

# TERNARY RIDGE OF EJECTED ELECTRONS FROM FAST ION-ATOM COLLISIONS<sup>1</sup>

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A theoretical analysis is presented of the spectrum of swift electrons resulting from collisions of 5.9 MeV/u U<sup>29+</sup> with Xe atoms. Calculations include, within an independent model, all sources of electrons (i.e., target L-O shells and projectile O-P shells). It is shown that there exists clear evidence for a ternary ridge of swift electrons originating from head-on collisions between target electrons and the impinging projectile followed by elastic scattering at the target core. These findings provide a theoretical confirmation of an experimental observation of a ternary ridge in isolated ion-atom collisions.

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