6th Annual Conference on Atomic Spectroscopy

Berlin-West, DDR, 16-19 July 1974

This year a group of colleagues from the Technische Universität in Berlin organized the sixth conference in the series of annual conferences on atomic spectroscopy that have been started on the initiative of the European Group for Atomic Spectroscopy (EGAS), nowadays a section of the Atomic Physics Division of EPS.

The date had been settled in concert with the organizers of the Fourth International Conference on Atomic Physics in Heidelberg. Consequently the conferences were held in two consecutive weeks.

About 200 participants assembled in Berlin to hear, as usual, a few invited papers and a large number of short contributed papers, read in two parallel sessions.

Term analysis of atomic spectra accounted for nearly one third of the more than 70 contributed papers: resonance fluorescence and optical pumping, laser investigations, beam-foil techniques each occupied one sixth of the time, papers on optical hyperfine structure and on impact phenomena accounted for the rest.

In his opening lecture Professor A. Kastler gave a review of "50 years Hanle effect", Professor Hanle, attending this lecture.

The large contribution of term analysis was reflected in the other invited papers: Professor B. Judd from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, asked in connection with his lecture "Theoretical techniques for many-electron spectra" for more experimental data on only one electron configuration, namely either $^1$S or $^3$S. On the other hand Dr. W. L. Wise from N.B.S., Washington, demonstrated in his lecture "Atomic transition probabilities — present status and needs" the need to fill the many "gaps" in term analysis of highly ionized atoms. In both cases experimentalists are confronted with the problem how to control excitation of the atomic levels concerned. Atomic levels above the ionization limit were the subject of Dr. Connerade from Imperial College, London in his lecture "Inner shell effects in atomic spectra".

Apart from scientific activities a General Assembly of EGAS was held. It was announced that the next (7th) Annual Conference will be held in Grenoble. E. Meinders, Amsterdam