

ATOM-RYDBERG ATOM PROCESSES IN  
THE STELLAR ATMOSPHERES:  
DWARF ATMOSPHERES, QUIET SUN AND SUNSPOTS

V. A. SREĆKOVIĆ<sup>1</sup>, A. A. MIHAJLOV<sup>1</sup>, LJ. M. IGNJATOVIĆ<sup>1</sup>,  
and M. S. DIMITRIJEVIĆ<sup>2,3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Institute of Physics, P.O.Box 57, Pregrevica 118, Belgrade, Serbia*

<sup>2</sup>*Observatoire de Paris, UMR CNRS 8112, UPMC, 92195 Meudon Cedex, France;*

<sup>3</sup>*Astronomical Observatory, Volgina 7, 11060 Belgrade, Serbia*

*vlada@ipb.ac.rs*

X SBAC, Belgrade 2016.



# The Team



## Institute of Physics, Belgrade

- Prof Dr. A. A. Mihajlov
- Dr. V.A. Srećković
- Dr. Lj.M. Ignjatović

## AOB (Astronomical Observatory Belgrade)

- Prof Dr. M.S. Dimitrijević

Collaborators: all over the world. Russia, Dept. of Physics, St-Petersburg University, Russia  
A.N. Klyucharev, Bezuglov ..., others from AOB..., Italy, Croatia... Now I present:

# Atom-Rydberg atom chemi-ionization processes in solar and DB white dwarf atmospheres in the presence of (n-n')-mixing channels

A. A. Mihajlov,<sup>1,2</sup> V. A. Srećković<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Lj. M. Ignjatović,<sup>1,2</sup> M. S. Dimitrijević<sup>2,3,4,5</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Belgrade, Institute of Physics, P. O. Box 87, 11001 Belgrade, Serbia

<sup>2</sup>Isaac Newton Institute of Chile, Yugoslavia Branch, Volgina 7, 11060 Belgrade, Serbia

<sup>3</sup>Astronomical Observatory, Volgina 7, 11160 Belgrade 74, Serbia

<sup>4</sup>IHIS-Technoexperts, Bečanijska 23, 11080 Zemun, Serbia

<sup>5</sup>Observatoire de Paris, 92195 Meudon Cedex, France

Accepted XXX. Received YYY; in original form ZZZ

Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL SUPPLEMENT SERIES, 193:2 (7pp), 2011 March  
© 2011. The American Astronomical Society. All rights reserved. Printed in the U.S.A.

doi:10.1088/0067-0049/193/1/2

## CHEMI-IONIZATION IN SOLAR PHOTOSPHERE: INFLUENCE ON THE HYDROGEN ATOM EXCITED STATES POPULATION

ANATOLIJ A. MIHAJLOV<sup>1,2</sup>, LJUBINKO M. IGNJATOVIĆ<sup>1,2</sup>, VLADIMIR A. SREĆKOVIĆ<sup>1</sup>, AND MILAN S. DIMITRIJEVIĆ<sup>2,3,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institute of Physics, University of Belgrade, P.O. Box 57, 11001 Belgrade, Serbia; [ljuba@ipb.ac.rs](mailto:ljuba@ipb.ac.rs), [mihajlov@ipb.ac.rs](mailto:mihajlov@ipb.ac.rs)

<sup>2</sup>Isaac Newton Institute of Chile, Yugoslavia Branch, Volgina 7, 11060 Belgrade, Serbia

<sup>3</sup>Astronomical Observatory, Volgina 7, 11060 Belgrade, Serbia

<sup>4</sup>Observatoire de Paris, 92195 Meudon Cedex, France

Received 2010 May 30; accepted 2010 December 5; published 2011 January 18

### ABSTRACT

In this paper, the influence of chemi-ionization processes in  $H^*(n \geq 2) + H(1s)$  collisions, as well as the influence of inverse chemi-recombination processes on hydrogen atom excited-state populations in solar photosphere, are compared with the influence of concurrent electron-atom and electron-ion ionization and recombination processes. It has been found that the considered chemi-ionization/recombination processes dominate over the relevant concurrent processes in almost the whole solar photosphere. Thus, it is shown that these processes and their importance for the non-local thermodynamic equilibrium modeling of the solar atmosphere should be investigated further.

*Key words:* atomic processes – Sun: atmosphere

*Baltic Astronomy*, vol. 20, 566–571, 2011

## THE INFLUENCE OF CHEMI-IONIZATION AND RECOMBINATION PROCESSES ON SPECTRAL LINE SHAPES IN STELLAR ATMOSPHERES

Anatolij A. Mihajlov<sup>1,2</sup>, Ljubinko M. Ignjatović<sup>1,2</sup>, Vladimir A. Srećković<sup>1,2</sup> and Milan S. Dimitrijević<sup>2,3,4</sup>

I will present the results from our recent papers:

and few more rec. papers ...

# Outline

➤ Present our investigation: of chemi-ionization processes, and influence on solar photosphere and WD atmospheres

➤ our investigation : of chemi-ionization + pre-ionization(mixing), and influence on solar photosphere

➤ investigation : chemi-ionization + pre-ionization(mixing), and influence on DB WD atmospheres

➤ Further invest. of chemi-ionization + pre-ionization(mixing), influence on sunspot atmospheres...

and

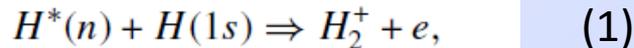
➤ few words about MOL-D Database

# Sun

In order to improve the modeling of the solar photosphere, as well as to model atmospheres of other similar and cooler stars where the main constituent is also hydrogen, it is necessary to take into account the influence of all the relevant collisional processes on the excited-atom populations in weakly ionized hydrogen plasmas.

Group of chemi-ionization atom collisional processes in weakly ionized layers of stellar atmospheres (ionization degree less than  $10^{-3}$ ) was studied. In order to demonstrate the significance of these processes it was necessary to compare their efficiency, from the aspect of their influence on the free electron and excited atom populations, with the efficiency of the known concurrent processes of electron-atom impact ionization and etc.

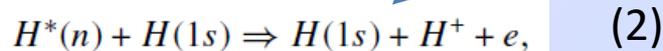
## We study



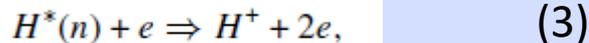
hydrogen in excited Rydberg state  
in collision with hydrogen in ground state  
we have asoc. ionization  $H_2^+$  and  $e$

Associative chemi-ion.

2 possible channels



Consequently, in this case the efficiency of the chemi-ionization processes has to be compared with the efficiency of the processes



Let us emphasize the fact that here as the starting point we focus on the hydrogen case, since our main aim is to draw attention of astronomers to the processes (1)–(2), and to show that the importance of these processes for non-local thermodynamic equilibrium (LTE) modeling of solar atmosphere should be investigated. For this purpose, it should be demonstrated that in the solar photosphere the efficiency of these processes is greater than, or at least comparable to, the efficiency of processes (3) within those ranges of values of  $n \geq 2$  and temperature  $T$  which are relevant to the chosen solar atmosphere model.

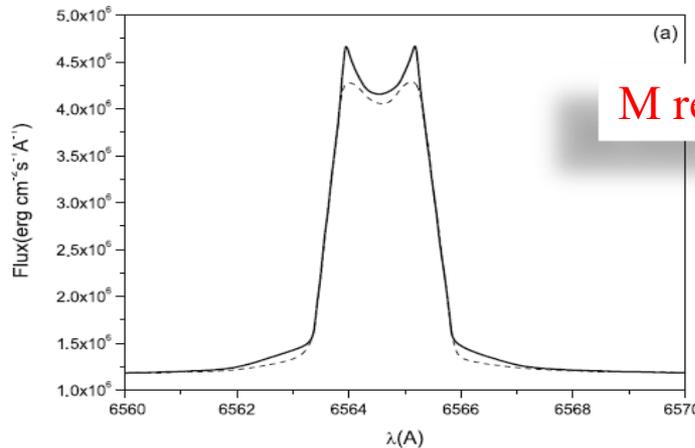


Fig. 6. Line profiles with (full) and without (dashed) inclusion of chemi-ionization and chemi-recombination processes for  $H_\alpha$  line.

M red dwarf's

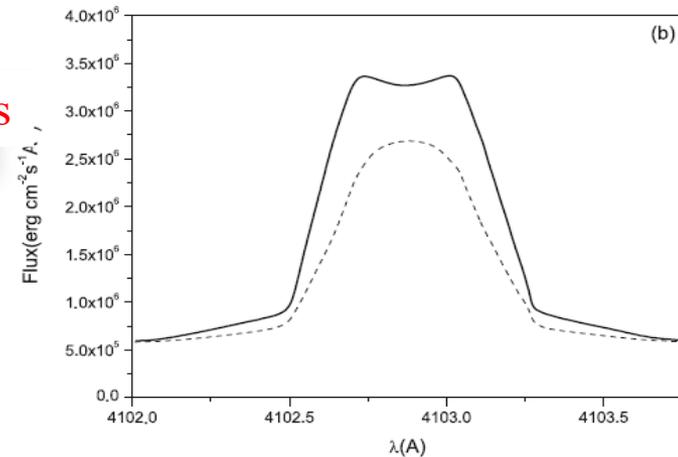


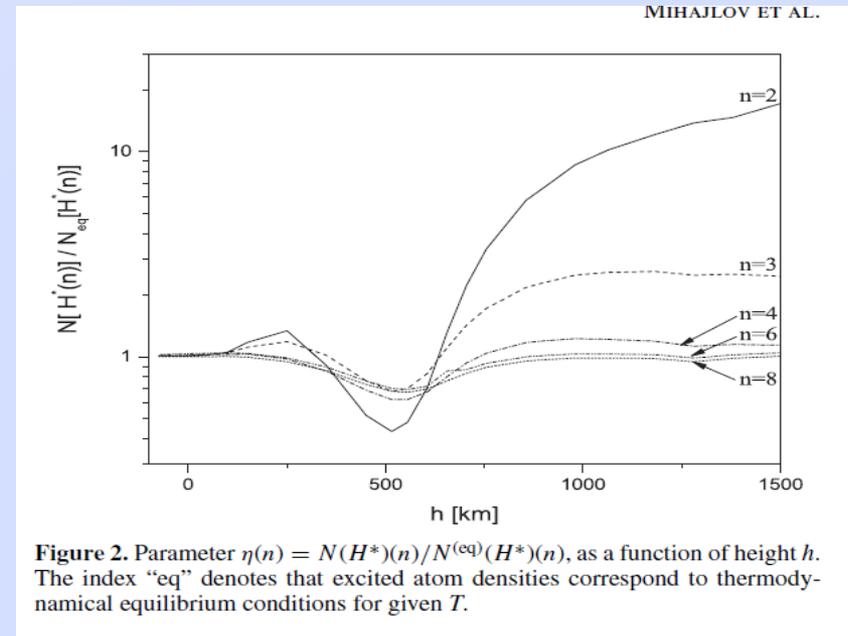
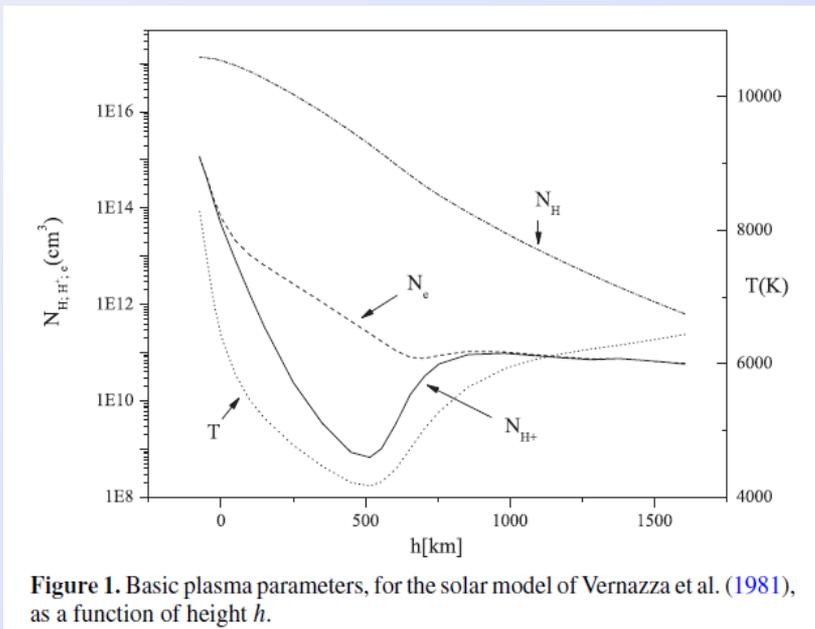
Fig. 7. Line profiles with (full) and without (dashed) inclusion of chemi-ionization and chemi-recombination processes for  $H_\beta$  line.

**Important thing:** Besides all that is mentioned above, the fact that the processes (1)–(2) could be very important for the solar photosphere is supported by the results obtained in Mihajlov et al. (2003a, 2007b), where these processes were included ab initio in a non-LTE modeling of an M red dwarf atmosphere with the effective temperature  $T_{\text{eff}} = 3800$  K, using PHOENIX code (see Baron & Hauschildt 1998; Hauschildt et al. 1999; Short et al. 1999). A fact was established that including even the chemi-ionization/recombination only for  $4 \leq n \leq 8$  generates significant changes (by up to 50%), at least in the populations of hydrogen-atom excited states with  $2 \leq n \leq 20$ , and if all these processes (with  $n \geq 2$ ) are included, a significant change (somewhere up to 2–3 times) is also generated on the free electron density  $N_e$ , and, as one of further consequences, significant changes in hydrogen line profiles.

**Idea:** Keeping in mind that the compositions of the solar and the considered M red dwarf's photospheres are practically the same and the values of hydrogen-atom density,  $N_e$ , and  $T$  in these photospheres change within similar regions (Fontenla et al. 2007; Vernazza et al. 1981; Mihajlov et al. 2007b), one can expect that the influence of processes (1)–(2) on the hydrogen-atom excited states and free-electron populations in the solar atmosphere will be at least close to their influence in that of the M red dwarf, and that these processes will be very important for weakly ionized layers of the solar atmosphere.

# The Considered Model of the Solar Photosphere

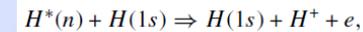
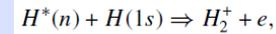
In accordance with the aim of this work, we consider here model C of solar atmosphere from Vernazza et al. (1981) and Fontenla et al. (2007). Namely, this is a non-LTE model which is still actual (see Stix 2002), and it is only for this model that all the quantities necessary for our calculations are available in tabular form as functions of height ( $h$ ) in solar photosphere. In Figure 1, plasma parameters for this model are shown. More significant Fig 2. In Figure 2 are illustrated deviations of non-LTE populations of excited hydrogen atom states with  $2 \leq n \leq 8$  in solar photosphere within the C model of Vernazza et al. (1981). One can see that these deviations are particularly exist for  $n = 2$ . Around  $h = 500$  km  $N(H^*(n = 2))$  is one-half of the corresponding equilibrium density, and for  $h$  larger than 1000 km it is around 10 times greater. These deviations rapidly decrease with an increase of  $n$ . However, even for  $n = 8$  this deviation is around 40% around  $h = 500$  km, illustrating the importance of taking into account the considered processes *ab initio* in the modeling of solar atmosphere



All theoretical data which are needed given in next part:

when one of the processes (1) and (2) is occurred, the ionization probabilities are obtained in the form

$$P_{\text{ci}}^{(a,b)}(n, \rho, E) = \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - e^{-2 \int_{R_0}^{R_n} \frac{W_n(R) dR}{v_{\text{rad}}}} \right),$$



partial cross sections

$$\sigma_{\text{ci}}^{(a,b)}(n, E) = 2\pi \int_0^{\rho_{\text{max}}^{(a,b)}(E)} P_{\text{ci}}^{(a,b)}(n, \rho, E) \rho d\rho,$$

partial rate coefficients for the chemi-ionization processes (1) and (2)

Schematic, steps.

$$K_{\text{ci}}^{(a,b)}(n, T) = \int_{E_{\text{min}}^{(a,b)}(n)}^{E_{\text{max}}} v \sigma_{\text{ci}}^{(a,b)}(n, E) f(v; T) dv,$$

using partial rate coefficients for each channel we will determine the **total** one

Finally, using partial rate coefficients  $K_{\text{ci}}^{(a,b)}(n, T)$ , we will determine the total one, namely,

$$K_{\text{ci}}(n, T) = K_{\text{ci}}^{(a)}(n, T) + K_{\text{ci}}^{(b)}(n, T), \quad (19)$$

The values of the total chemi-ionization rate coefficients obtained in the described way, are presented in Table 1 . This table cover the regions  $2 \leq n \leq 8$  and  $4000 \text{ K} \leq T \leq 10000 \text{ K}$ . **we can analyze importance of ch.ion. for solar photosphere (see Fig. Vernazza)**

$n$  →

**Table 1**  
Calculated Values of Coefficient  $K_{ci}$  ( $\text{cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1}$ ) as a Function of  $n$  and  $T$

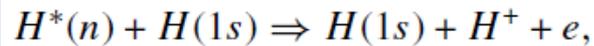
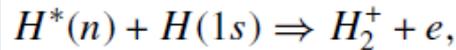
$T$  ↓

| $T$ (K) | $n$       |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|         | 2         | 3         | 4         | 5         | 6         | 7         | 8         |
| 4000    | 0.150E-11 | 0.619E-09 | 0.126E-08 | 0.576E-09 | 0.554E-09 | 0.463E-09 | 0.366E-09 |
| 4250    | 0.202E-11 | 0.549E-09 | 0.106E-08 | 0.617E-09 | 0.583E-09 | 0.482E-09 | 0.378E-09 |
| 4500    | 0.260E-11 | 0.501E-09 | 0.900E-09 | 0.656E-09 | 0.611E-09 | 0.500E-09 | 0.389E-09 |
| 4750    | 0.324E-11 | 0.488E-09 | 0.833E-09 | 0.694E-09 | 0.637E-09 | 0.517E-09 | 0.400E-09 |
| 5000    | 0.403E-11 | 0.495E-09 | 0.815E-09 | 0.730E-09 | 0.662E-09 | 0.533E-09 | 0.410E-09 |
| 5250    | 0.504E-11 | 0.501E-09 | 0.800E-09 | 0.765E-09 | 0.686E-09 | 0.548E-09 | 0.420E-09 |
| 5500    | 0.623E-11 | 0.500E-09 | 0.782E-09 | 0.799E-09 | 0.709E-09 | 0.563E-09 | 0.428E-09 |
| 5750    | 0.756E-11 | 0.493E-09 | 0.764E-09 | 0.832E-09 | 0.731E-09 | 0.576E-09 | 0.437E-09 |
| 6000    | 0.909E-11 | 0.490E-09 | 0.757E-09 | 0.864E-09 | 0.752E-09 | 0.589E-09 | 0.445E-09 |
| 6250    | 0.108E-10 | 0.502E-09 | 0.766E-09 | 0.895E-09 | 0.772E-09 | 0.602E-09 | 0.453E-09 |
| 6500    | 0.128E-10 | 0.519E-09 | 0.783E-09 | 0.924E-09 | 0.791E-09 | 0.613E-09 | 0.460E-09 |
| 7000    | 0.175E-10 | 0.540E-09 | 0.808E-09 | 0.981E-09 | 0.827E-09 | 0.635E-09 | 0.473E-09 |
| 7500    | 0.232E-10 | 0.574E-09 | 0.848E-09 | 0.103E-08 | 0.860E-09 | 0.655E-09 | 0.485E-09 |
| 8000    | 0.300E-10 | 0.609E-09 | 0.891E-09 | 0.108E-08 | 0.892E-09 | 0.674E-09 | 0.497E-09 |
| 8500    | 0.380E-10 | 0.650E-09 | 0.939E-09 | 0.113E-08 | 0.920E-09 | 0.691E-09 | 0.507E-09 |
| 9000    | 0.470E-10 | 0.688E-09 | 0.986E-09 | 0.118E-08 | 0.948E-09 | 0.707E-09 | 0.516E-09 |
| 9500    | 0.574E-10 | 0.733E-09 | 0.104E-08 | 0.122E-08 | 0.973E-09 | 0.722E-09 | 0.525E-09 |
| 10000   | 0.689E-10 | 0.787E-09 | 0.109E-08 | 0.126E-08 | 0.997E-09 | 0.736E-09 | 0.533E-09 |

Relative contribution of partial chemi-ionization processes for given  $n$  and  $T$  with respect to the ch.-ion. total one are characterized by the corresponding branch coefficients

$$X_{\text{ci}}^{(a,b)}(n, T) = \frac{K_{\text{ci}}^{(a,b)}(n, T)}{K_{\text{ci}}(n, T)},$$

$$K_{\text{ci}}(n, T) = K_{\text{ci}}^{(a)}(n, T) + K_{\text{ci}}^{(b)}(n, T),$$



when  $T$  increases  $X$  decreases i.e. rate coefficient for asoc. ion. (1) is smaller comparing to process (2) as is expected.



relative contributions of the associative ionization

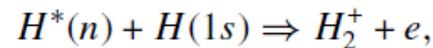
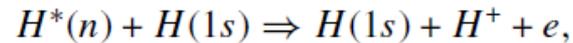
**Table 3**  
Calculated Values of Coefficient  $X^{(a)} \equiv K_{\text{ci}}^{(a)}/K_{\text{ci}} = K_{\text{cr}}^{(a)}/K_{\text{cr}}$  as a Function of  $n$  and  $T$

| $T$ (K) | $n$   |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|         | 2     | 3     | 4     | 5     | 6     | 7     | 8     |
| 4000    | 0.998 | 0.955 | 0.877 | 0.507 | 0.408 | 0.335 | 0.281 |
| 4250    | 0.969 | 0.934 | 0.827 | 0.484 | 0.388 | 0.318 | 0.266 |
| 4500    | 0.924 | 0.907 | 0.765 | 0.463 | 0.371 | 0.303 | 0.254 |
| 4750    | 0.872 | 0.881 | 0.709 | 0.443 | 0.354 | 0.289 | 0.242 |
| 5000    | 0.819 | 0.857 | 0.664 | 0.425 | 0.339 | 0.277 | 0.231 |
| 5250    | 0.769 | 0.831 | 0.619 | 0.408 | 0.325 | 0.265 | 0.221 |
| 5500    | 0.721 | 0.800 | 0.568 | 0.393 | 0.312 | 0.254 | 0.212 |
| 5750    | 0.673 | 0.764 | 0.515 | 0.378 | 0.300 | 0.244 | 0.203 |
| 6000    | 0.627 | 0.728 | 0.466 | 0.364 | 0.288 | 0.235 | 0.196 |
| 6250    | 0.585 | 0.699 | 0.430 | 0.351 | 0.278 | 0.226 | 0.188 |
| 6500    | 0.546 | 0.672 | 0.399 | 0.339 | 0.268 | 0.218 | 0.182 |
| 7000    | 0.474 | 0.610 | 0.336 | 0.317 | 0.250 | 0.204 | 0.169 |
| 7500    | 0.414 | 0.558 | 0.289 | 0.297 | 0.235 | 0.190 | 0.158 |
| 8000    | 0.363 | 0.510 | 0.250 | 0.280 | 0.221 | 0.179 | 0.149 |
| 8500    | 0.321 | 0.469 | 0.220 | 0.264 | 0.208 | 0.169 | 0.141 |
| 9000    | 0.287 | 0.429 | 0.193 | 0.250 | 0.197 | 0.160 | 0.133 |
| 9500    | 0.258 | 0.398 | 0.174 | 0.237 | 0.187 | 0.151 | 0.126 |
| 10000   | 0.234 | 0.376 | 0.160 | 0.225 | 0.177 | 0.144 | 0.120 |

## Comparison of Fluxes of the Considered Processes and concurrent

$I_{ci}(n, T)$  is the **total flux caused by the chemi-ionization processes (1, 2)**

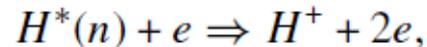
$$I_{ci}(n, T) = K_{ci}(n, T) \cdot N_n N_1,$$



where  $N_1$ ,  $N_n$ ,  $N_i$ , and  $N_e$  are, respectively, the densities of the ground and excited states of a hydrogen atom, of ion  $H^+$ , and of free electron in the considered plasma with given  $T$ .

and  $I_{i;ea}(n, T)$ , be the **fluxes caused by the concurrent ionization processes**

$$I_{i;ea}(n, T) = K_{ea}(n, T) \cdot N_n N_e,$$



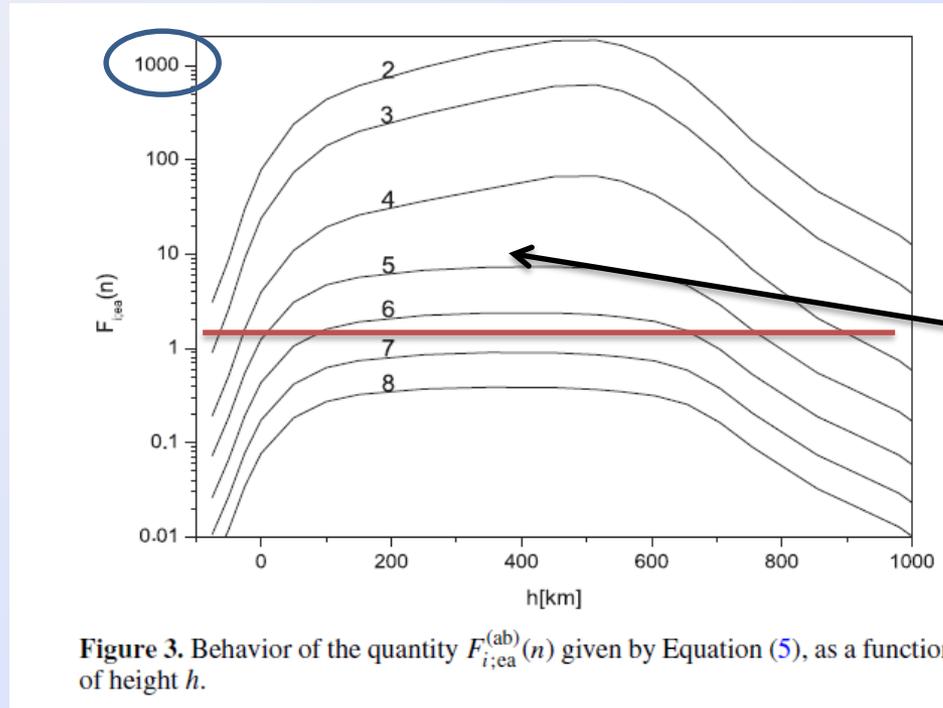
Using these expressions, we first calculate **quantities  $F_i(n, T)$**  which characterize the relative efficiency of **partial** chemi-ionization processes (1, 2) together and the impact electron–atom ionization (3) in the considered plasma.

$$F_i(n, T) = \frac{I_{ci}(n, T)}{I_{i;ea}(n, T)} = \frac{K_{ci}(n, T)}{K_{ea}(n, T)} \cdot N_1 / N_e, \quad \text{RATIO}$$

impact ionization rate coefficients  $K_{ea}(n, T)$  are taken from Vriens & Smeets (1980).

$$F_i(n, T) = \frac{I_{ci}(n, T)}{I_{i;ea}(n, T)} = \frac{K_{ci}(n, T)}{K_{ea}(n, T)} \cdot N_1/N_e,$$

Partial i.e. for every  $n$



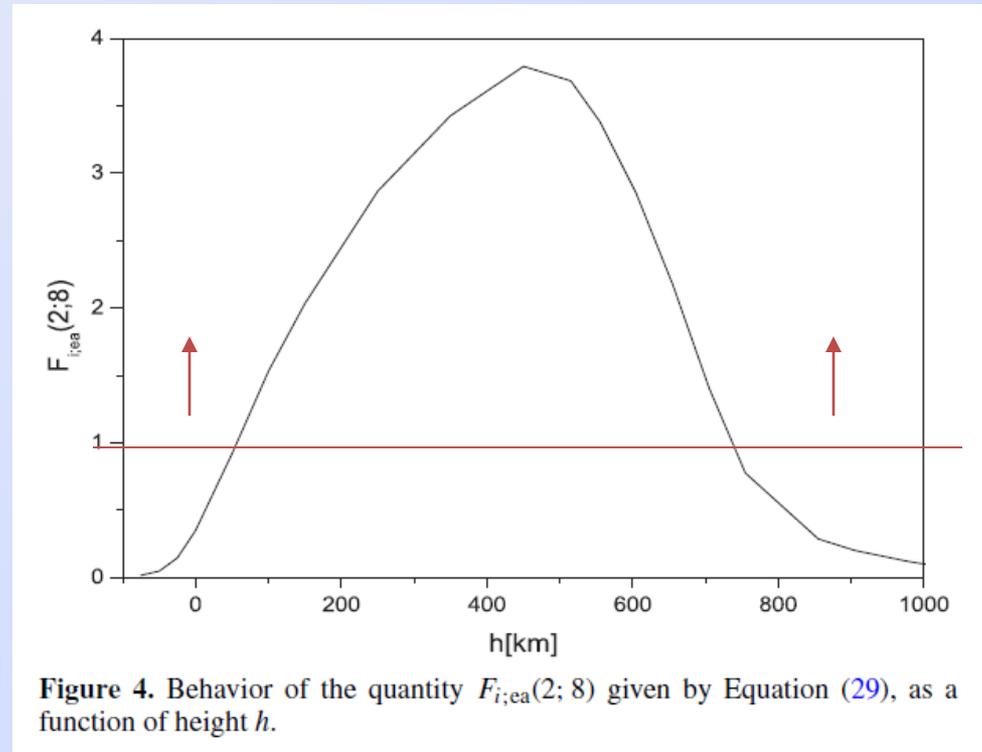
In Figure 3, the behavior of the quantities  $F_{i;ea}(n, T)$  for  $2 \leq n \leq 8$  as functions of height  $h$  is shown, according to the data ( $N_1$  ground state density,  $N_e$ , and  $T$ ) from Vernazza et al. (1981) for solar photosphere. One can see that the efficiency of the considered chemi-ionization processes in comparison with the electron-atom impact ionization is dominant for  $2 \leq n \leq 6$  and becomes comparable for  $n = 7$  and 8.

in order to compare the relative influence of the chemi-ionization processes (1) and (2) **together** to that of the impact electron–atom ionization process (5) on the whole block of the excited hydrogen atom states with  $2 \leq n \leq 8$ , we will calculate quantity  $F_{i,ea;2-8}(T)$ , given by

summing

$$F_{i,ea;2-8}(T) = \frac{\sum_{n=2}^8 I_{ci}(n, T)}{\sum_{n=2}^8 I_{i,ea}(n, T)}$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{n=2}^8 K_{ci}(n, T) \cdot N_n}{\sum_{n=2}^8 K_{ea}(n, T) \cdot N_n} \cdot N/N_e,$$



In Figure 4, the behavior of the quantity  $F_{i,ea;2-8}(T)$  as functions of height  $h$  is shown according to the same data from Vernazza et al. (1981). As one can see, **the real influence of the chemi-ionization processes on the total populations of states with  $2 \leq n \leq 8$  remains dominant with respect to the concurrent electron–atom impact ionization processes almost in the whole photosphere ( $50 \text{ km} \leq h \leq 750 \text{ km}$ ).** This means that the chemi-ionization processes influence the radiative properties of the whole solar atmosphere in the optical region.

## Main result. From ApJS few years ago 2011

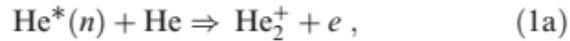
The obtained results demonstrate the fact that the considered chemi-ionization processes have a very significant influence on the optical properties of the solar photosphere in comparison with the concurrent electron–atom impact ionization processes.

Thus, it is shown that the importance of these processes for non-LTE modeling of solar atmosphere should be necessarily investigated.

End of the first part for solar atmospheres

## WD atmospheres

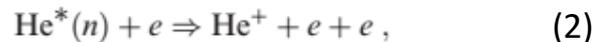
Present the investigation of symmetrical **chemi-ionization processes** of the helium atom in **weakly ionized layers** of helium-rich DB white dwarfs.



symmetrical chemi-ionization processes have been considered in domains of principal quantum numbers  $n \geq 3$  and temperatures  $12\,000\text{ K} \leq T_{\text{eff}} \leq 30\,000\text{ K}$

Results showed that these processes can be dominant ionization mechanisms in helium-rich DB white dwarf atmosphere layers for  $\log g = 7$  and  $8$  and  $T_{\text{eff}} \leq 20000\text{ K}$  and have to be implemented in relevant models of weakly ionized helium plasmas

The influence of examined processes is determined by comparison with other relevant ionization processes, electron-Rydberg atom impact ionization



## Theory

**total** chemi-ionization rate coefficients as sum of partial (1a) and (1b).

$$K_i^{(ab)}(n; T) = K_i^{(a)}(n; T) + K_i^{(b)}(n; T) ,$$

$I_i^{(a;b)}$  denote **part. fluxes** due to processes (1a)–(2b), respectively.

$$I_i^{(a)}(n; T) = K_i^{(a)}(n, T) \cdot N(\text{He}) \cdot N(\text{He}^*(n)) ,$$

$$I_i^{(b)}(n; T) = K_i^{(b)}(n, T) \cdot N(\text{He}) \cdot N(\text{He}^*(n)) ,$$

where  $N(\text{He})$  and  $N(\text{He}^*(n))$  denote He( $1s^2$ ) atom and He $^*(n)$  Rydberg atom ( $n \geq 3$ ) densities, and  $K_i^a(n; T)$  and  $K_i^b(n; T)$  denote rate coefficients of processes (1a) and (1b).

We have the **total chemi-ionization fluxes**  $I_i^{(ab)}$

$$I_i^{(ab)}(n; T) = I_i^{(a)}(n; T) + I_i^{(b)}(n; T) ,$$

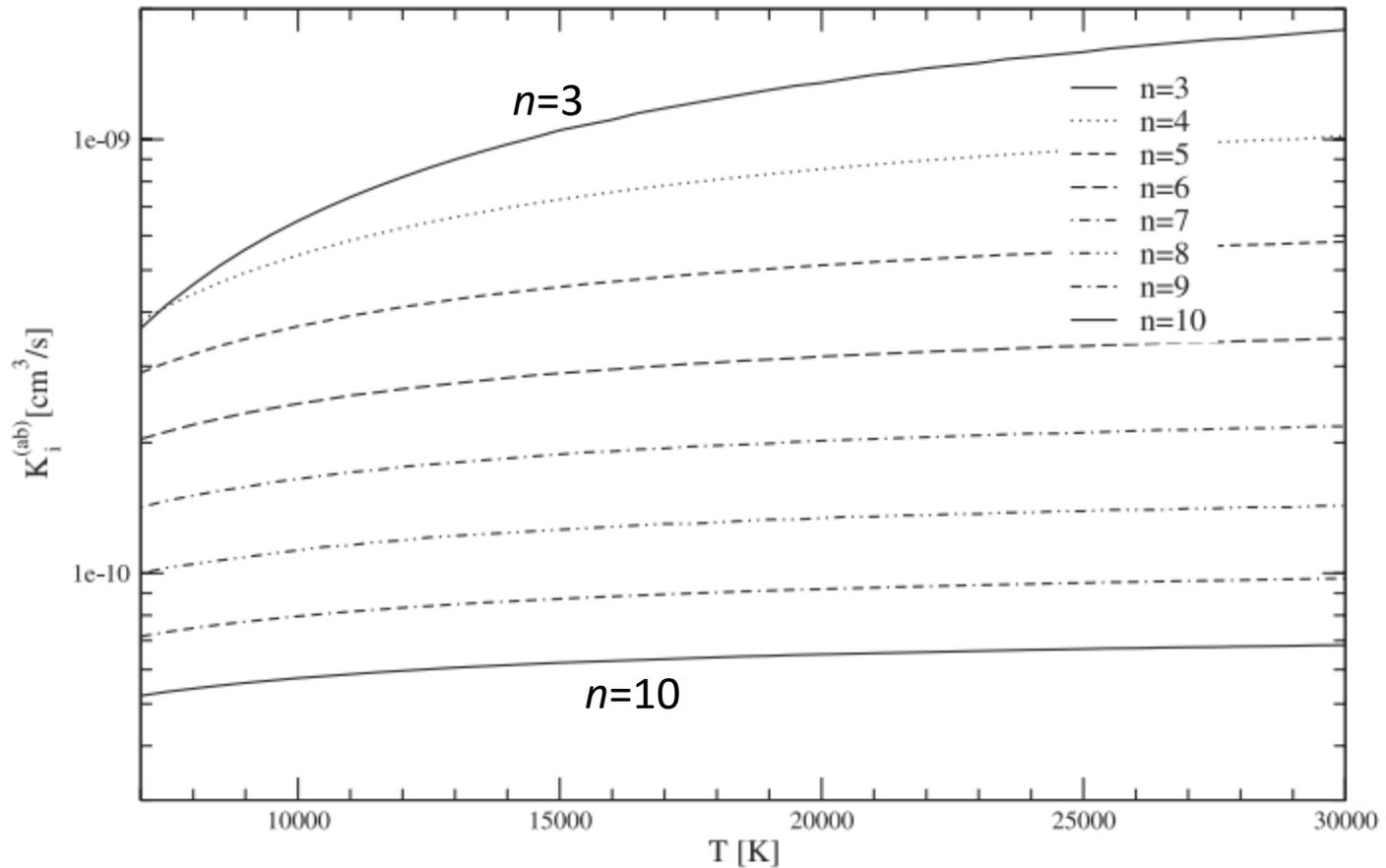


FIG. 1.—Total chemi-ionization rate coefficients,  $K_i^{(ab)}(n, T)$ , with  $7000 \text{ K} \leq T \leq 30,000 \text{ K}$  and for principal quantum numbers  $n = 3-10$

Rate coefficient as a function of temp.

Parameter  $X$  which describe the relative importance of the particular channel (“a” and “b”) of the considered processes.

$$X_{ir;a,b}^{(ab)}(n, T) = \frac{I_i^{(a,b)}(n, T)}{I_i^{(ab)}(n, T)}$$

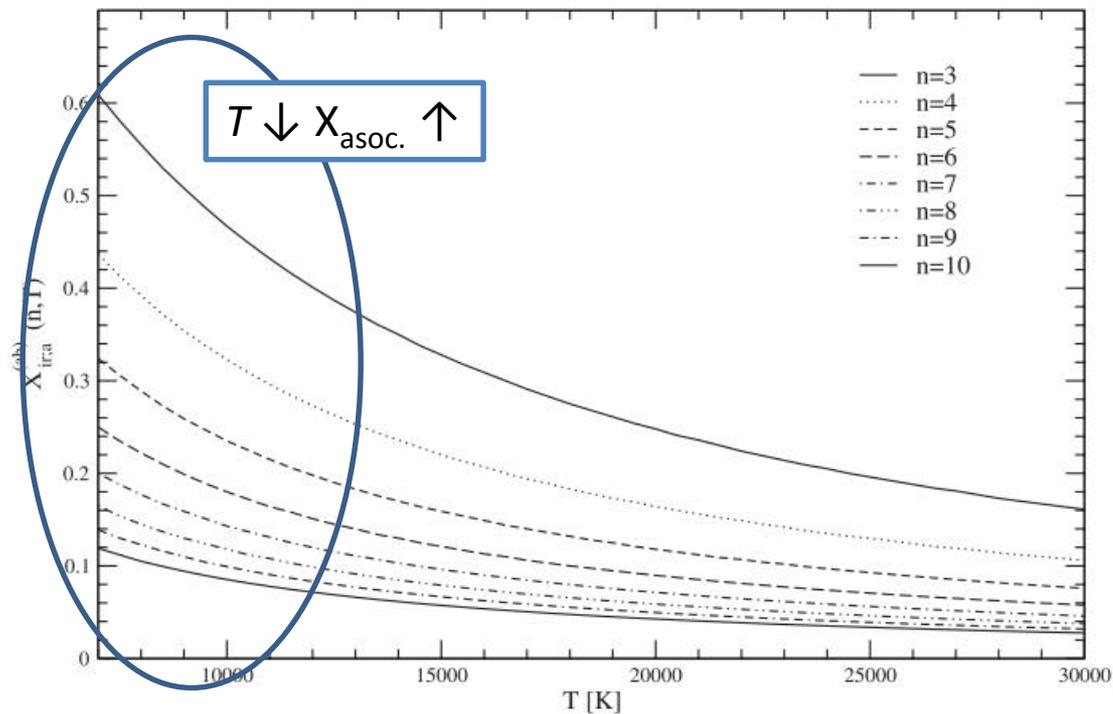
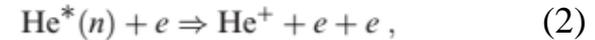


FIG. 3.—Same as in Fig. 1 but for the parameter  $X_{ir;a}^{(ab)}(n, T)$ , characterizing the relative importance of the particular channel (“a” and “b”) for the chemi-ionization and chemi-recombination processes.

Other, concurrent ionization processes

electron-excited atom impact ionization (eq. [2])



flux

$$I_i^{(ea)}(n, T) = \alpha_i^{(ea)}(n, T) \cdot N(\text{He}^*(n)) \cdot N(e),$$

$\alpha_i^{(ea)}(n, T)$  the ionization and rate coefficients determined by semiempirical expressions from Vriens & Smeets (1980).

The relative importance of chemi-ionization (eqs. [1a]– [1b]) processes in comparison with electron-excited atom impact ionization (eq. [3]), processes is characterized by parameters  $F_{ir}^{(ab)}$  defined as ratios of the corresponding fluxes:

where  $\eta_e^a$  denotes He atom and free electron densities ratio

$$F_{ir}^{(ab)}(n, T) = \frac{I_i^{(ab)}(n, T)}{I_i^{(ea)}(n, T)}$$

$$F_{ir}^{(ab)}(n, T) = \frac{K_i^{(ab)}(n, T)}{\alpha_i^{(ea)}(n, T)} \cdot \eta_e^a$$

$$\eta_e^a = \frac{N(\text{He})}{N(e)}.$$

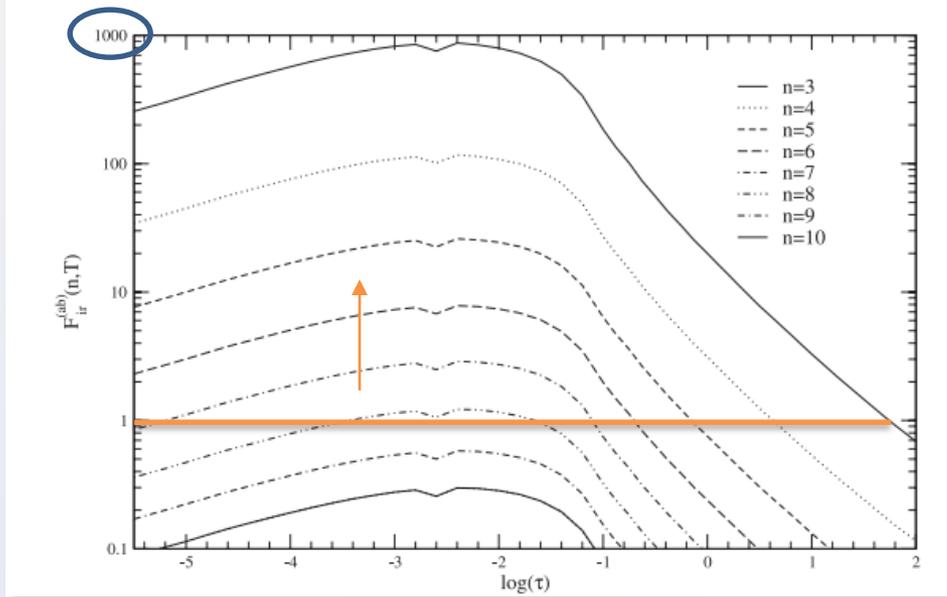


FIG. 4.—Parameter  $F_{ir}^{(ab)}(n, T)$  as a function of the logarithm of Rosseland optical depth  $\log \tau$ , for principal quantum numbers  $n = 3-10$ , with  $T_{eff} = 12,000$  K and  $\log g = 8$ .

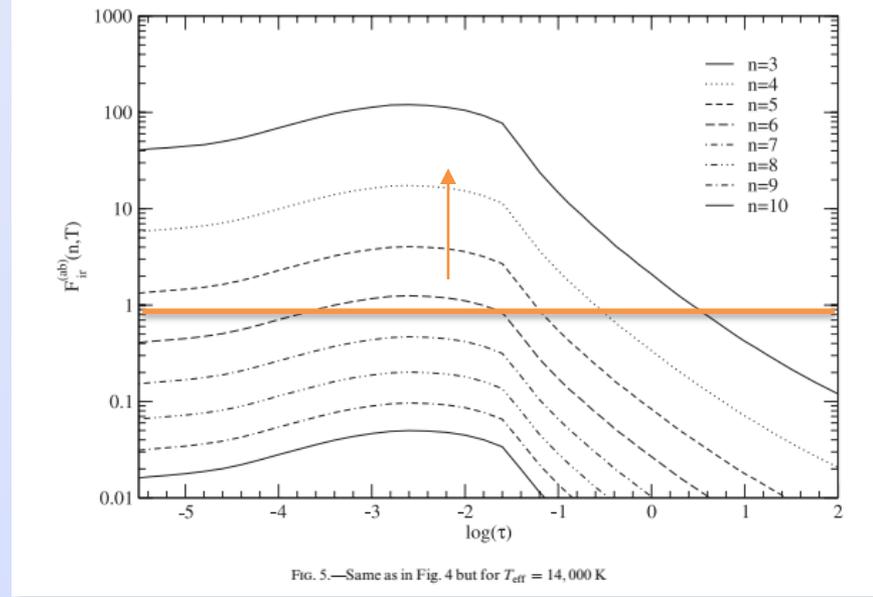


FIG. 5.—Same as in Fig. 4 but for  $T_{eff} = 14,000$  K

$T_{eff} \uparrow \quad F \downarrow$

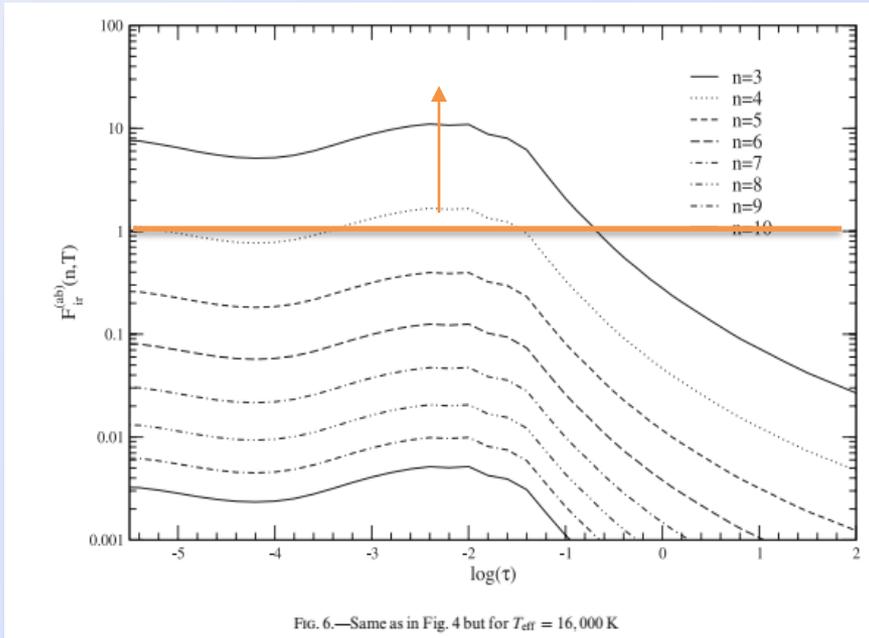


FIG. 6.—Same as in Fig. 4 but for  $T_{eff} = 16,000$  K

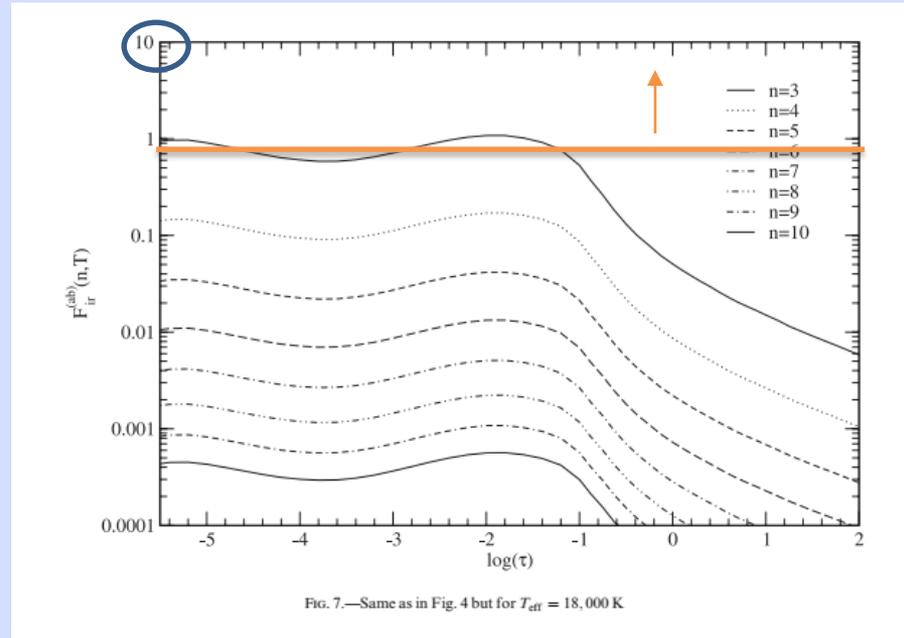


FIG. 7.—Same as in Fig. 4 but for  $T_{eff} = 18,000$  K

## Conclusion

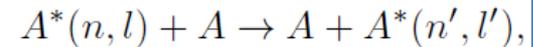
from the papers we published few years ago in ApJS and Baltic Astr. 2011 is

The influence of the chemi-ionization (eqs. [1a]–[1b]) processes must be taken into account for the *ab initio* modeling of helium-rich DB white dwarf atmospheres, for  $\log g = 7$  and 8 and  $T_{\text{eff}} \leq 20\,000$  K, since they would influence the basic structure of the atmosphere model. These results and similar ones for hydrogen solar plasma clearly proved the importance of the symmetrical chemi-ionization processes in weakly ionized layers of stellar atmospheres.

End of the first part for WD atmospheres

In our previous research has been **notice** that such inelastic processes in atom Rydberg-atom collisions, as chemi-ionization and (n-n') mixing, should be **considered together**.

In this context will be considered the **influence of the (n-n')-mixing during a symmetric atom Rydberg-atom collision processes on the intensity of chemi-ionization process**. It will be taken into account  $A + A^*(n,l)$  collisional systems, where the principal quantum number  $n \gg 1$ , where  $A=H$  or  $He$



For the first time theoretically to describe together with 1 rate coeff.

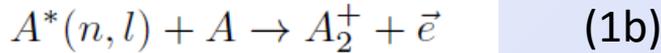
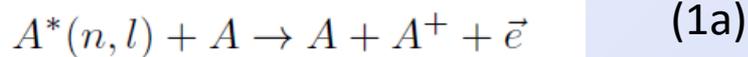
Real influence of atom-Rydberg atom processes (chi+mix) in stellar atm.

It will be demonstrated that the inclusion of (n-n') mixing in the calculation, influences significantly on the values of chemi-ionization rate coefficients (**reducing it**), particularly in the lower part of the block of the Rydberg states.

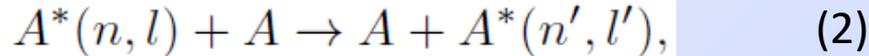
Two groups of inelastic processes in slow atom- Rydberg atom collisions, namely: chemi-ionization processes, including the processes of associative ionization and the processes of so called (n-n')-mixing, were for a longer time examined and discussed in literature. Let us note that **concerning the processes of chemi-ionization, symmetrical as well as non-symmetrical atom-Rydberg atom collisions have been considered, while the (n-n')- mixing processes have been considered only in the case of symmetrical collisions.**

We note that **several unsolved problems** remained concerning the mentioned processes, connected with the fact that theoretical investigations and **interpretation of existing experimental results have been based on the semi-classical approximation**. However, as the principal problem we see the fact that the processes of chemi-ionization and (n-n')-mixing in symmetrical atom-Rydberg atom collisions have been **up to now considered independently**, in spite that one considers that as the ones as well the others are conditioned **by the same mechanism**<sup>2</sup>. We have in view here the so called dipole resonant mechanism, described several times in literature and discussed in details in Mihajlov et al. (2012).

chemi-ionization processes



and (n-n')-mixing processes, i.e. excitation-deexcitation processes



where  $A$  and  $A^*(n, l)$  denote atoms in the ground and in a highly excited (Rydberg) state with the given principal and orbital quantum numbers  $n$  and  $l$ ,  $A^+$  and  $\vec{e}$  - atomic ion in the ground state and free electron, and  $A_2^+$  molecular ion in the ground state. These processes are illustrated in Fig 1a and Fig 1b.

In this work we will investigate the influence of processes (2) on the processes of chemi-ionization (1a) and (1b).

Here, **as first** is described for this purpose, the way of inclusion of process (2) in the procedure of calculation of rate coefficients of the chemi-ionization processes (1a,b).

Their values are determined under the conditions characteristic for the Solar photosphere in the case  $A = \text{H}(1s)$  and  $A = \text{He}(1s^2)$  in the case of atmosphere of DB white dwarfs.

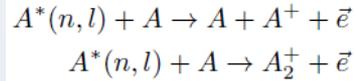
Then, the determined here values of these rate coefficients, are compared with the rate coefficients of the same chemi-ionization processes, determined also for the Solar photosphere and DB WD atm. in the previous articles Mihajlov et al. (2003, 2011a, 2011b), but without inclusion of (n-n')-mixing processes. We draw attention that, as a difference from this previous article, chemi-ionization rate coefficients are here without the simplification of the expression for Gaunt factor,

Expressions now **without simplification** comparing to Mihajlov et al. (2003;2011) and **with averaging**

Besides, here, as a difference from Mihajlov et al. (2003; 2011a; 2011b), the average chemi-ionization rate coefficient for a given  $n$  is obtained as a result of the corresponding averaging of partial chemi-ionization rate coefficients for every  $l$  where  $0 \leq l \leq n-1$ .  $l$  orbital quantum number and  $n$  principal q.n

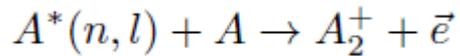
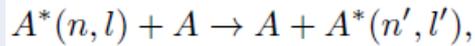
## 2. THE THEORY

### 2.1. General formulas



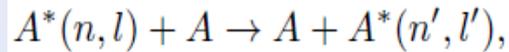
A)

+ pre-ionization



B)

+ pre-ionization



$K_{1a}(n; l; T)$  and  $K_{1b}(n; l; T)$  are partial rate coefficients of processes (1a) and (1b) (+pre-ionization), separately determined for given  $n$ ,  $l$  and  $T$ , where  $T$  is temperature of the considered plasma,

$K_I(n; l; T)$  is the partial rate coefficient of processes (1a) and (1b)(+ pre-ionization) **together**, namely  $K_I(n; l; T) = K_{1a}(n; l; T) + K_{1b}(n; l; T)$  for given  $n$ ,  $l$  and  $T$ .

average tot. rate coefficient for 1a and 1b

$$K_{1;n}(T) = \frac{1}{n^2} \cdot \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} (2l+1) \cdot K_1(n, l; T),$$

average rate coefficient for associative ionization

$$K_{1b;n}(T) = \frac{1}{n^2} \cdot \sum_{l=0}^{n-1} (2l+1) \cdot K_{1b}(n, l; T).$$

Partial rate coefficients  $K_{1a}(n; l; T)$  and  $K_{1b}(n; l; T)$  are determined on the basis of standard expressions

$$K_{1a}(n, l; T) = \int_{E_{n;l}}^{\infty} \sigma_{1a}(n, l; E) \left( \frac{2E}{\mu_{red}} \right) f_T(E) dE,$$

$$K_{1b}(n, l; T) = \int_{E_{n;l}}^{\infty} \sigma_{1b}(n, l; E) \left( \frac{2E}{\mu_{red}} \right) f_T(E) dE,$$

$\sigma_{1a}(n, l; E)$  and  $\sigma_{1b}(n, l; E)$  are the corresponding **cross sections**

$$\sigma_{1a}(n, l; E) = 2\pi \int_0^{\rho_{1a;max}} P_{1a}(n, l; \rho; E) \rho d\rho,$$

$$\sigma_{1b}(n, l; E) = 2\pi \int_0^{\rho_{1b;max}} P_{1b}(n, l; \rho; E) \rho d\rho$$

## Probability

$$P_1(n, l; \rho; E) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot p_{\text{keep}}(n, l; \rho; E) \cdot p_{i;1}(n, l; \rho; E), \quad \text{for A) probabil. for process. (1a+1b)+pre-ioniz.}$$
$$P_{1b}(n, l; \rho; E) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot p_{\text{keep}}(n, l; \rho; E) \cdot p_{i;1b}(n, l; \rho; E) \quad \text{for B) probabil. for process. (1b)+pre-ioniz.}$$

chemi-ion. 1b

## Probability of ionization decay

Due to the chemi-ionization

$$p_{i;1}(n, l; \rho; E) = 1.0 - \exp(-2q_{i;1}),$$
$$p_{i;1b}(n, l; \rho; E) = \exp(-q_{i;2}) \cdot [1.0 - \exp(-2q_{i;as})],$$

where the quantities  $q_{i;1}$ ,  $q_{i;2}$  and  $q_{i;as}$  are given as

$$q_{i;as} = q_{i;1} - q_{i;2}, \quad q_{i;1} = \int_{R_0}^{R_{n;i}} \frac{W_i(n, l; R)}{v_{\text{rad}}(E, \rho; R)} dR,$$
$$q_{i;2} = \int_{R_{1b;max}}^{R_{n;i}} \frac{W_i(n, l; R)}{v_{\text{rad}}(E, \rho; R)} dR,$$

## *Probability of pre-ionization decay*

Due to the mixing process.

one can notice that the basic difference, in comparison with previous papers, represents direct taking into account of the effect of decay of the initial electronic state of the considered atom-Rydberg atom system, due to the possibility of execution of excitation processes (2) with  $n' > n$ .

$$p_{keep}(n, l; \rho; E) = \prod_{p=1}^5 p_{p;keep}(n, l; \rho; E),$$

Partial pre-ionization probability

$$p_{p;keep}(n, l; \rho; E) = \exp(-x_p),$$
$$x_p = \int_{R_{n;n+p+1-\delta_n}}^{R_p} \frac{w_{n;n+p}(n, l; R)}{v_{rad}(E, \rho, R)},$$

# Results:

Total values of the **rate coefficients** of chemi-ionization processes (+pre-ionization)  $K_{1,n}(n;T)$  within the range  $3 \leq n \leq 14$  are presented in Tab. 1. Bearing in mind the main application, of here obtained results, on the photosphere and lower chromosphere of the Sun, calculations of these rate coefficients were performed here for temperatures  $4000 \text{ K} \leq T \leq 10000 \text{ K}$ .

## Hydrogen

Table 1  
Calculated Values of Coefficient  $K_{1;n}(T)(\text{cm}^3 \text{ s}^{-1})$  as a function of  $n$  and  $T$ .

| $T$   | $n$      |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|       | 3        | 4        | 5        | 6        | 7        | 8        | 9        | 10       | 11       | 12       | 13       | 14       |          |
| 4000  | 7.17E-12 | 1.54E-10 | 3.58E-10 | 4.28E-10 | 3.98E-10 | 3.30E-10 | 2.61E-10 | 2.06E-10 | 1.63E-10 | 1.28E-10 | 1.02E-10 | 8.14E-11 | 6.51E-11 |
| 4250  | 9.01E-12 | 1.63E-10 | 3.88E-10 | 4.52E-10 | 4.15E-10 | 3.42E-10 | 2.69E-10 | 2.11E-10 | 1.66E-10 | 1.31E-10 | 1.04E-10 | 8.28E-11 | 6.61E-11 |
| 4500  | 1.11E-11 | 1.72E-10 | 4.16E-10 | 4.76E-10 | 4.32E-10 | 3.53E-10 | 2.76E-10 | 2.16E-10 | 1.70E-10 | 1.33E-10 | 1.06E-10 | 8.40E-11 | 6.71E-11 |
| 4750  | 1.33E-11 | 1.83E-10 | 4.43E-10 | 4.98E-10 | 4.48E-10 | 3.63E-10 | 2.83E-10 | 2.20E-10 | 1.73E-10 | 1.35E-10 | 1.07E-10 | 8.51E-11 | 6.81E-11 |
| 5000  | 1.53E-11 | 1.96E-10 | 4.71E-10 | 5.20E-10 | 4.63E-10 | 3.72E-10 | 2.89E-10 | 2.24E-10 | 1.76E-10 | 1.38E-10 | 1.09E-10 | 8.62E-11 | 6.91E-11 |
| 5250  | 1.73E-11 | 2.12E-10 | 4.98E-10 | 5.42E-10 | 4.77E-10 | 3.81E-10 | 2.95E-10 | 2.28E-10 | 1.78E-10 | 1.40E-10 | 1.10E-10 | 8.73E-11 | 7.01E-11 |
| 5500  | 1.96E-11 | 2.31E-10 | 5.26E-10 | 5.63E-10 | 4.90E-10 | 3.89E-10 | 3.01E-10 | 2.31E-10 | 1.80E-10 | 1.41E-10 | 1.11E-10 | 8.84E-11 | 7.11E-11 |
| 5750  | 2.30E-11 | 2.51E-10 | 5.53E-10 | 5.83E-10 | 5.03E-10 | 3.96E-10 | 3.06E-10 | 2.35E-10 | 1.82E-10 | 1.43E-10 | 1.13E-10 | 8.94E-11 | 7.21E-11 |
| 6000  | 2.81E-11 | 2.71E-10 | 5.79E-10 | 6.03E-10 | 5.15E-10 | 4.04E-10 | 3.11E-10 | 2.38E-10 | 1.84E-10 | 1.44E-10 | 1.14E-10 | 9.03E-11 | 7.31E-11 |
| 6250  | 3.53E-11 | 2.91E-10 | 6.03E-10 | 6.21E-10 | 5.26E-10 | 4.11E-10 | 3.16E-10 | 2.41E-10 | 1.86E-10 | 1.46E-10 | 1.15E-10 | 9.12E-11 | 7.41E-11 |
| 6500  | 4.37E-11 | 3.11E-10 | 6.26E-10 | 6.39E-10 | 5.37E-10 | 4.17E-10 | 3.20E-10 | 2.44E-10 | 1.88E-10 | 1.47E-10 | 1.16E-10 | 9.19E-11 | 7.51E-11 |
| 7000  | 6.01E-11 | 3.50E-10 | 6.70E-10 | 6.72E-10 | 5.59E-10 | 4.30E-10 | 3.28E-10 | 2.50E-10 | 1.92E-10 | 1.49E-10 | 1.18E-10 | 9.33E-11 | 7.71E-11 |
| 7500  | 7.08E-11 | 3.90E-10 | 7.13E-10 | 7.03E-10 | 5.80E-10 | 4.43E-10 | 3.36E-10 | 2.55E-10 | 1.95E-10 | 1.51E-10 | 1.20E-10 | 9.46E-11 | 7.91E-11 |
| 8000  | 7.91E-11 | 4.31E-10 | 7.54E-10 | 7.31E-10 | 5.99E-10 | 4.55E-10 | 3.44E-10 | 2.60E-10 | 1.98E-10 | 1.54E-10 | 1.21E-10 | 9.57E-11 | 8.11E-11 |
| 8500  | 8.91E-11 | 4.71E-10 | 7.93E-10 | 7.57E-10 | 6.14E-10 | 4.65E-10 | 3.51E-10 | 2.64E-10 | 2.01E-10 | 1.56E-10 | 1.22E-10 | 9.66E-11 | 8.21E-11 |
| 9000  | 9.91E-11 | 5.13E-10 | 8.27E-10 | 7.82E-10 | 6.27E-10 | 4.74E-10 | 3.56E-10 | 2.68E-10 | 2.04E-10 | 1.58E-10 | 1.23E-10 | 9.74E-11 | 8.31E-11 |
| 9500  | 1.06E-10 | 5.56E-10 | 8.57E-10 | 8.06E-10 | 6.40E-10 | 4.82E-10 | 3.61E-10 | 2.72E-10 | 2.06E-10 | 1.59E-10 | 1.25E-10 | 9.82E-11 | 8.41E-11 |
| 10000 | 1.07E-10 | 6.03E-10 | 8.82E-10 | 8.30E-10 | 6.55E-10 | 4.90E-10 | 3.66E-10 | 2.75E-10 | 2.08E-10 | 1.61E-10 | 1.26E-10 | 9.91E-11 | 8.51E-11 |

The processes (1b) are characterized in this paper via the corresponding branch coefficient  $X_{1b;n}(T)$  given as

Table 2  
Calculated Values of The Branch Coefficient  $X_{1b;n}$  as a function of  $n$  and  $T$ .

| $T$   | $n$   |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |  |  |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--|--|
|       | 3     | 4     | 5     | 6     | 7     | 8     | 9     | 10    | 11    | 12    | 13    | 14    | 15    |  |  |
| 4000  | 0.684 | 0.608 | 0.458 | 0.365 | 0.306 | 0.243 | 0.218 | 0.208 | 0.201 | 0.186 | 0.169 | 0.154 | 0.137 |  |  |
| 4250  | 0.607 | 0.563 | 0.437 | 0.346 | 0.284 | 0.232 | 0.211 | 0.202 | 0.195 | 0.178 | 0.160 | 0.143 | 0.129 |  |  |
| 4500  | 0.543 | 0.519 | 0.421 | 0.329 | 0.265 | 0.222 | 0.206 | 0.198 | 0.189 | 0.170 | 0.152 | 0.132 | 0.122 |  |  |
| 4750  | 0.497 | 0.475 | 0.407 | 0.314 | 0.248 | 0.213 | 0.201 | 0.194 | 0.184 | 0.162 | 0.144 | 0.122 | 0.114 |  |  |
| 5000  | 0.467 | 0.431 | 0.395 | 0.301 | 0.232 | 0.205 | 0.197 | 0.190 | 0.180 | 0.155 | 0.137 | 0.112 | 0.108 |  |  |
| 5250  | 0.473 | 0.427 | 0.370 | 0.284 | 0.223 | 0.201 | 0.193 | 0.185 | 0.172 | 0.146 | 0.130 | 0.109 | 0.104 |  |  |
| 5500  | 0.467 | 0.419 | 0.347 | 0.269 | 0.215 | 0.197 | 0.189 | 0.181 | 0.164 | 0.137 | 0.123 | 0.107 | 0.101 |  |  |
| 5750  | 0.442 | 0.411 | 0.328 | 0.254 | 0.208 | 0.193 | 0.186 | 0.177 | 0.157 | 0.128 | 0.116 | 0.104 | 0.098 |  |  |
| 6000  | 0.397 | 0.403 | 0.310 | 0.242 | 0.201 | 0.190 | 0.183 | 0.173 | 0.150 | 0.119 | 0.110 | 0.101 | 0.095 |  |  |
| 6250  | 0.349 | 0.380 | 0.294 | 0.229 | 0.197 | 0.187 | 0.179 | 0.166 | 0.142 | 0.116 | 0.107 | 0.099 | 0.092 |  |  |
| 6500  | 0.308 | 0.360 | 0.279 | 0.218 | 0.194 | 0.184 | 0.175 | 0.159 | 0.134 | 0.113 | 0.104 | 0.096 | 0.089 |  |  |
| 7000  | 0.263 | 0.327 | 0.254 | 0.198 | 0.187 | 0.178 | 0.169 | 0.146 | 0.118 | 0.106 | 0.098 | 0.092 | 0.083 |  |  |
| 7500  | 0.223 | 0.292 | 0.234 | 0.190 | 0.180 | 0.172 | 0.157 | 0.133 | 0.112 | 0.101 | 0.093 | 0.086 | 0.078 |  |  |
| 8000  | 0.199 | 0.263 | 0.216 | 0.183 | 0.173 | 0.167 | 0.146 | 0.120 | 0.105 | 0.096 | 0.087 | 0.081 | 0.073 |  |  |
| 8500  | 0.198 | 0.243 | 0.194 | 0.178 | 0.169 | 0.161 | 0.134 | 0.112 | 0.100 | 0.092 | 0.083 | 0.075 | 0.070 |  |  |
| 9000  | 0.198 | 0.225 | 0.175 | 0.173 | 0.165 | 0.156 | 0.123 | 0.105 | 0.095 | 0.087 | 0.080 | 0.069 | 0.067 |  |  |
| 9500  | 0.201 | 0.210 | 0.164 | 0.167 | 0.161 | 0.142 | 0.116 | 0.099 | 0.091 | 0.084 | 0.075 | 0.067 | 0.065 |  |  |
| 10000 | 0.218 | 0.196 | 0.155 | 0.161 | 0.156 | 0.129 | 0.109 | 0.095 | 0.087 | 0.081 | 0.071 | 0.066 | 0.063 |  |  |

when  $T$  increases  $X$  decreases i.e. rate coefficient for assoc. ion. (1) is smaller comparing to process (2) as is expected.

In accordance with the above said rate coefficients are determined here by adding on of the probability of the decay of the initial state of the collisional system in pre-ionization zone with Rydberg electron transitions from state  $|n\rangle$  to state  $|n+p\rangle$ , where  $1 \leq p \leq 5$ .

Helium

$n$  

$T$  

**Table 3**  
Calculated Values of Coefficient  $K_{1;n}(T)(\text{cm}^3 \text{s}^{-1})$  as a function of  $n$  and  $T$ . Helium case.

| $T$   | $n$      |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|       | 3        | 4        | 5        | 6        | 7        | 8        | 9        | 10       | 11       | 12       | 13       | 14       | 15       |
| 7000  | 1.54E-11 | 8.33E-11 | 1.53E-10 | 1.43E-10 | 1.15E-10 | 8.78E-11 | 6.59E-11 | 4.95E-11 | 3.78E-11 | 2.92E-11 | 2.27E-11 | 1.81E-11 | 1.45E-11 |
| 8000  | 2.10E-11 | 1.11E-10 | 1.70E-10 | 1.59E-10 | 1.23E-10 | 9.25E-11 | 6.90E-11 | 5.13E-11 | 3.93E-11 | 3.03E-11 | 2.34E-11 | 1.85E-11 | 1.48E-11 |
| 10000 | 3.36E-11 | 1.75E-10 | 2.06E-10 | 1.76E-10 | 1.35E-10 | 1.00E-10 | 7.33E-11 | 5.45E-11 | 4.11E-11 | 3.16E-11 | 2.44E-11 | 1.92E-11 | 1.53E-11 |
| 12000 | 4.74E-11 | 2.11E-10 | 2.41E-10 | 1.93E-10 | 1.45E-10 | 1.06E-10 | 7.69E-11 | 5.68E-11 | 4.26E-11 | 3.26E-11 | 2.51E-11 | 1.98E-11 | 1.57E-11 |
| 14000 | 6.75E-11 | 2.44E-10 | 2.64E-10 | 2.08E-10 | 1.53E-10 | 1.11E-10 | 7.99E-11 | 5.87E-11 | 4.39E-11 | 3.34E-11 | 2.57E-11 | 2.02E-11 | 1.60E-11 |
| 16000 | 8.57E-11 | 2.71E-10 | 2.87E-10 | 2.19E-10 | 1.59E-10 | 1.14E-10 | 8.23E-11 | 6.03E-11 | 4.47E-11 | 3.42E-11 | 2.61E-11 | 2.06E-11 | 1.63E-11 |
| 18000 | 9.83E-11 | 2.89E-10 | 3.05E-10 | 2.30E-10 | 1.65E-10 | 1.17E-10 | 8.42E-11 | 6.15E-11 | 4.57E-11 | 3.46E-11 | 2.66E-11 | 2.08E-11 | 1.65E-11 |
| 20000 | 1.13E-10 | 3.02E-10 | 3.21E-10 | 2.39E-10 | 1.70E-10 | 1.20E-10 | 8.62E-11 | 6.24E-11 | 4.64E-11 | 3.52E-11 | 2.69E-11 | 2.11E-11 | 1.67E-11 |
| 22000 | 1.29E-10 | 3.17E-10 | 3.30E-10 | 2.47E-10 | 1.74E-10 | 1.23E-10 | 8.77E-11 | 6.34E-11 | 4.71E-11 | 3.56E-11 | 2.72E-11 | 2.13E-11 | 1.69E-11 |
| 24000 | 1.49E-10 | 3.33E-10 | 3.36E-10 | 2.54E-10 | 1.78E-10 | 1.25E-10 | 8.87E-11 | 6.42E-11 | 4.76E-11 | 3.60E-11 | 2.75E-11 | 2.15E-11 | 1.70E-11 |

**Table 4**

Calculated Values of The Branch Coefficient  $X_{1b;n}$  as a function of  $n$  and  $T$ . Helium case.

| $T$   | $n$   |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|       | 3     | 4     | 5     | 6     | 7     | 8     | 9     | 10    | 11    | 12    | 13    | 14    | 15    |
| 7000  | 0.472 | 0.379 | 0.304 | 0.250 | 0.216 | 0.193 | 0.173 | 0.154 | 0.132 | 0.116 | 0.103 | 0.097 | 0.089 |
| 8000  | 0.424 | 0.342 | 0.273 | 0.226 | 0.195 | 0.175 | 0.155 | 0.138 | 0.118 | 0.104 | 0.093 | 0.087 | 0.080 |
| 10000 | 0.338 | 0.276 | 0.221 | 0.186 | 0.161 | 0.144 | 0.127 | 0.112 | 0.096 | 0.085 | 0.077 | 0.072 | 0.066 |
| 12000 | 0.269 | 0.221 | 0.181 | 0.156 | 0.135 | 0.120 | 0.106 | 0.093 | 0.081 | 0.072 | 0.066 | 0.061 | 0.057 |
| 14000 | 0.215 | 0.179 | 0.151 | 0.133 | 0.116 | 0.102 | 0.090 | 0.079 | 0.070 | 0.063 | 0.058 | 0.054 | 0.050 |
| 16000 | 0.176 | 0.149 | 0.129 | 0.115 | 0.100 | 0.088 | 0.078 | 0.069 | 0.062 | 0.056 | 0.051 | 0.048 | 0.045 |
| 18000 | 0.150 | 0.129 | 0.113 | 0.101 | 0.088 | 0.078 | 0.068 | 0.061 | 0.055 | 0.050 | 0.046 | 0.043 | 0.040 |
| 20000 | 0.132 | 0.115 | 0.101 | 0.090 | 0.078 | 0.070 | 0.061 | 0.056 | 0.050 | 0.045 | 0.041 | 0.039 | 0.036 |
| 22000 | 0.119 | 0.105 | 0.092 | 0.082 | 0.071 | 0.064 | 0.055 | 0.051 | 0.045 | 0.041 | 0.037 | 0.035 | 0.032 |
| 24000 | 0.107 | 0.095 | 0.084 | 0.075 | 0.066 | 0.058 | 0.051 | 0.046 | 0.041 | 0.037 | 0.034 | 0.031 | 0.029 |

As expected

To make it possible to estimate the significance of the changes, introduced here, of this method of determining the rate coefficients of the considered chemi-ionization processes in relation to the method from Mihajlov et al. (2011), here are determined not only values of summary rate coefficient  $K_{i;n}(T)$ , but also the values of rate coefficient  $K_{i;n}^*(T)$  which one obtains if one takes that  $p_{keep}(n, l; \rho; E) = 0$ , where  $p_{keep}(n, l; \rho; E)$  is the total probability of the preionization decay is given with Eqs. (13) - (15). All mentioned quantities are presented in Fig 2 for the case of  $T = 5000$  K. Lets draw attention that in relation to the previous work of Mihajlov et al. (2011) in this figure are presented not only the summary rate coefficients, determined on the basis of dipole resonance mechanism for  $3 \leq n \leq 8$  but also and rate coefficients determined there on the basis of data from Janev et al. (1987) for  $n = 3$  and 4, from Urbain et al. (1991) for  $n = 2$ . One can notice from this figure that there are noticeable differences between the values of the rate coefficients determined in Mihajlov et al. (2011) and values  $K_{i;n}^*(T)$ , while the differences in relation to the rate coefficients  $K_{i;n}(T)$  are very large for  $n \leq 6$  and decrease

quickly with the increase  $n$  in the area  $n > 6$ .

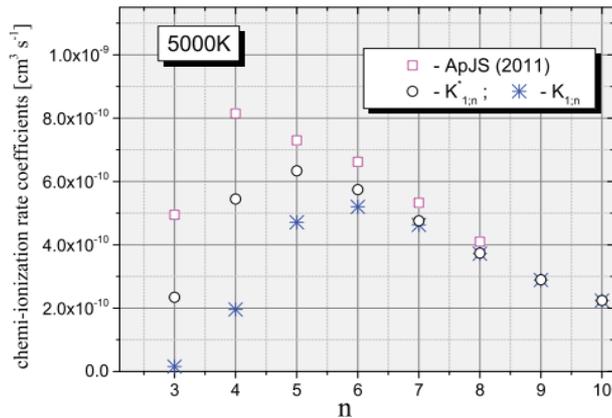


Figure 3. Comparison of the calculated values of rate coefficients of the chemi-ionization processes (1a) and (1b) with the data from Mihajlov et al. (2011a).

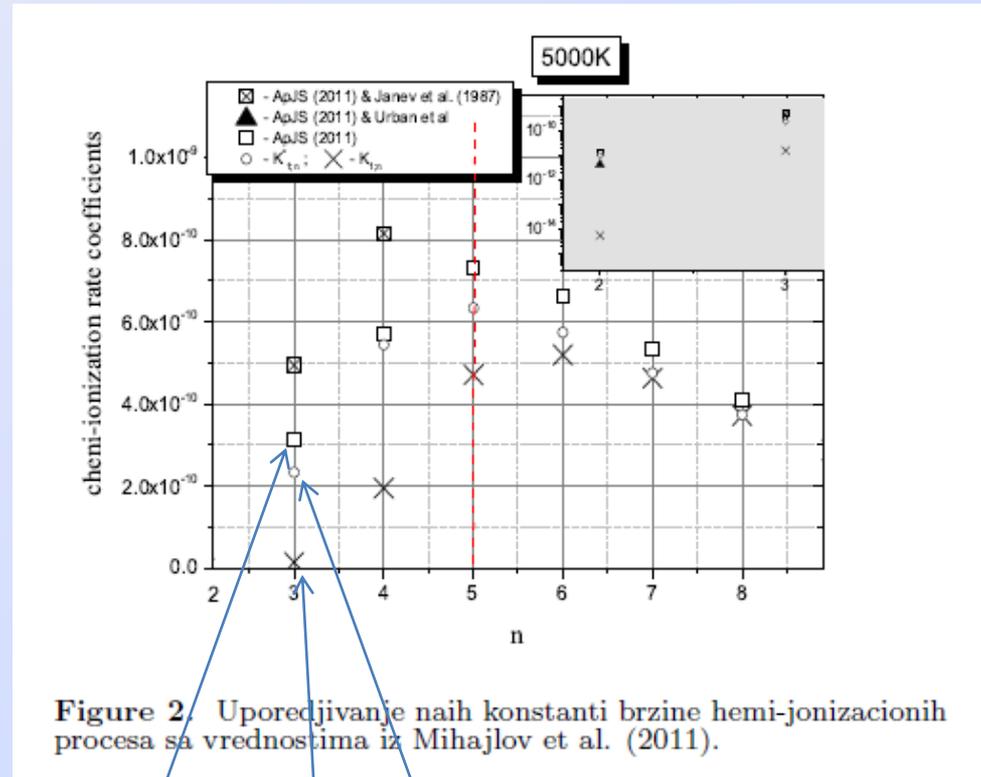
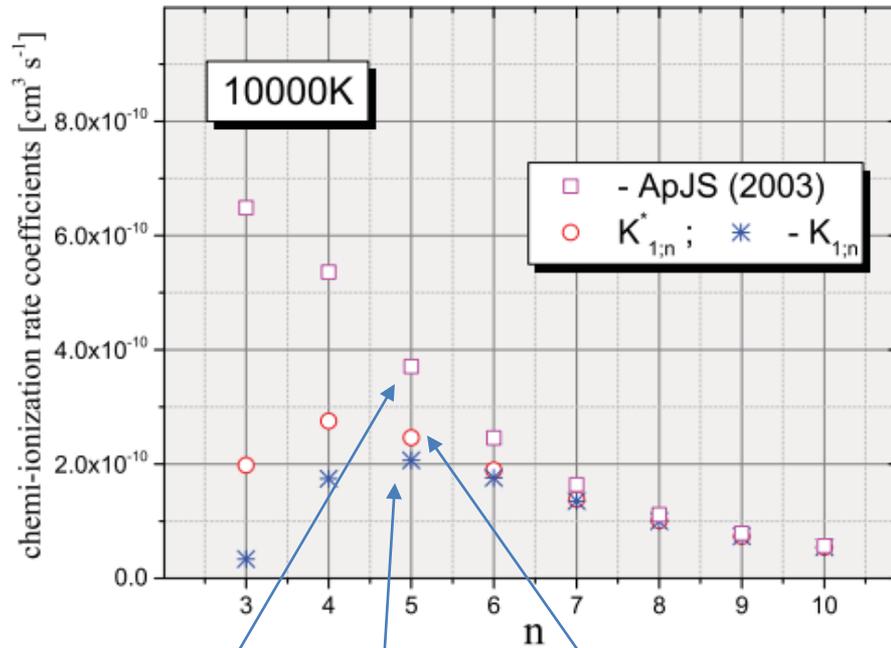


Figure 2. Uporedjivanje najih konstanti brzine hemi-jonizacionih procesa sa vrednostima iz Mihajlov et al. (2011).

With simplif.(mih11)

Without simplif.(mih11)

+ pre-ionization



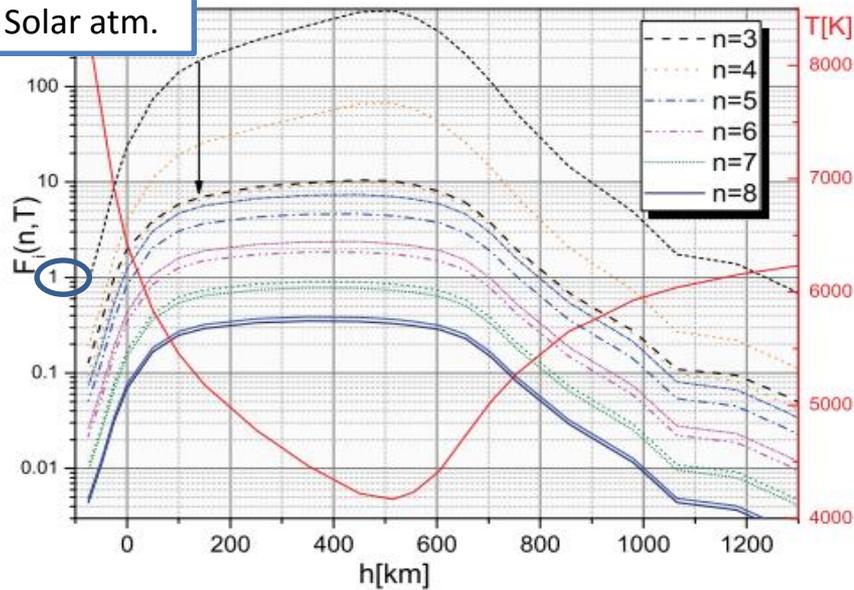
**Figure 4.** Comparison of the calculated values of rate coefficients of the chemi-ionization processes (1a) and (1b) with the data from Mihajlov et al. (2003a).

With simplif.(Mih. 2003)

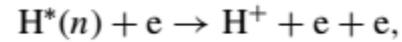
Without simplif.(Mih. 2003)

+ pre-ionization

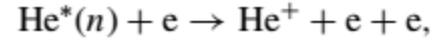
Solar atm.



**Figure 5.** Parameter  $F_i[n, T; H^*(n)]$  as a function of the height  $h$ , for principal quantum numbers  $n = 3-8$ , for a model of the solar photosphere (Vernazza, Avrett & Loeser 1981); the wider bold lines denote present calculations, and the fainter lines denote calculations from Mihajlov et al. (2003a).



in the hydrogen case and



Fluxes generated in atom–Rydberg-atom and electron–excited-atom impact ionization are denoted by  $I_A^{aa}(T; A^*)$  and  $I_A^{ea}(T; A^*)$  and given by the expressions

$$I_A^{aa}(T; A^*) = K_A(n, T; A^*)N(A^*)N(A), \quad (26)$$

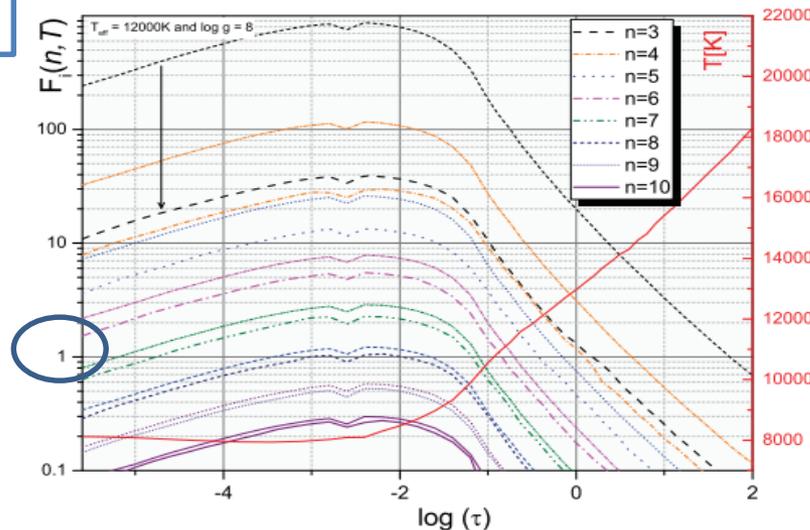
$$I_A^{ea}(T; A^*) = \alpha_A^{ea}(n, T; A^*)N(A^*)N(e), \quad (27)$$

where  $A^* = H^*(n)$  or  $He^*(n)$ , the rate coefficient  $K_A(n, T; A^*)$  is given by equation (10) and the ionization rate coefficient  $\alpha_A^{ea}(n, T; A^*)$  is determined by means of semi-empirical expressions from Vriens & Smeets (1980).

The relative importance of the chemi-ionization processes in comparison with electron–excited-atom impact ionization can be characterized by parameters  $F_A(n, T)$  defined as  $F_A(n, T) = I_A^{aa}(T; A^*)/I_A^{ea}(T; A^*)$ . According to equations (26) and (27) we have

$$F_A(n, T; A^*) = \frac{K_A(n, T; A^*) N(A)}{\alpha_A^{ea}(n, T; A^*) N(e)}. \quad (28)$$

WD atm.



**Figure 6.** Parameter  $F_i[n, T; He^*(n)]$  as a function of the logarithm of Rosseland optical depth  $\log(\tau)$ , for principal quantum numbers  $n = 3-10$ , with  $T_{\text{eff}} = 12\,000\text{ K}$  and  $\log g = 8$ ; the wider bold lines denote present calculations, and the fainter lines denote calculation from Mihajlov et al. (2011a).

## CONCLUSIONS

MNRAS paper 2016

From the presented material, it is shown that the processes of  $(n - n')$ -mixing (2) have considerable influence on the rates of chemi-ionization processes (1).

Direct calculations have been performed, which show this influence on the quantitative level. The results obtained here are presented in tabular form, where the values of total constants for rates of the processes (1), and also just the rates for the process of associative ionization (1b) for the hydrogen and helium cases are presented. **Tables cover the range of values of principal quantum numbers of the Rydberg states of hydrogen and helium atoms from  $n = 3$  to  $n = 15$  and the temperature range from  $T = 4000$  K to  $T = 10\,000$  K and  $T = 7000$  K to  $T = 24\,000$  K respectively**, so that they can be directly applied in connection with **the modelling of the photosphere and the lower chromosphere of the Sun and the atmosphere of DB white dwarfs.**

- The obtained results (Figs. with  $F$ ) show that the efficiency of the chemi-ionization processes, **in spite of the influence of  $(n - n')$ -mixing processes (2)** with  $n' > n$  in most parts of the photosphere of the Sun and most parts of white-dwarf atmospheres, remains dominant or at least comparable to the efficiency of the concurrent processes.

For the future, or next steps

To calculate efficiency of chemi-ionization with pre-ionization in respect to concurrent process for the sunspot atmosphere model.

To calculate for M red dwarfs atmosphere model with pre-ionization

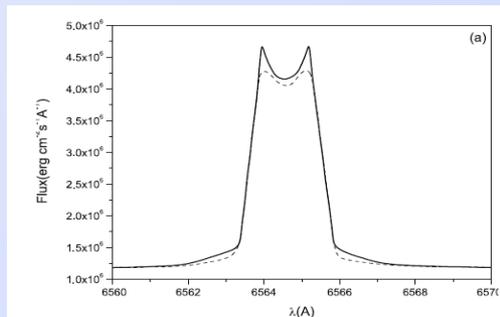


Fig. 6. Line profiles with (full) and without (dashed) inclusion of chemi-ionization and chemi-recombination processes for  $H_\alpha$  line.

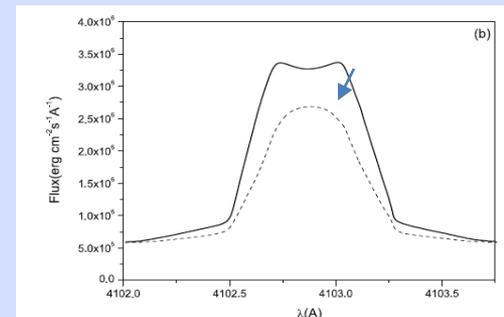


Fig. 7. Line profiles with (full) and without (dashed) inclusion of chemi-ionization and chemi-recombination processes for  $H_\beta$  line.

To get something like this

# MOL-D

- The data presented here, soon can be also access through <http://servo.aob.rs> as web service and database <http://servo.aob.rs/mold>.
- MOL-D database is a collection of cross-sections and rate coefficients for specific collisional processes and a web service within the Serbian Virtual Observatory (SerVO) and the Virtual Atomic and Molecular Data Center (VAMDC)
- Jevremovic, Vujcic, Sreckovic, Mihajlov, Dimitrijevic...

- Data needed for modeling stellar atmospheres, Early universe chemistry ...



## Technical characteristics

MOL-D is services **compatible with VAMDC standards** and act as a VAMDC "nodes". They can be accessed by tools, applications or libraries which comply to VAMDC interoperability requirements, such as VAMDC portal query, Astrogrid VODesktop etc. VAMDC - compliant tools allow for distributed queries across multiple VAMDC nodes via SOAP protocol for web services, along with standardized VAMDC-TAP data access protocol and XSAMS XML schema for data serialization and representation.

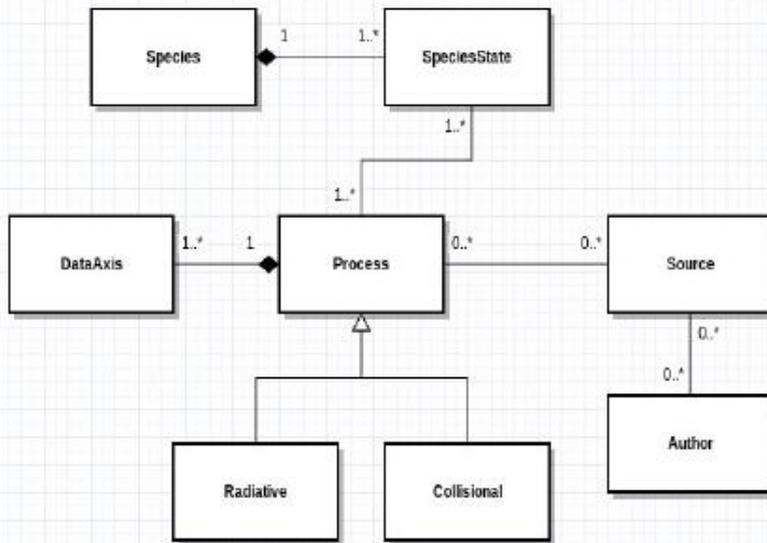


Figure 4. UML static diagram with high level of abstraction for MOL-D and BEAMDB nodes

[MOL-D are implemented on top of VAMDC NodeSoftware in Django, a Python framework for web application development.](#) They apply custom-built data models which fit their specific datasets. All-encompassing VAMDC model would not offer optimal performance and would be more complicated to maintain. In the process of a node development, custom "dictionaries" (which map VAMDC reserved keywords to local models' attributes) are defined as well as query translator

# References

Mihajlov Anatolij A, Sreckovic Vladimir A, Dimitrijevic Ignjatovic Ljubinko M, Milan S (2016) Atom–Rydberg-atom chemi-ionization processes in solar and DB white-dwarf atmospheres in the presence of (n–n′)-mixing channels  
Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society 458 (2), 2215-2220

Mihajlov Anatolij A, Ignjatovic Ljubinko M, Sreckovic Vladimir A, Dimitrijevic Milan S (2011) The Influence of Chemi-Ionization and Recombination Processes on Spectral Line Shapes in Stellar Atmospheres,  
BALTIC ASTRONOMY, vol. 20, br. 4, str. 566-571

Mihajlov Anatolij A, Ignjatovic Ljubinko M, Sreckovic Vladimir A, Dimitrijevic Milan S (2011) Chemi-ionization in Solar Photosphere: Influence on the Hydrogen Atom Excited States Population,  
ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL SUPPLEMENT SERIES, vol. 193, br. 1,

Mihajlov, A. A.; Ignjatović, Lj. M.; Dimitrijević, M. S.; Djurić, Z. (2003) Symmetrical Chemi-Ionization and Chemi-Recombination Processes in Low-Temperature Layers of Helium-rich DB White Dwarf Atmospheres  
The Astrophysical Journal Supplement Series, Volume 147, Issue 2, pp. 369-377

Bates, D. R., & Boyd, A. H. 1962, Proceedings of the Physical Society, 80, 1301  
Firsov O.B. 1951, Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz., 21, 1001  
Janev, R. K., Langer, W. D., & Evans, K. 1987, Springer Series on Atoms and Plasmas, Berlin: Springer, 1987  
Mihajlov, A. A., Ignjatović, L. M., Srećković, V. A., & Dimitrijević, M. S. 2011, ApJS, 193, 2  
Mihajlov, A. A., Ignjatović, L. M., Srećković, V. A., & Dimitrijević, M. S. 2011, Baltic Astronomy, 20, 566  
Mihajlov, A. A., Srećković, V. A., Ignjatović, L. M., & Klyucharev A.N. 2012, Journal of Cluster Science, 23 (1), 47-75  
Mihajlov, A. A., Ignjatović, L. M., Sakan, N. M., & Dimitrijević, M. S. 2007a, A&A, 469, 749  
Mihajlov, A. A., Ignjatovic, L. M., Djuric, Z., & Ljepojevic, N. N. 2004, Journal of Physics B Atomic Molecular Physics, 37, 4493  
Mihajlov, A. A., Jevremović, D., Hauschildt, P., et al. 2007b, A&A, 471, 671  
Mihajlov, A. A., Jevremović, D., Hauschildt, P., et al. 2003, A&A, 403, 787  
Sobelman, I. I. 1979, Springer Series in Chemical Physics, Berlin: Springer, 1979,  
Urbain, X., Cornet, A., Brouillard, F., & Giusti-Suzor, A. 1991, Phys.Rev.Lett., 66, 1685

*Thank you*