Abstract Submitted for the DAMOP03 Meeting of The American Physical Society

Sorting Category: 13.

Ionization and dissociation of \mathbf{H}_2^+ in a laser field X. M. TONG, Z. X. ZHAO, C. D. LIN, Physics Department, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506 — We studied the dissociation and ionization of \mathbf{H}_2^+ which was created from \mathbf{H}_2 in an intense laser field. The intensity was chosen such that direct ionization of \mathbf{H}_2^+ by the laser is not possible. We evaluated the probabilities of exciting the ground \mathbf{H}_2^+ electronic state to the higher excited states by the rescattered electron from where the \mathbf{H}_2^+ can be dissociated or further ionized in the laser field. Based on the rescattering model we evaluated the branching ratio of ionization vs dissociation and obtained the expected kinetic energy spectra of the dissociation and ionization products to compare with experiments.

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Date submitted: January 30, 2003 Electronic form version 1.4