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Charge exchange in slow collisions of Si³⁺ with H¹ D.C. JOSEPH, B.C. SAHA, Department of Physics, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL-32307 — Low energy electron capture from atomic hydrogen by multi-charged ions continues to be of interest and has wide applications including both magnetically confined fusion and astrophysical plasmas. The charge exchange process reported here, $Si^{3+} + H \rightarrow Si^{2+} + H^+$ is an important destruction mechanism of Si^{3+} in photo-ionized gas. The soft X-ray emission from comets has been explained by charge transfer of solar wind ions, among them Si^{3+} , with neutrals in the cometary gas vapor. The state selective cross sections are evaluated using the semi-classical molecular orbital close coupling (MOCC) [1] methods. Adiabatic potentials and wave functions for a number of low-lying singlet and triplet states are calculated using the MRD-CI package [2]. Details will be presented at the conference. [1] M. Kimura and N. F. Lane, At. Mol. Opt. Phys **26**, 79 (1990). [3] R. J. Buenker, “Current Aspects of Quantum Chemistry” 1981, Vol **21**, edited by R. Carbo (Elsevier, Amsterdam) p 17.

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