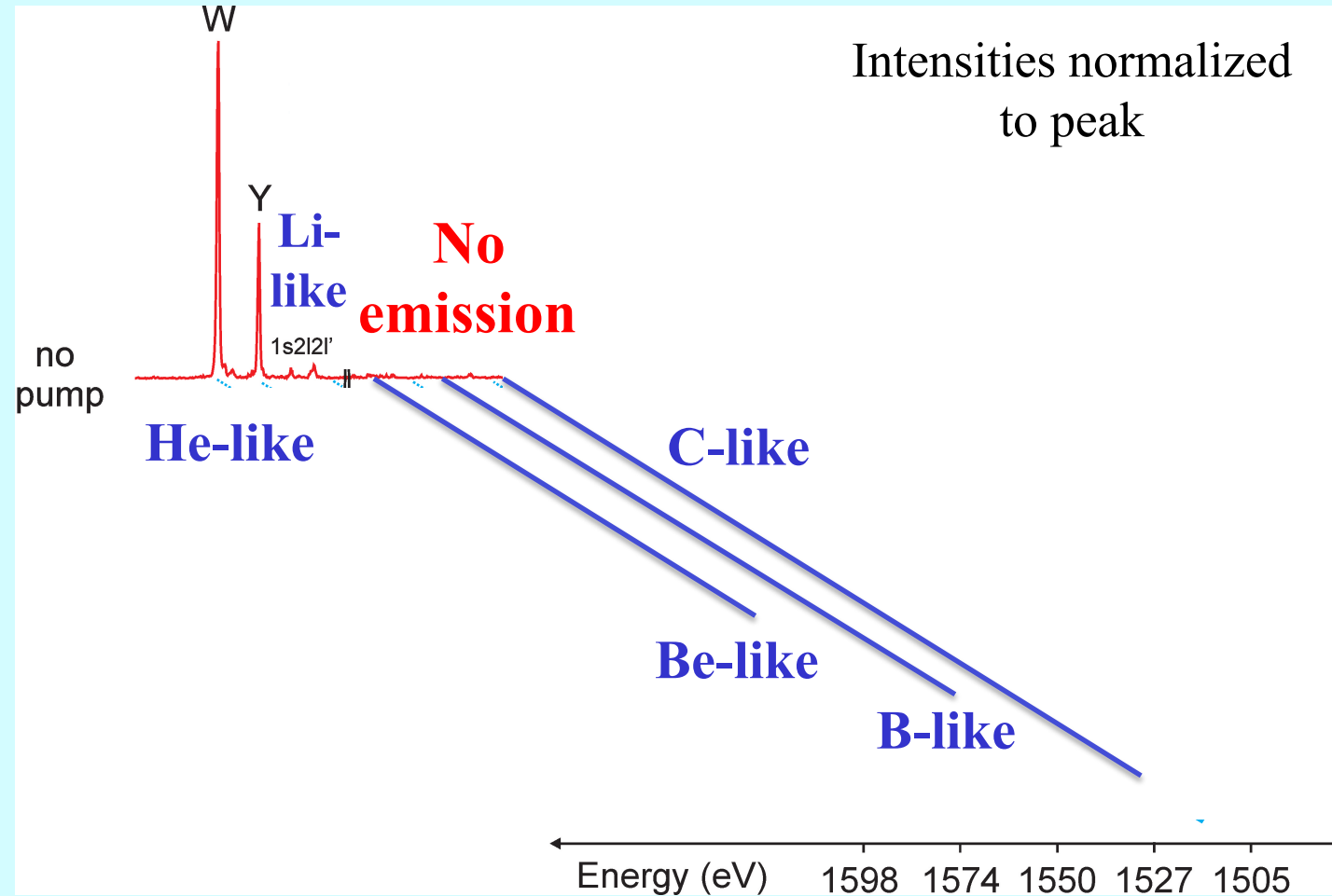
# First X-LIF experiment to pump dense plasmas



F.B. Rosmej et al., *Plasma Atomic Physics*, Springer 2021.

# Resonance pumping of dense Al-plasma with XFEL

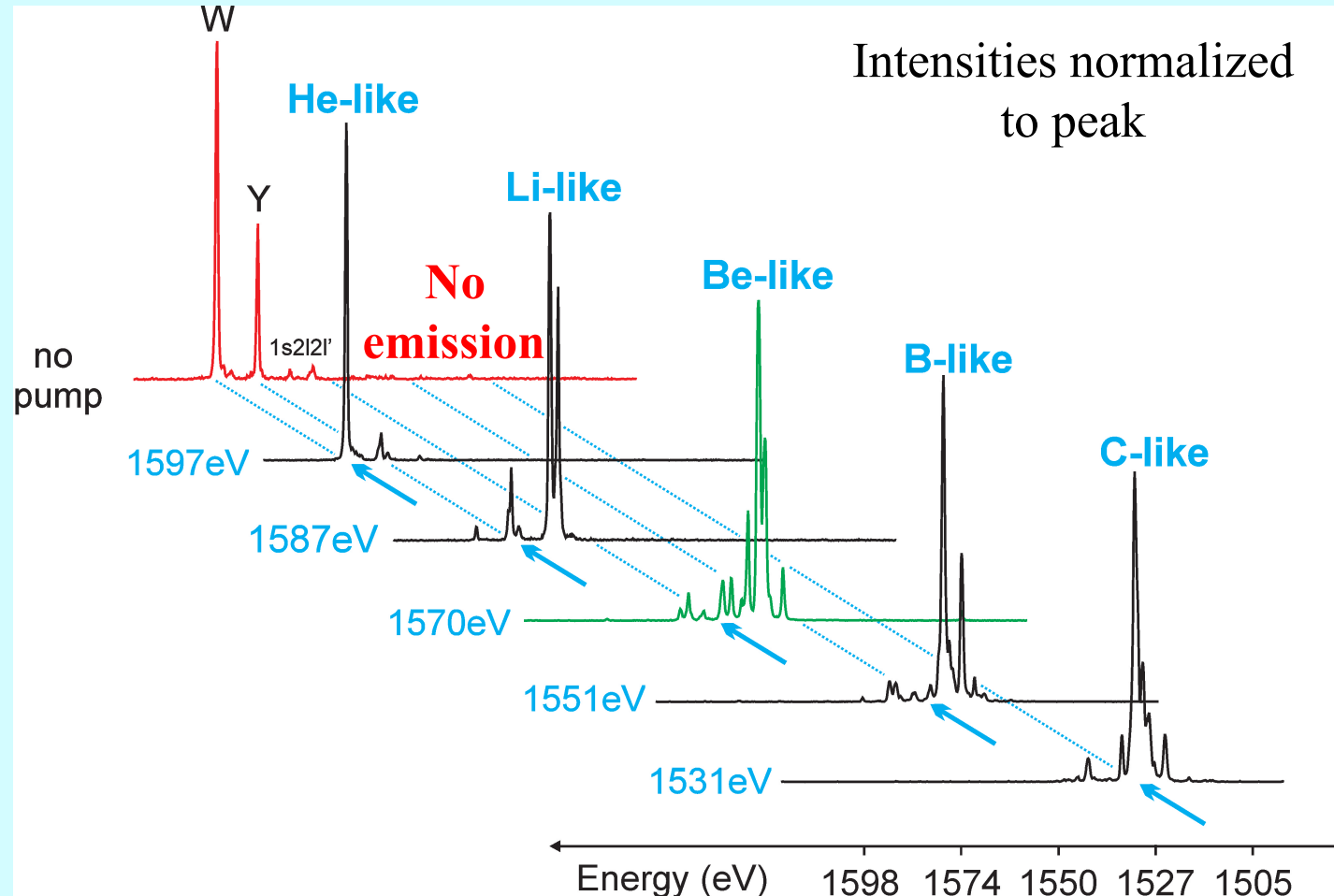
**Optical laser only:  
No emission from  
Be-like,  
B-like,  
C-like ions**





# Resonance pumping of dense Al-plasma with XFEL

**Optical laser only:**  
**No emission from**  
**Be-like,**  
**B-like,**  
**C-like ions**

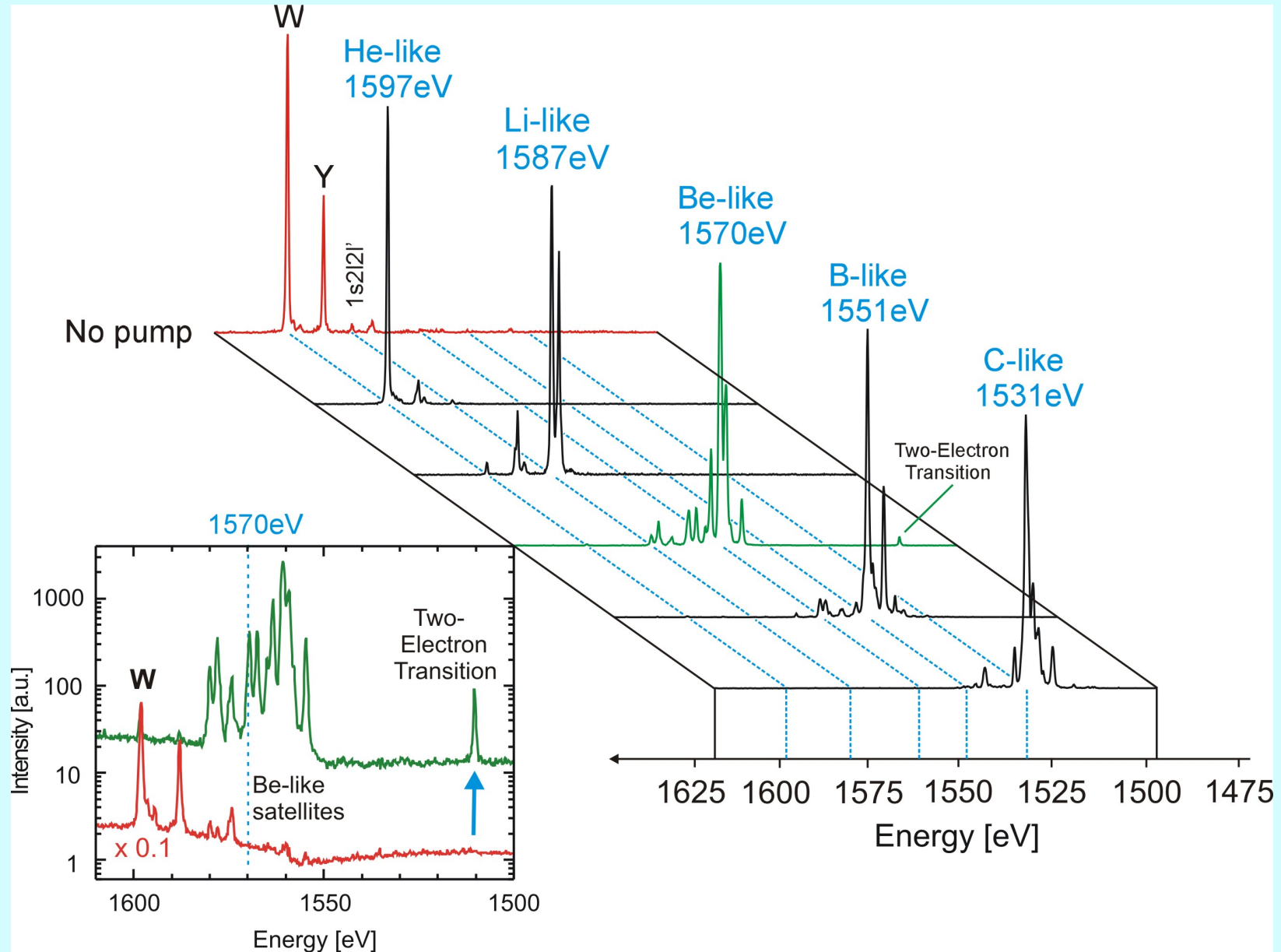


**With XFEL pump:**  
**At definite energies**  
**He-like....C-like ions**  
**are pumped and emit**  
**X-ray fluorescence**

**First**  
**demonstration of**  
**X-LIF at LCLS**

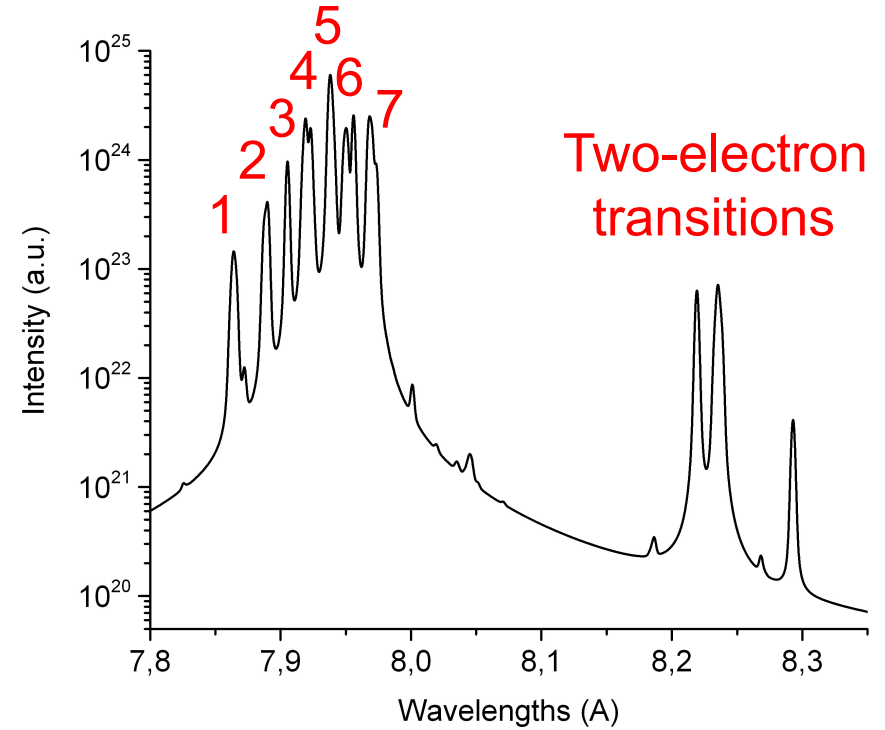
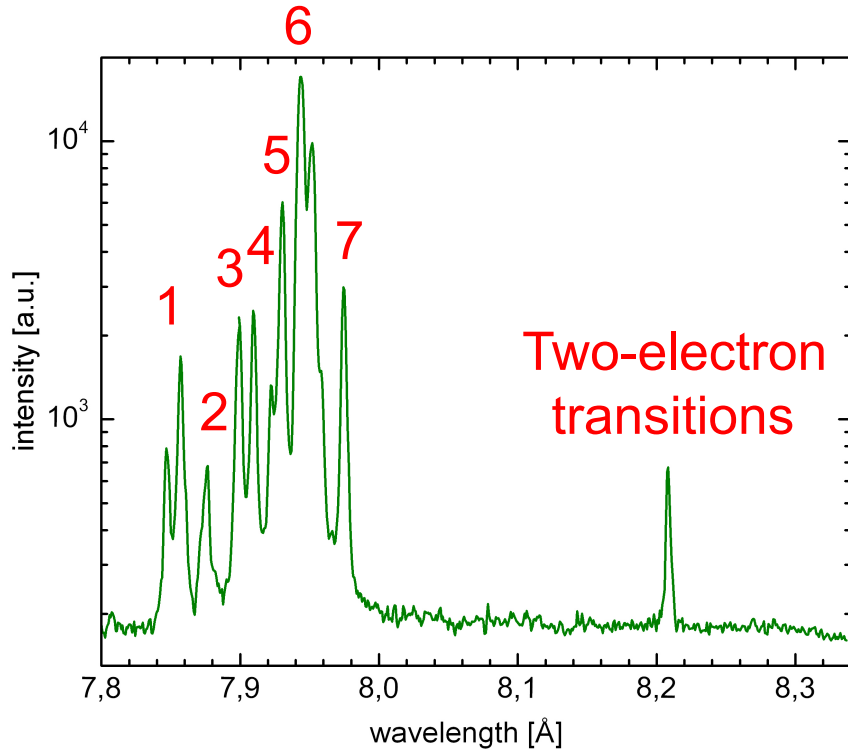


# X-LIF: atomic physics studies



# VI. First data analysis

# Experiment versus simulation



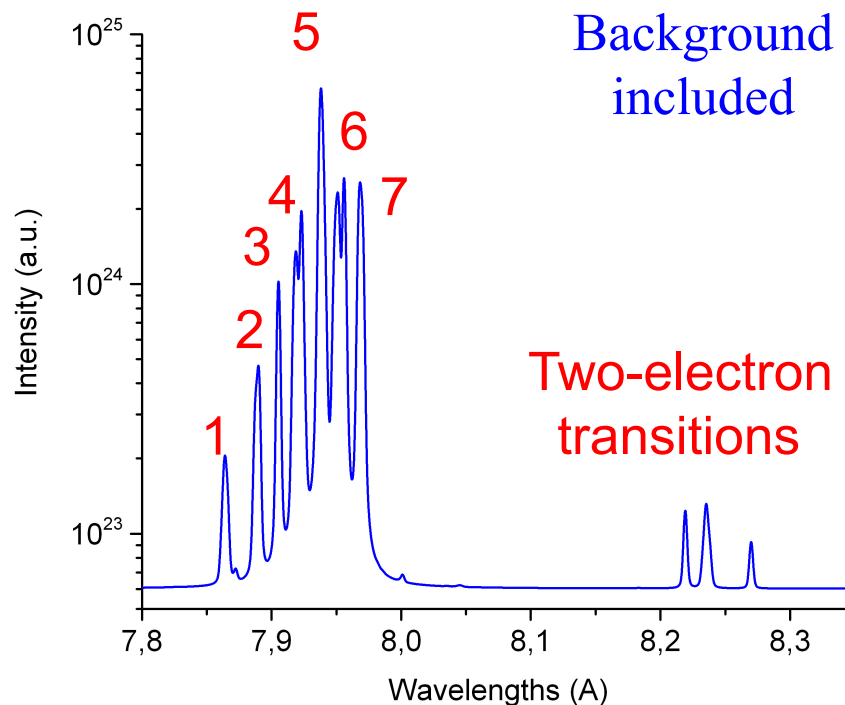
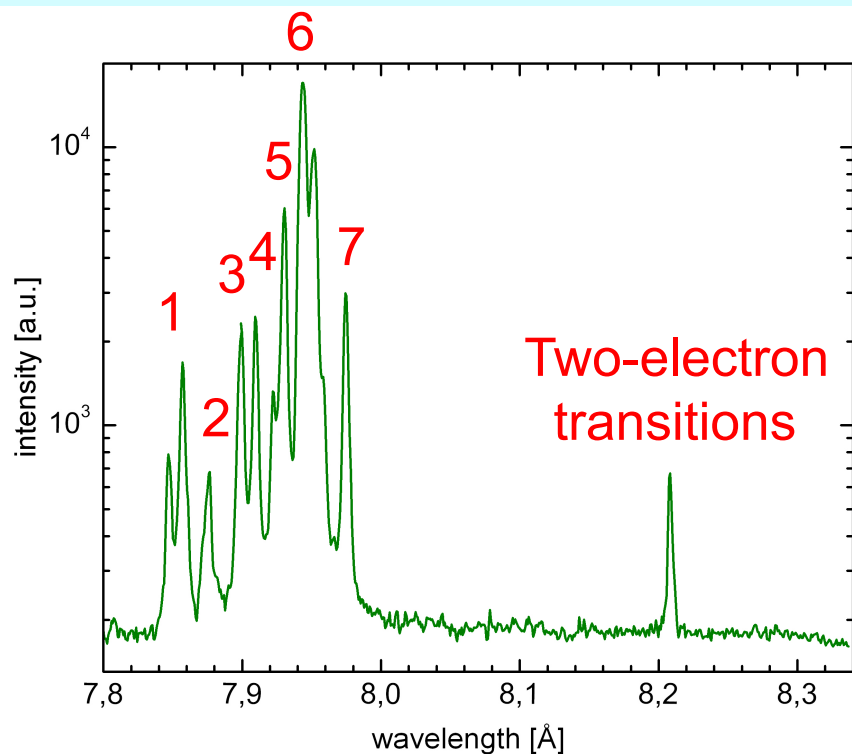
Usual one electron transitions (**groups 1-7**) in good agreement



**Two-electron transitions** in bad agreement



# Line shapes measured over 2 orders of magnitude



**Line shapes measured  
over 2 orders of  
magnitude in intensity in  
dense plasmas**



**Two-electron  
transitions in bad  
agreement**



# Configuration analysis

Theory: rel. HF with intermediate coupling + configuration interaction

$$1s^2 2p^2 \ ^3P_2 \rightarrow 1s^1 2s^2 2p^1 \ ^3P_2 : 8.2352 \text{ \AA}$$

$$1s^2 2p^2 \ ^1D_2 \rightarrow 1s^1 2s^2 2p^1 \ ^1P_1 : 8.2191 \text{ \AA}$$

Experiment: high-resolution X-ray spectroscopy+reference lines

$$1s^2 2p^2 \ LSJ \rightarrow 1s^1 2s^2 2p^1 \ LSJ : (8.208 \pm 0.0005) \text{ \AA}$$

Complex calibration procedure: O. Renner

**Very bad agreement in wavelengths and  
number of transitions !**

# Comparison with different methods

**MCDF:**

$$1s^2 2p^2 \ ^1D_2 \rightarrow 1s^1 2s^2 2p^1 \ ^1P_1 : 8.2298 \text{ A}$$

**FAC:**

$$1s^2 2p^2 \ ^1D_2 \rightarrow 1s^1 2s^2 2p^1 \ ^1P_1 : 8.2280 \text{ A}$$

**MZ:**

$$1s^2 2p^2 \ ^1D_2 \rightarrow 1s^1 2s^2 2p^1 \ ^1P_1 : 8.2205 \text{ A}$$

Experiment: high-resolution X-ray spectroscopy + reference lines

$$1s^2 2p^2 \ LSJ \rightarrow 1s^1 2s^2 2p^1 \ LSJ : (8.208 \pm 0.0005) \text{ A}$$

## VII. Conclusion and Outlook

- Line profiles from complex configurations are of interest for energy transport that involves all bound and free states of atoms/ions
- Many overlapping transitions make analysis of single transitions from complex configurations difficult
- Two-electron transitions are located well outside the bunch of usual transitions; the number of transitions turns out to be rather small
- In usual plasmas, two-electron transitions are masked by “usual” transitions from lower charge states
- LIF in X-ray spectral range may select transitions of complex configurations in plasmas from one charge state only
- Successful demonstrations of X-LIF in dense plasmas
- Line shapes are measured over 2 orders of magnitude in intensity with excellent signal/noise ratio in dense plasmas
- Two-electron transitions are in bad agreement with theory



.... spectroscopy...



Springer Series on Atomic, Optical, and Plasma Physics 104

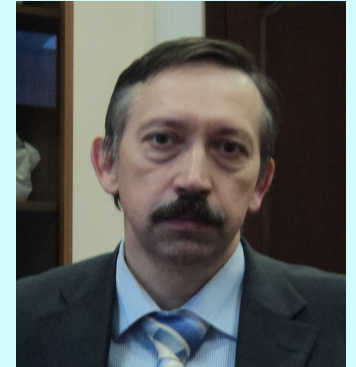
Frank B. Rosmej  
Valery A. Astapenko  
Valery S. Lisitsa

# Plasma Atomic Physics

 Springer



**Frank Rosmej**



**Valery Astapenko**



**Valery Lisitsa**

# Configuration interaction

No radiative decay from  $1s^1 2s^2 \ ^2S_{1/2} \rightarrow \dots$

**Configuration interaction:**

$$\Psi(1s^1 2s^2) = \alpha \cdot \Psi^{pure}(1s^1 2s^2) + \beta \cdot \Psi^{pure}(1s^1 2p^2)$$

**Radiative decay:**

$$A(1s^1 2s^2 \rightarrow 1s^2 2p) \propto \beta^2 \cdot \left| \left\langle \Psi^{pure}(1s^1 2p^2) \left| r \right| \Psi^{pure}(1s^2 2p^1) \right\rangle \right|^2$$

# Mixed wavefunctions

$$1s^2 2p^2 \ ^1D_2 \rightarrow 1s^1 2s^2 2p^1 \ ^1P_1 :$$

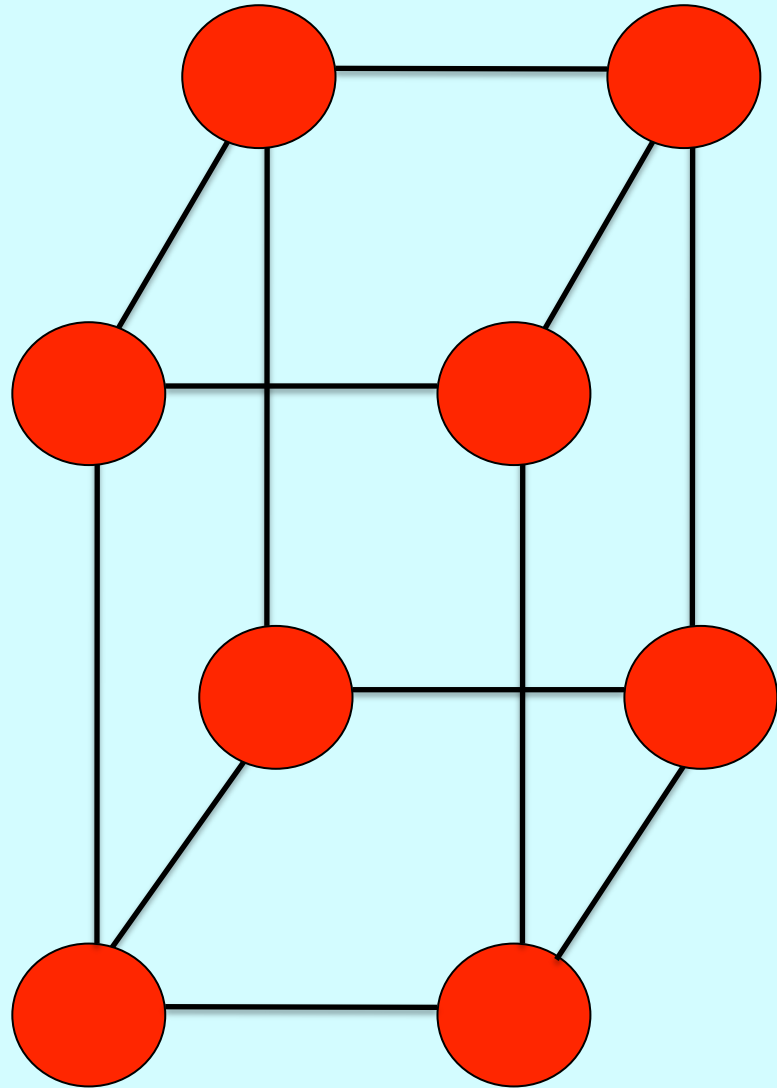
$$\Psi(1s^1 2s^2 2p^1 \ ^1P_1) \approx 0.97064 \cdot \Psi^{pure}(1s^1 2s^2 2p^1 \ ^1P_1) + \\ 0.23671 \cdot \Psi^{pure}(1s^1 2p^3 \ ^1P_1) + \dots$$

$$\Psi(1s^2 2p^2 \ ^1D_2) \approx 0.999865 \cdot \Psi^{pure}(1s^2 2p^2 \ ^1D_2) + \\ 0.00683 \cdot \Psi^{pure}(1s^2 2p^2 \ ^3P_2) + \dots$$

## Info configuration interaction $2s^2+2p^2$ :

$$\Psi(1s^2 2p^2 \ ^1S_0) \approx 0.96972 \cdot \Psi^{pure}(1s^2 2p^2 \ ^1S_0) + \\ 0.24246 \cdot \Psi^{pure}(1s^2 2s^2 \ ^1S_0) + \dots$$

# XFEL interaction with matter



**XFEL**



volumetric photoionization  
of internal shells



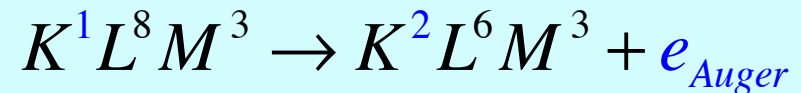
**Heating**

More than 1 photon per atom !

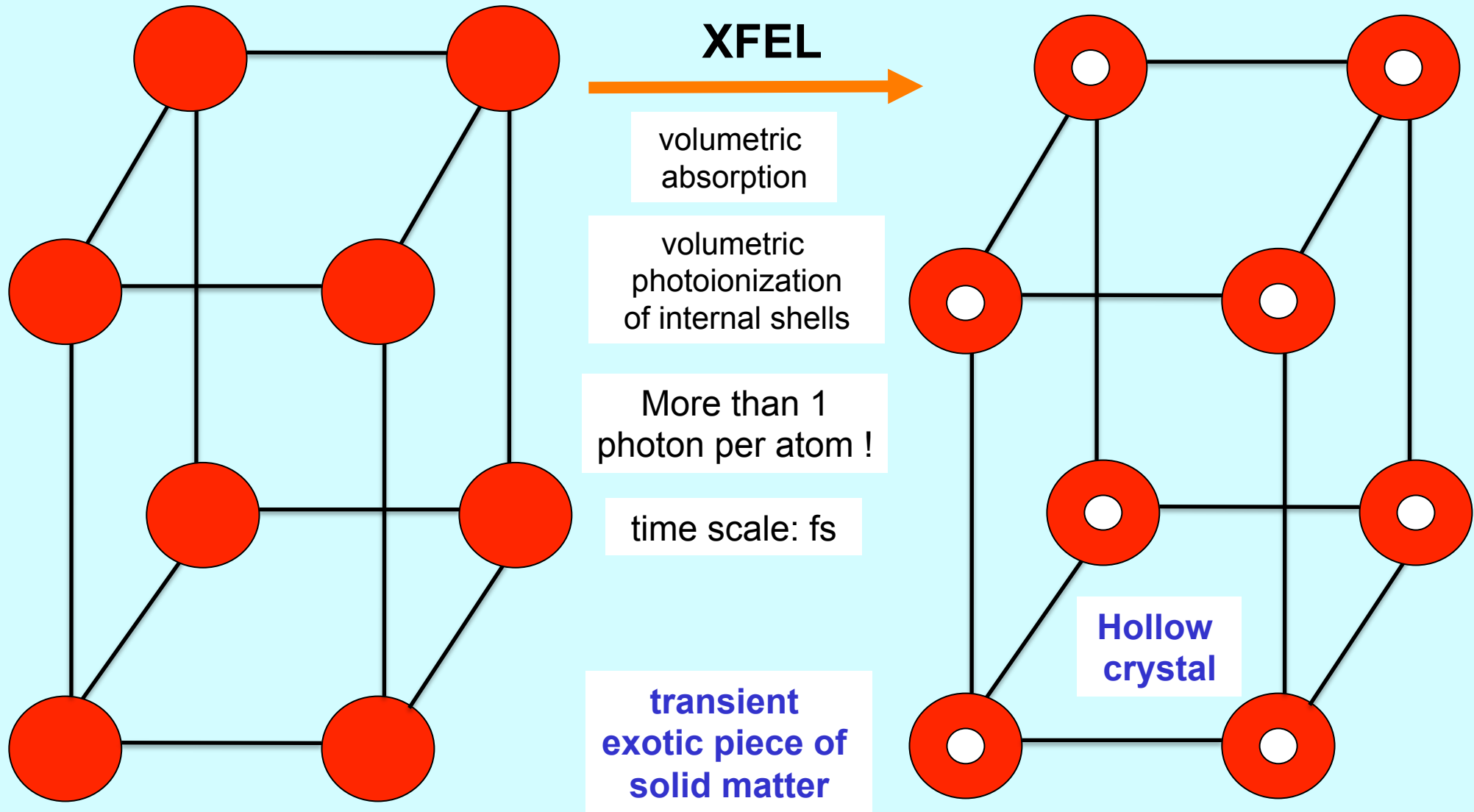
$$E_{photo} = E_{XFEL} - E_K = 0 \dots keV$$

**Time scale**

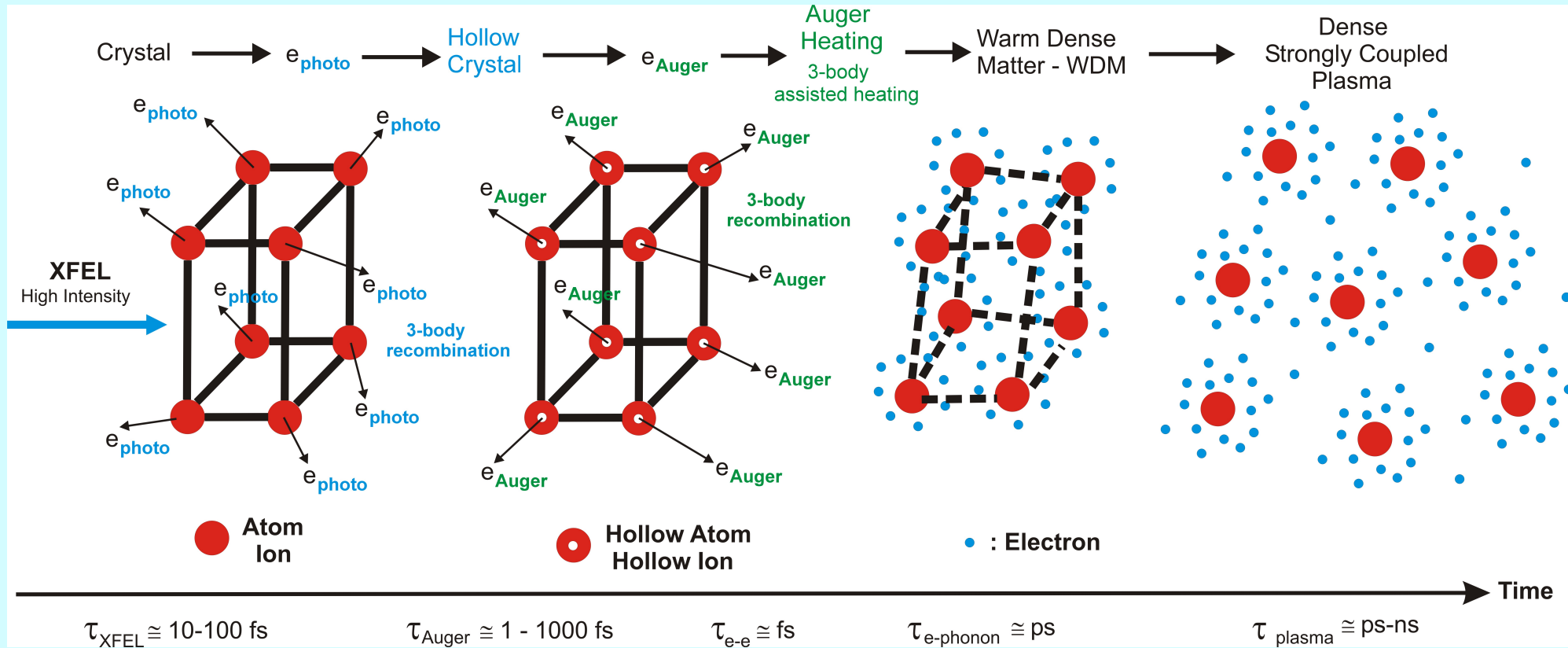
Auger effect, some 10 fs



# XFEL interaction with matter



# The cartoon of XFEL interaction with matter



F.B. Rosmej, V.A. Astapenko, V.S. Lisitsa, *Plasma Atomic Physics*, Springer 2021



# Release of potential energy

Time dependent evolution.....



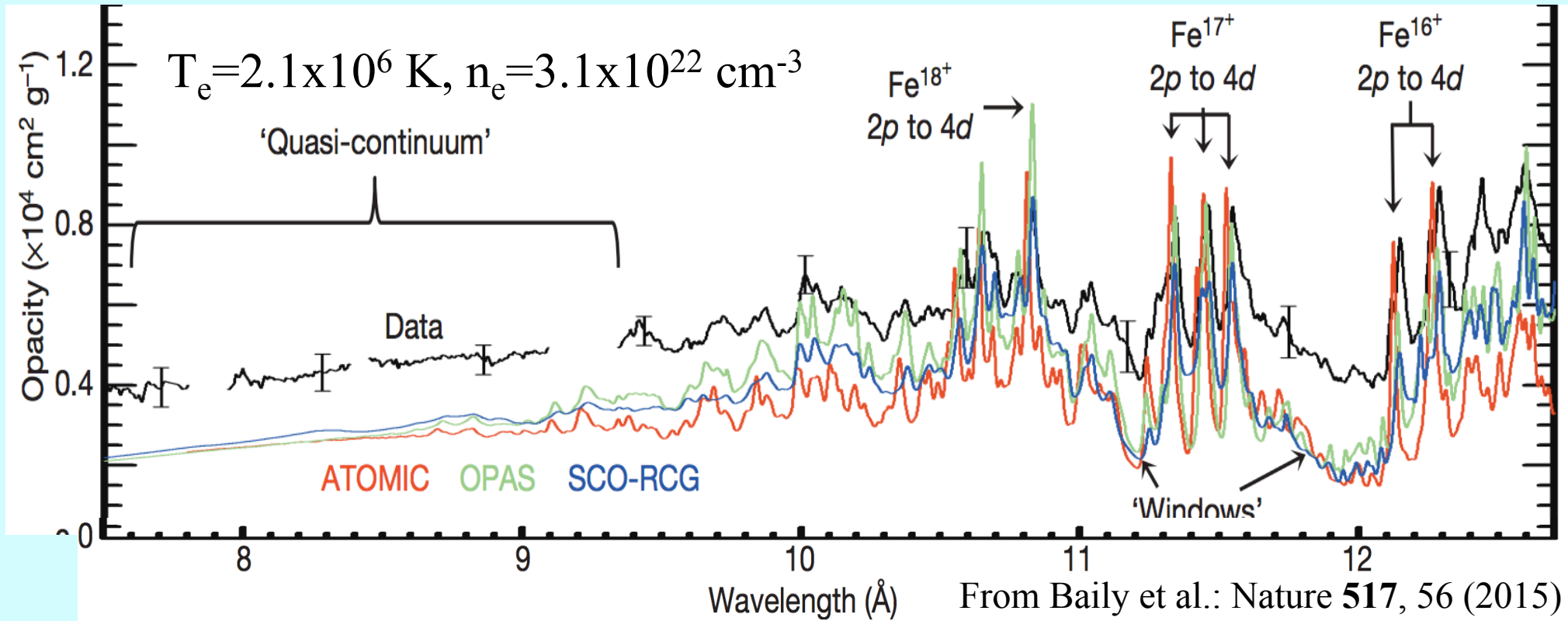
Equivalence: The XFEL **removes** so **much and** so *quick* "matter" that the whole structure becomes instable and is destroyed *after* a certain time

# Annex



# Laboratory measurements: Solar opacity has a problem ?

Fe accounts for about 1/4 of the solar opacity

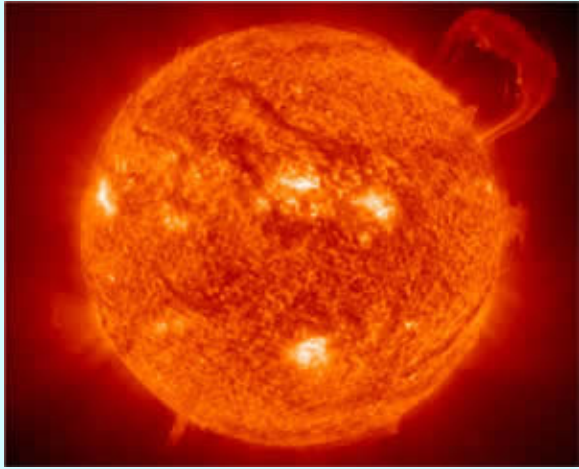


Observed continuum stronger than predicted

Spectral windows more filled

Bound-bound emission less pronounced

# Solar opacity problem



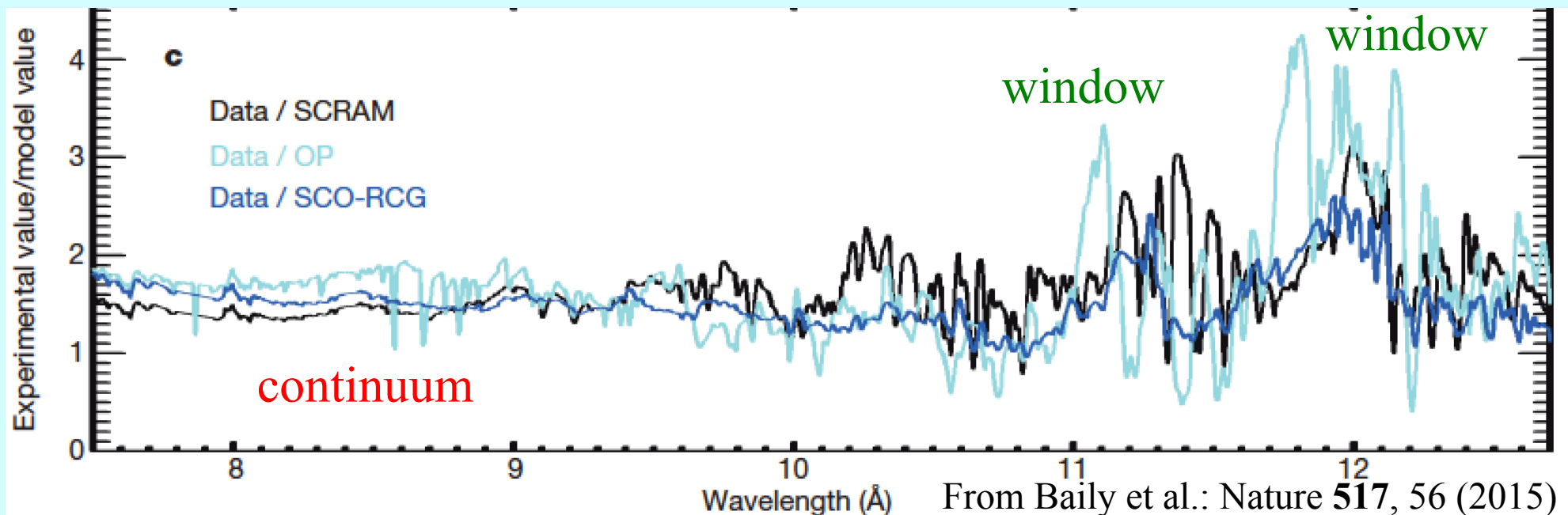
Photosphere spectral analysis:  
revised element abundances of C, N, O

Revised abundances disagree with helioseismic observations (e.g. sun quake), that determine the internal solar structure using acoustic oscillations

This problem *could* be resolved, if the true mean opacity would be higher by about 15 %

Measurements of the opacity in a laboratory experiment of Bailey et al. [Nature **517**, 56 (2015)] indicate opacities up to 4 times higher than predicted .....but no consistent explanation/theory could be given.....

# Opacity data / simulations



Observed continuum stronger than predicted

Spectral windows more filled

**Is our general understanding of opacity incomplete ?**