

# Undepotential deposition - a new method to study the chemistry of hassium!?

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- Theoretical predictions: the elements 108 116<sup>1)</sup> are suitable for electrodeposition experiments
- Hummrich et al.<sup>2)</sup> studied the influence of various parameters on deposition kinetics.
  Result: minimum electrolysis time is 10 s
- Choose long-lived  $^{270}$ Hs (t<sub>1/2</sub>~23 s)<sup>3)</sup> for electrochemistry

1) B. Eichler, J. V. Kratz, Radiochim. Acta **88**, 475 (2000). 2) H. Hummrich et al., Radiochim. Acta **96**, 73 (2008). 3) J. Dvorak et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. **100**, 132503 (2008).





### Steps to a hassium electrodeposition experiment

- Underpotential deposition theory
- Test experiments with Os and Ru the lighter homologues
- Proof that a transactinide chemistry experiment is feasible at the physical preseparator TASCA
- Construction of an automated setup





### Beyond the limits of the Nernst equation







## Underpotential deposition – kinetics and thermodynamics

 Thermodynamical aspects: Shift of the potential compared to the prediction of the Nernst equation:

$$\Delta \mathsf{E} = \frac{-\Delta \overline{\mathsf{H}}(\mathsf{A} - \mathsf{B}) + \mathsf{T} \Delta \overline{\mathsf{S}}_{\mathsf{vib}}}{\mathsf{n} \mathsf{F}}$$

• Kinetic aspects:

$$t_{50\%} = \frac{6 \cdot \pi \cdot \sqrt{a} \cdot \sqrt{a} \cdot \sqrt{n} \cdot \ln 2}{F_{\rm E} \cdot k_{\rm B} \cdot \sqrt{n}}$$

 $F_E$ : electrode areaV: electrolyte volume $\delta$ : Nernst diffusion layer $k_B$ : Boltzmann constantT: absolute temperaturea: hydrodynamic radius $\eta$ : dynamic viscosity $t_{50\%}$ :time at which 50% are deposited

Goal: construct an optimized electrolytical cell!!! GUTENBERG



#### The electrolysis cell



- 1) working electrodes;
- 2) counter electrode;
- 3) reference electrode;
- 4) heating;
- 5) stir bar;
- 6) electrolyte inand outlet;
- 7) viton sealing





#### **Experimental setup**





#### <sup>nat</sup>Ce(<sup>40</sup>Ar,xn)<sup>~176</sup>Os without preseparation







#### <sup>nat</sup>Ce(<sup>40</sup>Ar,xn)<sup>~176</sup>Os behind TASCA







#### Deposition of Os on Pd



Conditions: Pd electrodes 0.1 M HCI 71 °C 2 min





#### Deposition of Ru on Pd and Au





### First TAN chemistry @ TASCA

Fluoride complexation of Rf

<sup>244</sup>Pu(<sup>22</sup>Ne,5n)<sup>261a</sup>Rf Anion exchanger (MCI GEL CA08Y - OH<sup>-</sup> form)

1) Extraction with
7x10<sup>-4</sup> M HF, stripping
solution 5 M HNO<sub>3</sub>
2) Extraction with
1x10<sup>-3</sup> M HF, stripping
solution 5 M HNO<sub>3</sub>









### Requirement for an electrodeposition experiment with TANs

- Physical preseparation
- Fully automated setup
- Reproducible electrode surface
- Small dead volume between degasser and electrolysis cell
- Small electrolyte volume
- Constant, elevated temperature
- Constant stirring
- Fast transport of the samples in front of the Si detectors
- High detection efficiency





#### ELCH - ELectroCHemistry apparatus





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- The advantage of physical preseparation has been demonstrated
- TASCA is ready for TAN chemistry
- Pd and Au seem to be the best electrode materials for underpotential deposition of group 8 elements
- A new apparatus for automated electrolysis experiment - ELCH - is developed and will be tested @ TASCA in the next year





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Thank you for your attention!

