

# Indirect Methods and Halo Nuclei

International Graduate School Basel-Graz-Tübingen

**At the Interface of Particle, Nuclear and Atomic Physics**

*in Honor of Gerhard Baur and Dirk Trautmann*

Stefan Typel

Excellence Cluster 'Universe'

Technische Universität München

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- **Part I: Motivation**

nuclear reactions of astrophysical interest, reaction rates and cross sections, charged-particle reactions, halo nuclei

- **Part II: Halo Nuclei**

characteristic parameters, ground state properties, electromagnetic excitation, radial integrals, wave functions, transition strength and shape functions

- **Part III: Indirect Methods**

- overview, transfer reactions, T matrix elements, spectroscopic factors
- Coulomb dissociation: theory, parameters, cross sections, higher-order effects
- ANC method: theory, continuum interaction
- Trojan-Horse method: theory, application, electron screening

- **Summary**

recurrent themes: asymptotics of wave functions, factorization

# Part I:

# Motivation

# Nuclear Reactions of Astrophysical Interest

## nuclear astrophysics

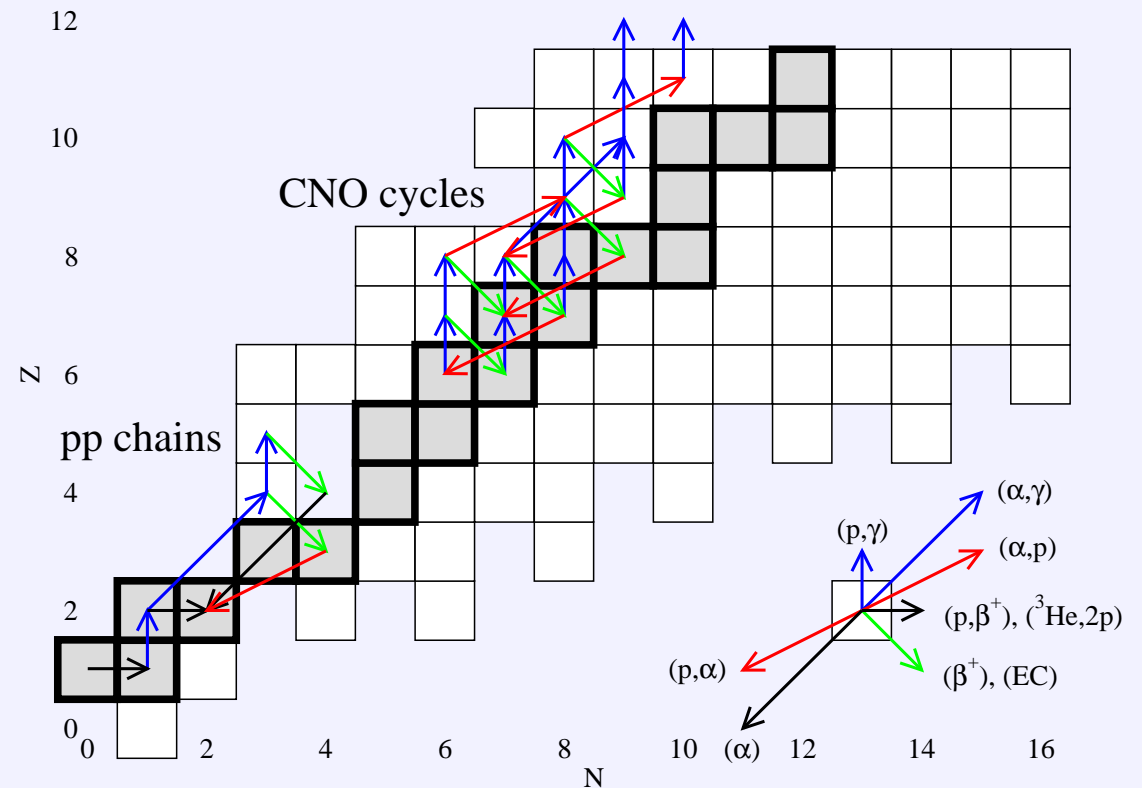
- nuclear **reaction rates** are basic input in many **astrophysical models**  
(primordial nucleosynthesis, stellar evolution, novae, supernovae, . . . )  
for various **processes** (pp chains, CNO cycles, s-, r-, p-, rp-process, . . . )
- ideally: **direct measurement** of reaction cross sections at relevant energies  
but in most cases **practically impossible** (small cross sections, often unstable nuclei)
- **alternative approaches ?**  
depend on type of reaction

# Types of Reactions

- radiative capture/  
photo dissociation reactions:  
 $(n, \gamma)$ ,  $(p, \gamma)$ ,  $(\alpha, \gamma)$ , . . . /  
 $(\gamma, n)$ ,  $(\gamma, p)$ ,  $(\gamma, \alpha)$ , . . .
- nuclear rearrangement reactions:  
 $(p, \alpha)$ ,  $(\alpha, p)$ ,  $({}^3\text{He}, 2p)$ , . . .
- weak interaction reactions:  
 $\beta^+$ ,  $\beta^-$ , electron capture (EC)
- . . .

here:

- only charged-particle reactions
- only reactions with electromagnetic or strong interaction



# Reaction Rates and Cross Sections

## astrophysical environment

### nuclei in hot plasma

⇒ temperature-dependent distribution of relative velocities  $v$  for reaction  $b + c \rightarrow \dots$

⇒ relevant quantity:

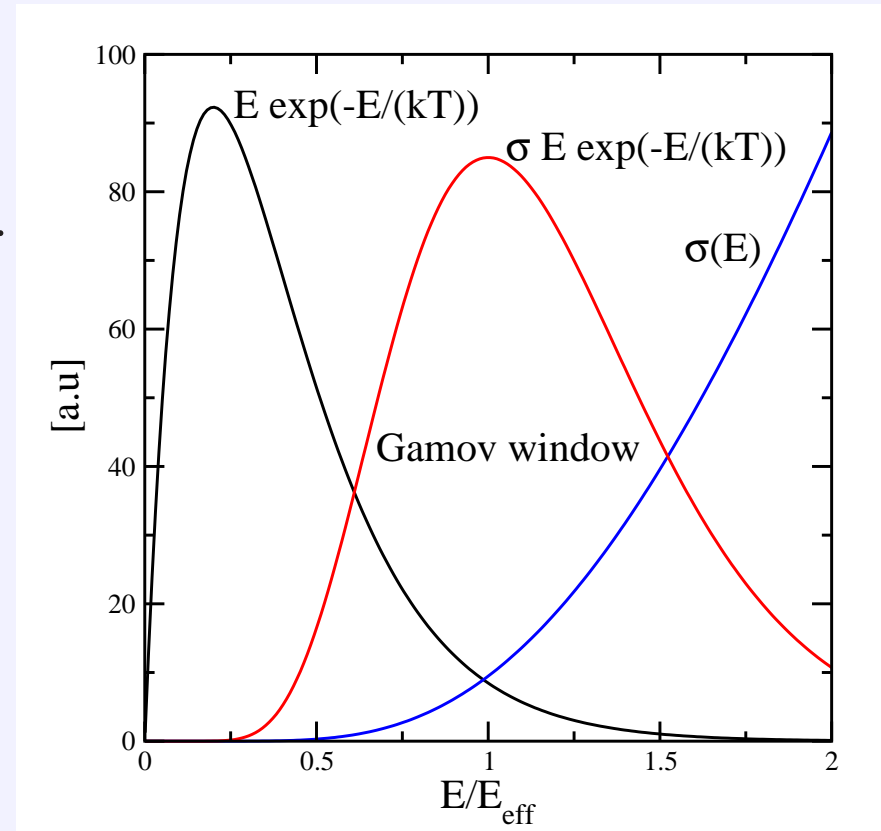
Maxwellian-averaged **reaction rate**

$$r_{bc} = \frac{\rho_b \rho_c}{1 + \delta_{bc}} \langle \sigma v \rangle$$

with densities  $\rho_b$ ,  $\rho_c$  and

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{8}{\pi \mu_{bc}}} \int_0^\infty \sigma(E) E e^{-\frac{E}{kT}} \frac{dE}{(kT)^{3/2}}$$

⇒ cross sections  $\sigma$  needed in **Gamov window** of width  $\Delta E$  around effective energy  $E_{\text{eff}}$



# Gamov Window

## parameters

- effective energy

$$E_{\text{eff}} = 0.1220 \mu_{bc}^{1/3} (Z_b Z_c T_9)^{2/3} \text{ MeV}$$

- width

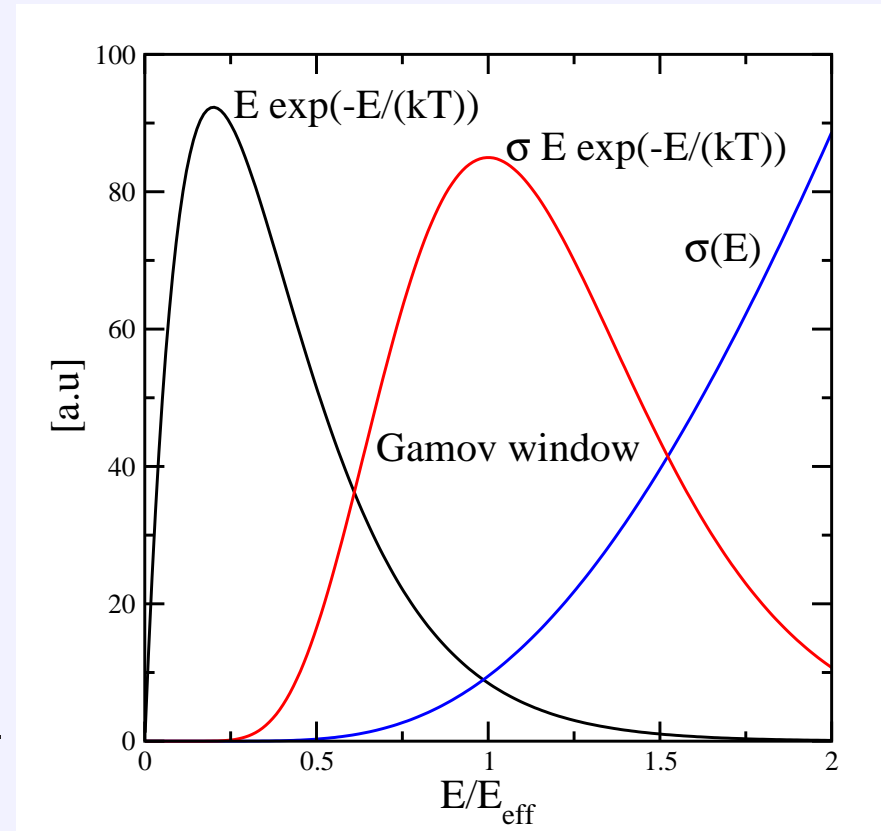
$$\Delta E = 0.2368 \mu_{bc}^{1/6} (Z_b Z_c)^{1/3} T_9^{5/6} \text{ MeV}$$

with temperature  $T_9$  in  $10^9$  K

and reduced mass  $\mu_{bc} = \frac{m_b m_c}{m_b + m_c}$  in amu

reaction	$E_{\text{eff}}$ [keV]	$\sigma(E_{\text{eff}})$ [pb]
${}^3\text{He}({}^3\text{He}, 2\text{p}){}^4\text{He}$	22.0	1.5
${}^7\text{Be}(\text{p}, \gamma){}^8\text{B}$	18.4	$1.5 \times 10^{-3}$
${}^3\text{He}(\alpha, \gamma){}^7\text{Be}$	23.0	$3.0 \times 10^{-5}$
${}^{14}\text{N}(\text{p}, \gamma){}^{15}\text{O}$	27.2	$2.2 \times 10^{-7}$

for  $T = 15.5 \times 10^6$  K (center of the sun)



# Charged-Particle Reactions

- **Coulomb barrier** in reaction  $b + c \rightarrow \dots$  with **charged nuclei**  $b, c$ 
    - ⇒ extremely **small cross sections**  $\sigma(E)$  with **strong energy dependence**
    - ⇒ astrophysical **relevant energies** (Gamov window) usually **not accessible**
    - ⇒ measurement at higher energies and **extrapolation** to low energies  $E$   
with help of **astrophysical S factor**  $S(E) = \sigma(E)E \exp(2\pi\eta)$
- Sommerfeld parameter  $\eta = Z_b Z_c e^2 / (\hbar v)$

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Sommerfeld parameter  $\eta = Z_b Z_c e^2 / (\hbar v)$
- **direct measurement** very difficult, often **unstable nuclei** involved
  - ⇒ **indirect methods**

# Halo Nuclei

## Light exotic nuclei:

- large **neutron/proton excess**
- **radioactive** with short lifetimes

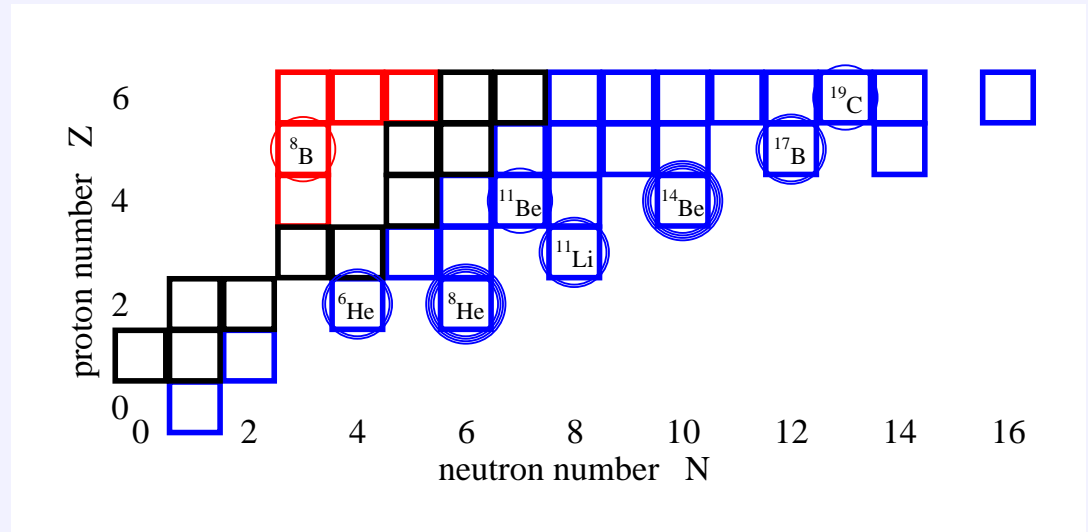
close to neutron/proton **driplines**

⇒ **halo phenomenon** observed

- large **size** (i.e. interaction radius)
  - large **cross sections** for electromagnetic excitation to low energies in the continuum
  - breakup reactions: narrow relative-momentum **distributions of fragments**
- ⇒ extraction of **spectroscopic information**

- small **separation energy** of last nucleon
- ground state well described in **single-particle picture** (nucleon + core)

essential features characterized by few **low-energy constants** ⇒ **scaling laws**



# Part II:

## Halo Nuclei

# Halo Nuclei - Characteristic Parameters

**halo** nucleus ( $a = b + c$ ) with **nucleon** ( $b$ ) + **core** ( $c$ ) structure  
with effective mass  $\mu = \frac{m_b m_c}{m_b + m_c}$  and charge numbers  $Z_b$  and  $Z_c$

- **relevant scales** of the system

origin	energy	momentum	dimensionless quantity
ground state	one-nucleon separation energy $S_b$	$\hbar q = \sqrt{2\mu S_b}$ inverse decay length $q$	$\gamma = qR$
scattering state	relative energy $E$ in continuum	$\hbar k = \sqrt{2\mu E}$ relative momentum	$\kappa = kR$
Coulomb field	Gamov energy $E_G = \left(\frac{Z_b Z_c e^2}{\hbar}\right)^2 \frac{\mu}{2}$	$\hbar/a_B$ with nuclear Bohr radius $a_B = \hbar/\sqrt{2\mu E_G}$	$\eta_i = \sqrt{\frac{E_G}{S_b}} = \frac{1}{qa_B}$ $\eta_f = \sqrt{\frac{E_G}{E}} = \frac{1}{ka_B}$

with **radius**  $R \Leftrightarrow$  typical **size** of the system

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with **radius**  $R \Leftrightarrow$  typical **size** of the system

- **three independent dimensionless quantities**  $\Rightarrow$  relevant for **systematic expansions**

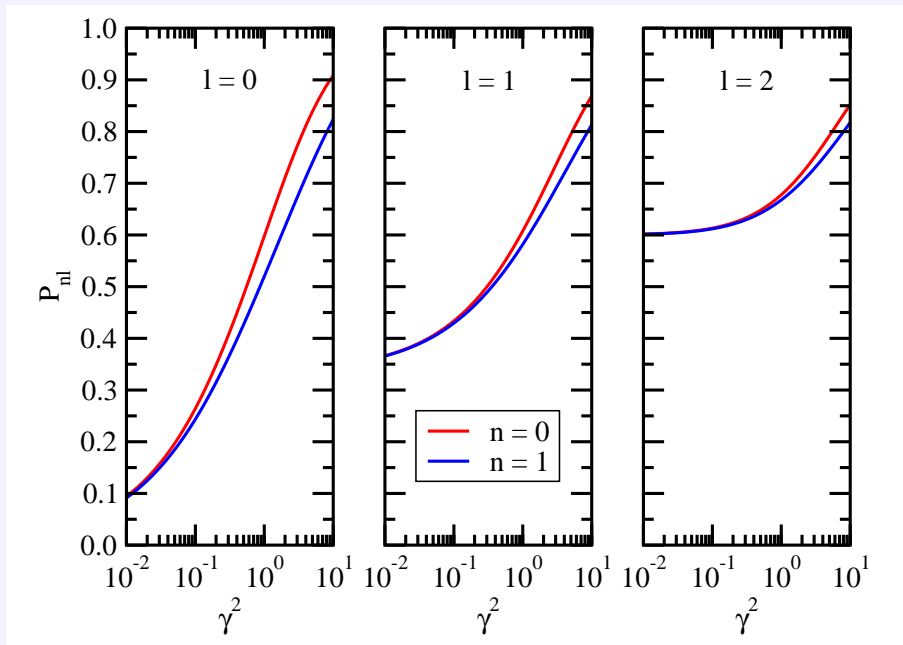
$$\gamma = qR \quad x = \frac{\kappa}{\gamma} = \sqrt{\frac{E}{S_b}} \quad \eta_i = \frac{1}{qa_B} = x\eta_f \quad (\eta_i = \eta_f = 0 \text{ for neutron + core systems})$$

(S. Typel and G. Baur, Nucl. Phys. A 759 (2005) 247)

# Neutron Halo Nuclei - Ground State Properties

square-well potential of radius  $R$  and separation energy  $S_n$ , i.e.  $\gamma^2 = 2\mu S_n R^2 / \hbar^2$

- probability  $P_{nl}$  to find the neutron inside potential well ( $n$  = number of nodes) in the limit  $\gamma \rightarrow 0$ :
  - $P_{n0} \rightarrow 0$  for  $l = 0$
  - $P_{nl} \rightarrow (2l - 1)/(2l + 1)$  for  $l \geq 1$

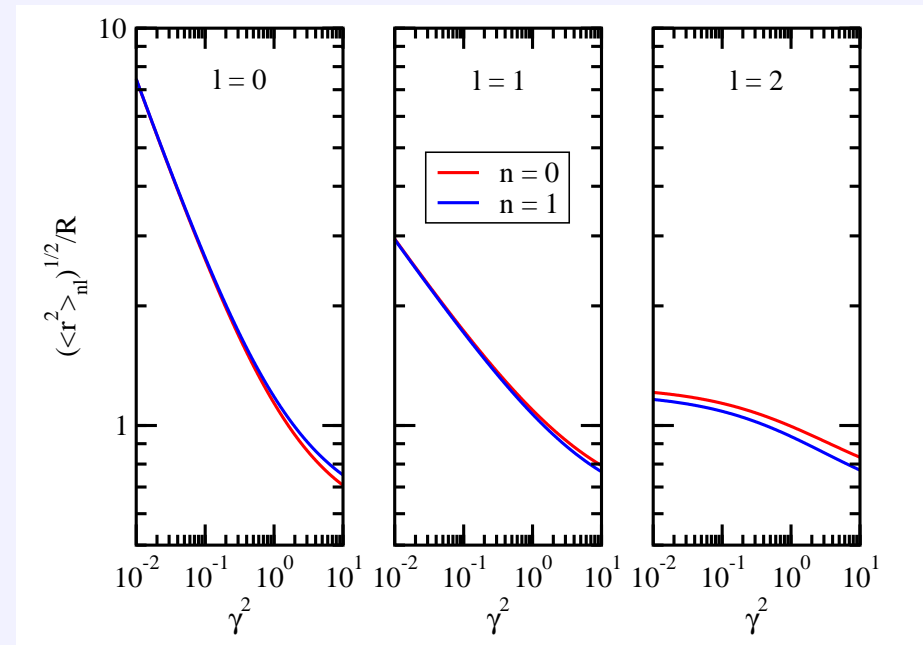
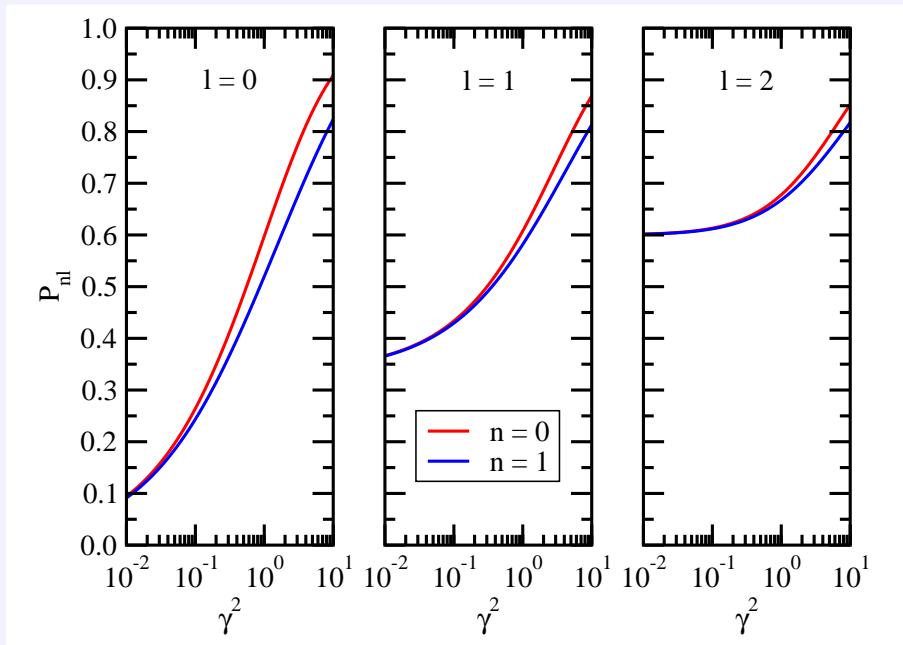


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- rms radius  $(\langle r^2 \rangle_{nl})^{1/2}$  in the limit  $\gamma \rightarrow 0$ 
  - $\langle r^2 \rangle_{nl} \propto \gamma^{-2}$  for  $l = 0$
  - $\langle r^2 \rangle_{nl} \propto \gamma^{-1}$  for  $l = 1$
  - $\Rightarrow \langle r^2 \rangle_{nl}$  diverges for s and p waves
  - $\langle r^2 \rangle_{nl}$  finite for  $l \geq 2$



halo effect exists only for low orbital angular momenta and small binding energies

# Electromagnetic Excitation

electromagnetic transition of type  $\pi = E, M$  and multipolarity  $\lambda = 1, \dots$

- photo dissociation cross section

$$\sigma_{\pi\lambda}(a + \gamma \rightarrow b + c) = \frac{\lambda + 1}{\lambda} \frac{(2\pi)^3}{[(2\lambda + 1)!!]^2} \left( \frac{E_\gamma}{\hbar c} \right)^{2\lambda-1} \frac{dB(\pi\lambda)}{dE}$$

- reduced transition probability

$$\frac{dB}{dE}(\pi\lambda, J_i \rightarrow kJ_f) = \frac{2J_f + 1}{2J_i + 1} \sum_{j_f l_f} \left| \sum_{j_i l_i j_c} \langle kJ_f j_f l_f s j_c || \mathcal{M}(\pi\lambda) || J_i j_i l_i s j_c \rangle \right|^2 \frac{\mu k}{(2\pi)^3 \hbar^2}$$

- reduced matrix element  $\langle kJ_f j_f l_f s j_c || \mathcal{M}(\pi\lambda) || J_i j_i l_i s j_c \rangle$

- electric transition  $\Rightarrow$  multipole operator  $\mathcal{M}(E\lambda\mu) = Z_{\text{eff}}^{(\lambda)} e r^\lambda Y_{\lambda\mu}(\hat{r})$

with effective charge number  $Z_{\text{eff}}^{(\lambda)} = Z_b \left( \frac{m_c}{m_b + m_c} \right)^\lambda + Z_c \left( -\frac{m_b}{m_b + m_c} \right)^\lambda$

# Radial Integrals

- **example:** breakup of  $^{11}\text{Be} \rightarrow ^{10}\text{Be} + n$

neutron halo nucleus with neutron separation energy  $S_n = 0.504$  MeV

$E1$  transition from  $s$  wave bound state to  $p$  wave scattering state with energy  $E$

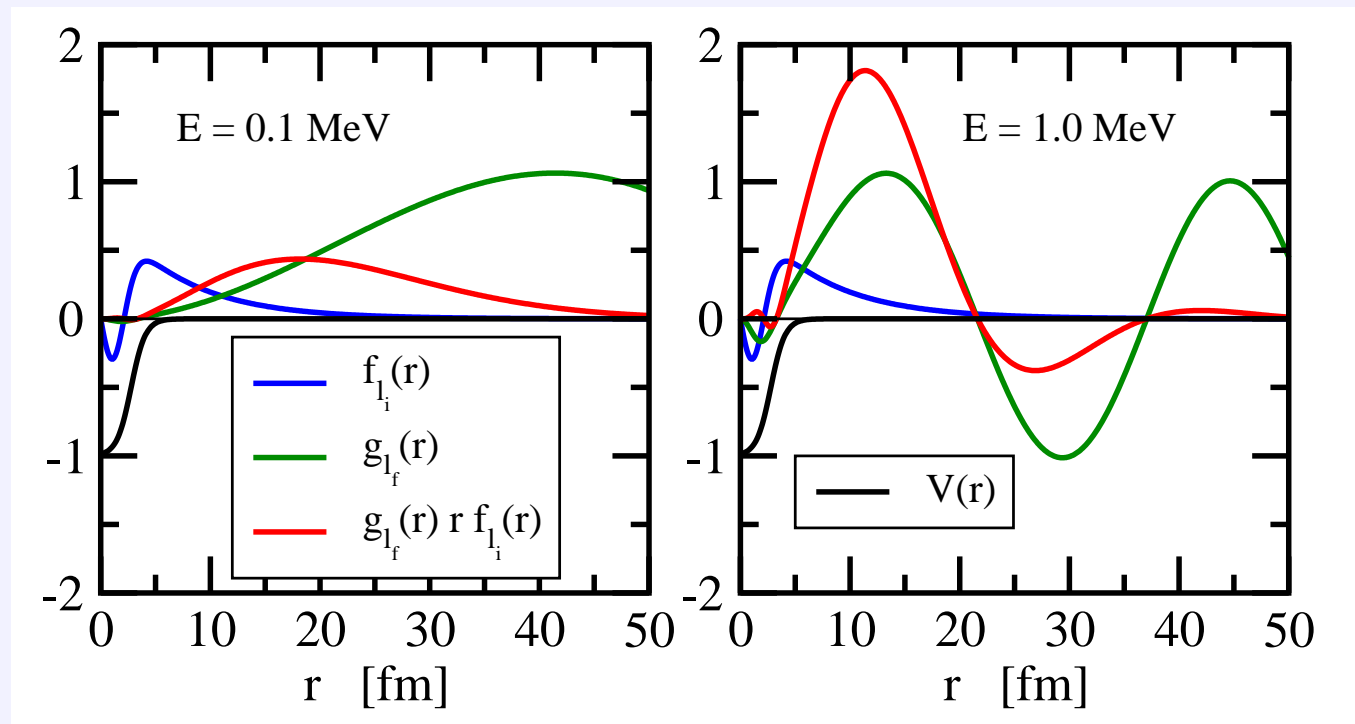
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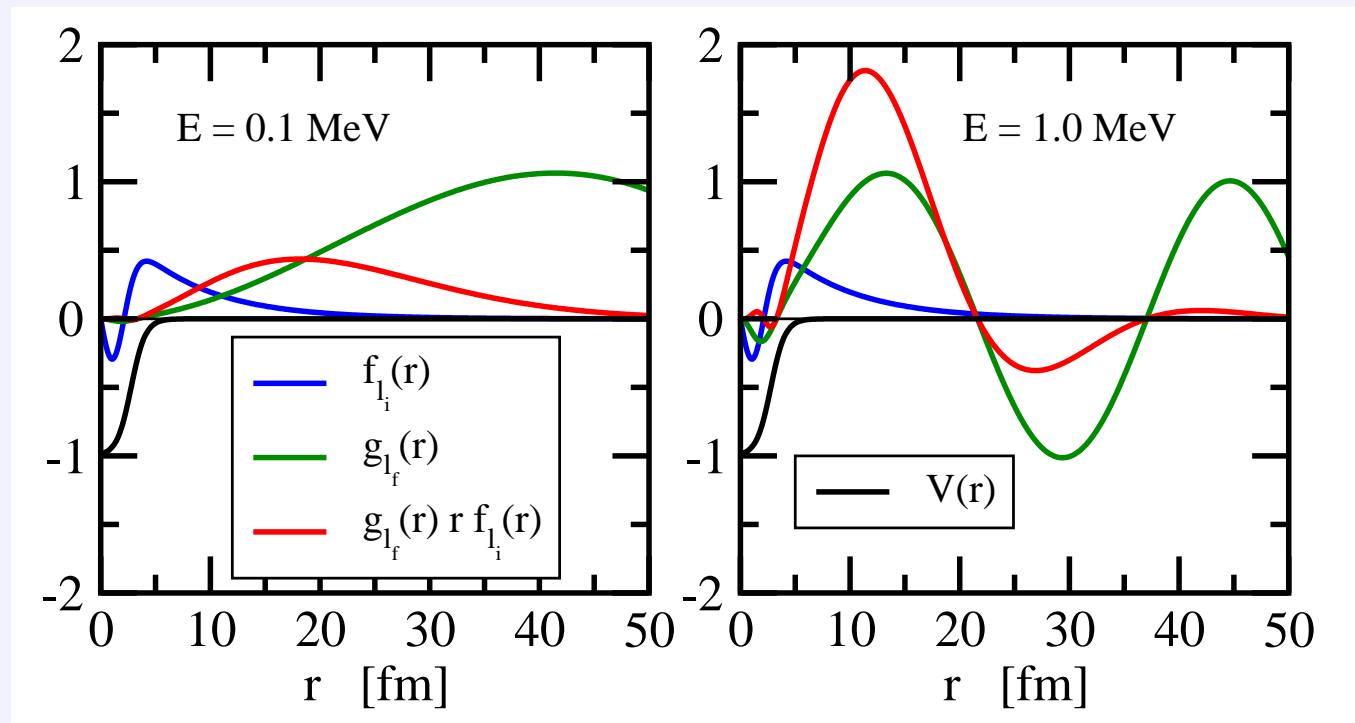
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- $E\lambda$  transitions at low relative energies  
 $\Rightarrow$  matrix elements determined by asymptotic of wave functions

# Wave Functions - General

relative motion of two-body system  $a = b + x (= c + y = d + z = \dots)$

- many-body wave function  $\Psi_a$  is solution of Schrödinger equation

$$H\Psi_a = (T + V_a) \Psi_a = E\Psi_a$$

with potential  $V_a = V_{bx}^C + V_{bx}^N = V_{cy}^C + V_{cy}^N$  (Coulomb + nuclear interaction)  
and boundary condition for bound/scattering state

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- for large distances  $\vec{r}_{bx} = \vec{r}_b - \vec{r}_x$ , etc.:

Coulomb interaction remains, short-range nuclear interaction vanishes

$\Rightarrow$  universal asymptotic form of  $\Psi_a \rightarrow \phi_b \phi_x \psi_{bx}(r_{bx}) + \dots$

for  $r_{bx}, r_{cy}, \dots \rightarrow \infty$  with relative wave functions  $\psi_{bx}, \psi_{cy}, \dots$

- exact solution: partial wave expansion

# Wave Functions - Bound States

**general form of asymptotics** (without particle spins,  $\alpha = (bx), (cy), \dots$ )

$$\psi_\alpha(m) \rightarrow \frac{1}{r_\alpha} \sum_l f_{\alpha l}(r_\alpha) Y_{lm}(\hat{r}_\alpha) \quad \text{for } r_\alpha \rightarrow \infty$$

with **radial wave functions**  $f_{\alpha l}(r_\alpha) = C_\alpha^a(l) W_{-\eta_\alpha, l+1/2}(2q_\alpha r_\alpha)$   
and **angular parts**  $Y_{lm}(\hat{r}_\alpha)$  (spherical harmonic)

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- **Whittaker function**  $W_{-\eta_\alpha, l+1/2}(2q_\alpha r_\alpha) \rightarrow \exp(-q_\alpha r_\alpha)$   
with Sommerfeld parameter  $\eta_\alpha$ , bound-state parameter  $q_\alpha$

e.g. 
$$\eta_{bx} = \frac{Z_b Z_x e^2 \mu_{bx}}{\hbar^2 q_{bx}} \quad q_{bx} = \sqrt{2\mu_{bx} S_{bx}} / \hbar$$

and separation energy  $S_{bx}$  of particle  $a$  into  $b$  and  $x$

- **asymptotic normalization coefficient (ANC)**  $C_\alpha^a(l)$

# Wave Functions - Scattering States

general form of asymptotics (without particle spins)

$$\Psi_{bx}^{(+)} \rightarrow \frac{4\pi}{k_{bx}} \sum_{\alpha=(bx),(cy),\dots} \phi_{\alpha} \frac{1}{r_{\alpha}} \sqrt{\frac{v_{bx}}{v_{\alpha}}} \sum_{lm} g_{\alpha l}^{(+)}(r_{\alpha}) i^l Y_{lm}(\hat{r}_{\alpha}) Y_{lm}^*(\hat{k}_{bx}) \quad \text{for } r_{\alpha} \rightarrow \infty$$

with radial wave functions  $g_{\alpha l}^{(+)}(r_{\alpha}) = \frac{1}{2i} \left[ S_{\alpha(bx)}^l u_l^{(+)}(\eta_{\alpha}, k_{\alpha} r_{\alpha}) - \delta_{\alpha(bx)} u_l^{(-)}(\eta_{\alpha}, k_{\alpha} r_{\alpha}) \right]$

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- Coulomb wave functions

$$u_l^{(\pm)}(\eta_{\alpha}, k_{\alpha} r_{\alpha}) = e^{\mp i \sigma_l} [G_l \pm i F_l] \rightarrow \exp \left\{ \pm i \left[ k_{\alpha} r_{\alpha} - 2\eta_{\alpha} \ln(k_{\alpha} r_{\alpha}) - \frac{l\pi}{2} \right] \right\}$$

with Sommerfeld parameter  $\eta_{\alpha}$ , momentum  $\hbar \vec{k}_{\alpha}$ , energy  $E_{bx}$  of relative motion

$$\text{e.g. } \eta_{bx} = \frac{Z_b Z_x e^2 \mu_{bx}}{\hbar^2 k_{bx}} \quad k_{bx} = \sqrt{2\mu_{bx} E_{bx}} / \hbar \quad \mu_{bx} = \frac{m_b m_x}{m_b + m_x}$$

- S-matrix elements  $S_{\alpha(bx)}^l$

e.g. elastic scattering  $S_{\alpha\alpha}^l = e^{2i[\sigma_l + \delta_l(\alpha)]}$  with Coulomb and nuclear phase shifts

# Reduced Transition Probability and Shape Functions

- reduced transition probability for  $E\lambda$  transition  $l_i \rightarrow l_f$ :

$$\frac{dB(E\lambda)}{dE} = \left[ Z_{\text{eff}}^{(\lambda)} e \right]^2 \frac{2\mu}{\pi \hbar^2} D_s \frac{|C_{l_i}|^2}{q^{2\lambda+3}} \mathcal{S}_{l_i}^{l_f}(\lambda) \quad \text{with spin factor } D_s$$

- scaling of transition strength with  $q$  through factor  $|C_{l_i}|^2/q^{2\lambda+3}$  with ANC
- scaling of  $C_{l_i}$  for neutron + core systems:  $C_0 \propto \sqrt{q}$ ,  $C_{l_i} \propto q^{l_i}$  for  $l_i \geq 1$

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- dimensionless shape function  $\mathcal{S}_{l_i}^{l_f}(\lambda) = \frac{q}{k} \left| \mathcal{I}_{l_i}^{l_f}(\lambda) \right|^2$

- dimensionless reduced radial integral

$$\mathcal{I}_{l_i}^{l_f}(\lambda) = q^{\lambda+1} \int_R^\infty dr r^\lambda \left[ \cos(\delta_{l_f}) F_{l_f}(kr) + \sin(\delta_{l_f}) G_{l_f}(kr) \right] W_{-\eta_i, l_i+1/2}(2qr)$$

- depends only on  $\gamma$ ,  $x$ ,  $\eta_i$  and phase shift  $\delta_{l_f}$
- analytical for neutron + core systems

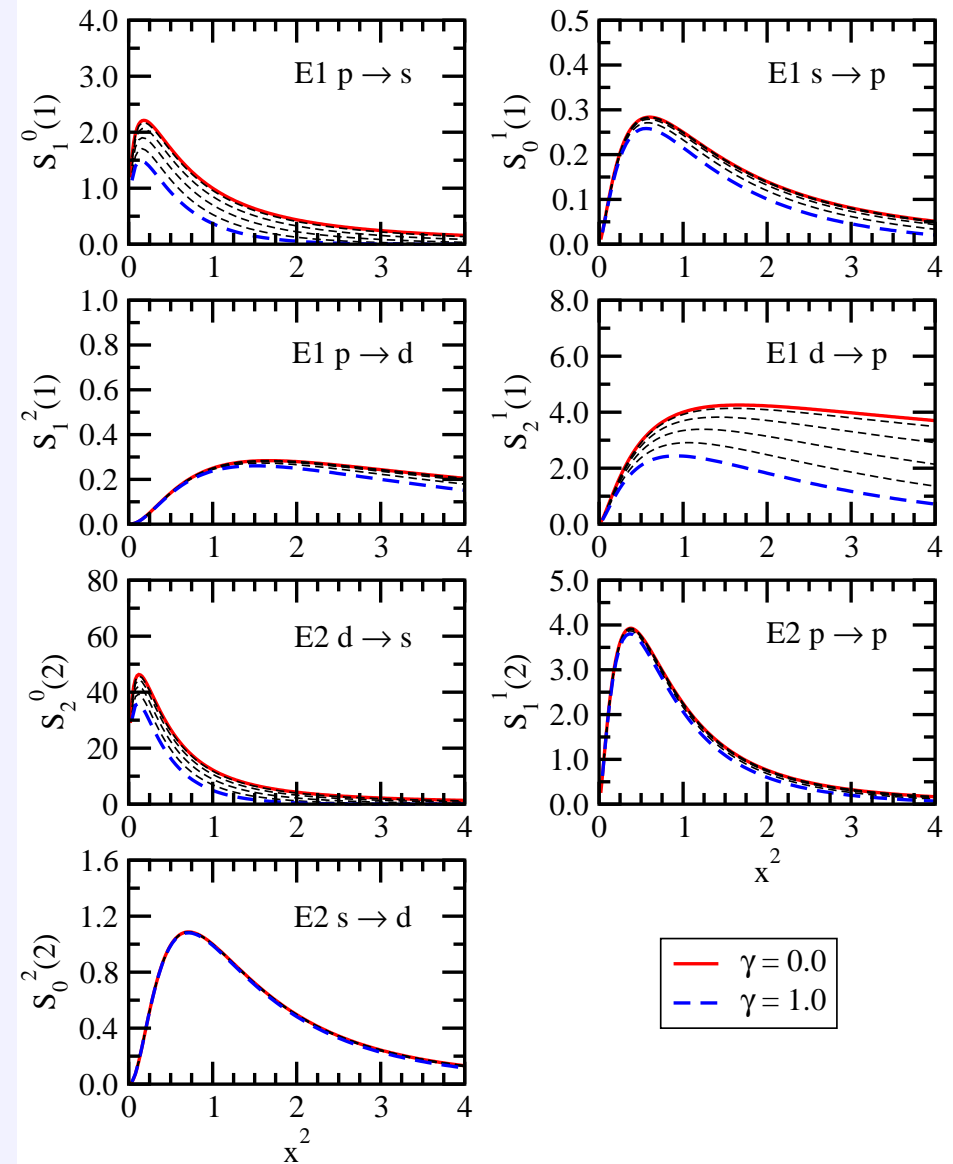
(S. Typel and G. Baur, Nucl. Phys. A 759 (2005) 247)

# Shape Functions for Neutron + Core Systems I

- without final-state interaction ( $\delta l_f = 0$ )
- characteristic shape of  $\mathcal{S}_{l_i}^{l_f}(\lambda)$  depending on  $E\lambda$  transition  $l_i \rightarrow l_f$
- strong peak at small  $x^2 = E_{\text{rel}}/S_n$
- hierarchy of maxima (shift to larger  $x^2$  with increasing  $l_f$ )
- variation with  $\gamma$  (smaller sensitivity with larger  $l_f$ )
- analytical forms for  $\gamma = 0$  (extreme halo limit) e.g.

$$\mathcal{S}_1^0(1) = \frac{x(3 + x^2)^2}{(1 + x^2)^4}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_0^1(1) = \frac{4x^3}{(1 + x^2)^4}$$



# Shape Functions for Neutron + Core Systems II

- with final-state interaction ( $\delta_{l_f} \neq 0$ )  
use effective-range expansion

$$\tan(\delta_{l_f}) = -(x\gamma c_{l_f})^{2l_f+1}$$

with constant scattering length

$$a_{l_f} = (c_{l_f} R)^{2l_f+1}$$

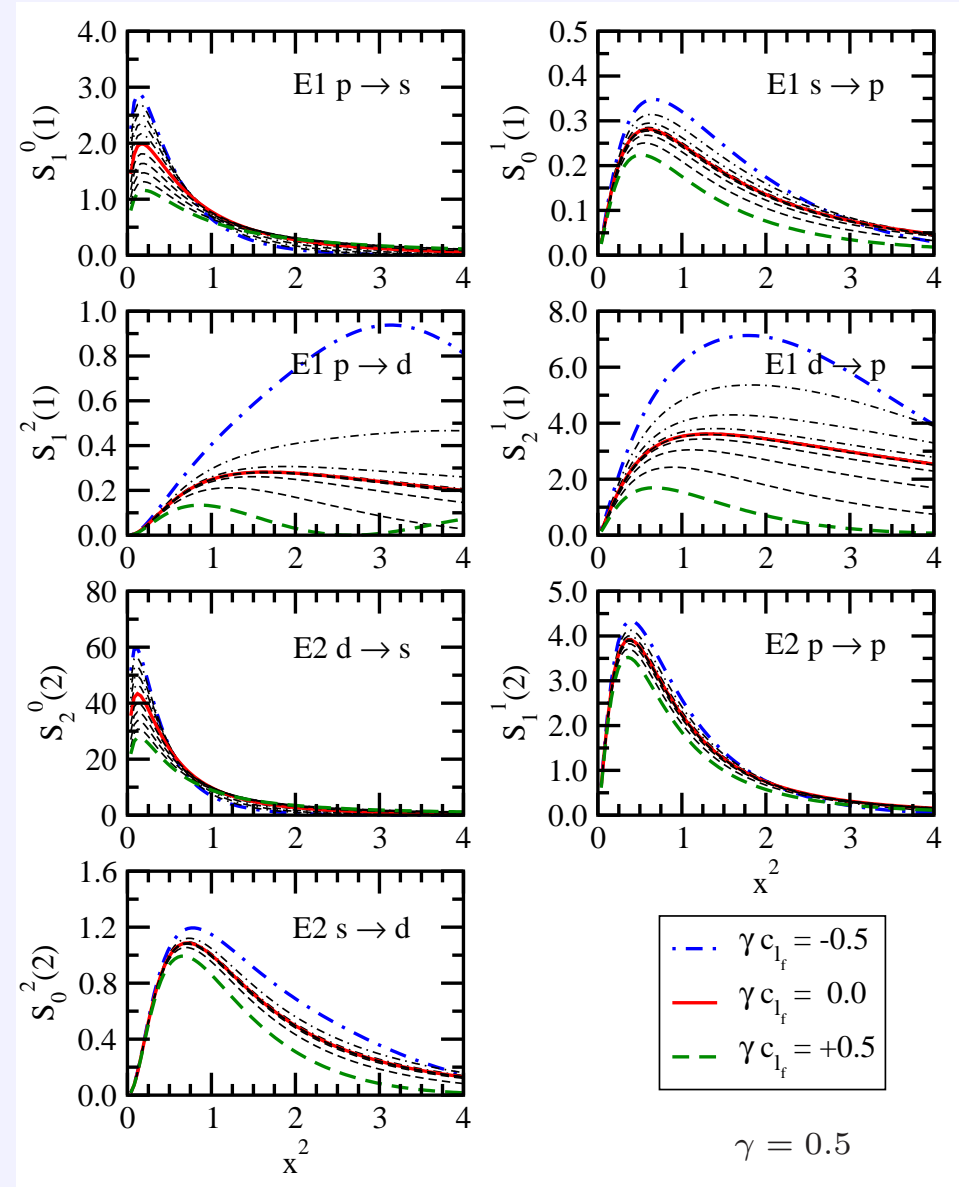
- “natural” values:  $\gamma c_{l_f} \leq 1$   
(zero-range potential:  $a_0 = 1/q$  exact)

- expansion of analytical forms for small  $\gamma$ :

$$\mathcal{S}_1^0(1) = \frac{x(3+x^2)^2}{(1+x^2)^4} \left[ 1 - \frac{4}{3+x^2} \gamma c_0 + \dots \right]$$

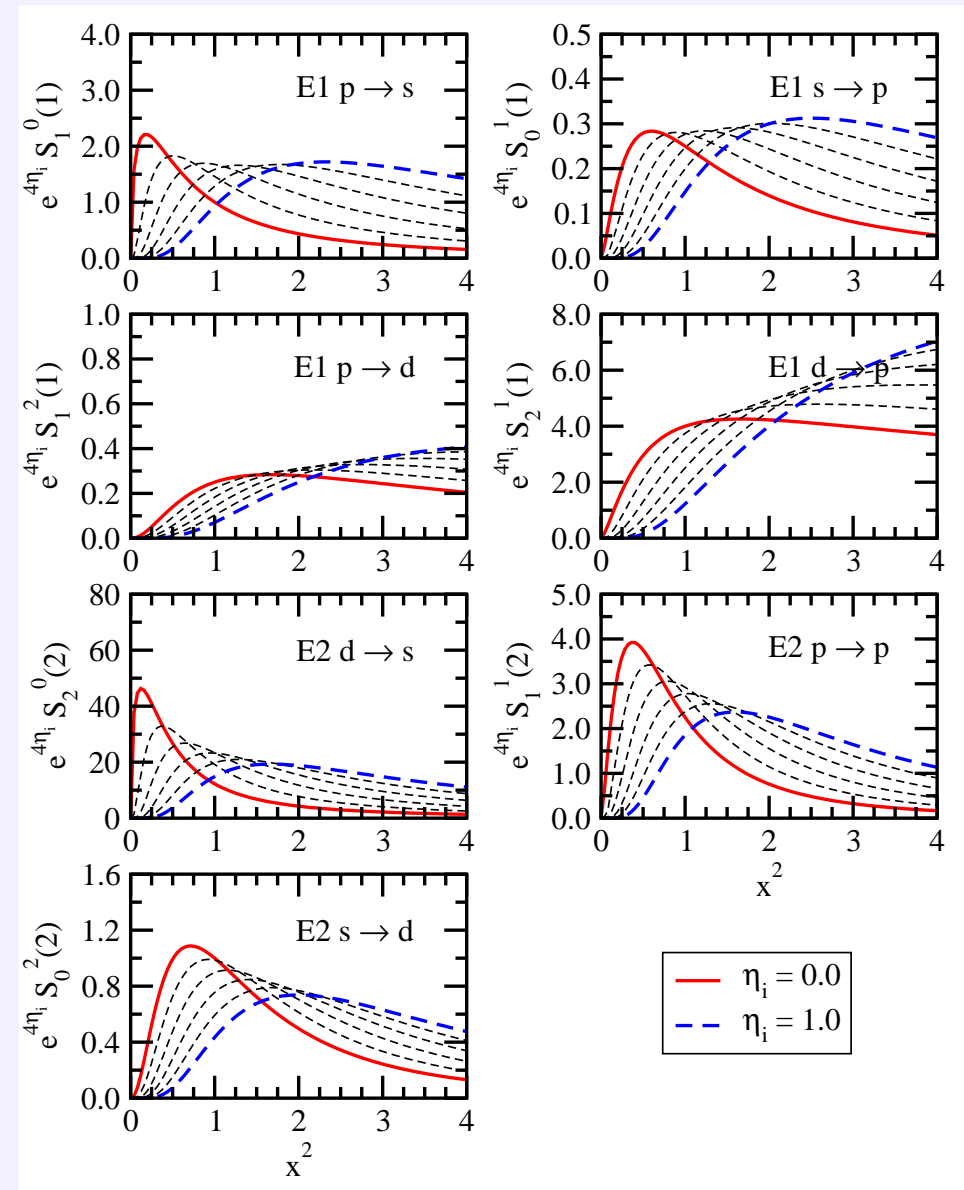
$$\mathcal{S}_0^1(1) = \frac{4x^3}{(1+x^2)^4} \left[ 1 - (1 + 3x^2) c_1^3 \gamma^3 + \dots \right]$$

- effect of final-state interaction  
even for  $x \rightarrow 0$



# Shape Functions for Proton + Core Systems

- without final-state interaction ( $\delta l_f = 0$ )
- halo limit  $\gamma \rightarrow 0$
- increase of Sommerfeld parameter  $\eta_i$ 
  - $\Downarrow$
  - shift of maximum to larger  $x^2 = \frac{E_{\text{rel}}}{S_p}$
  - broadening of peak
  - reduction of strength  
(scaling of  $\mathcal{S}_{l_i}^{l_f}(\lambda)$  with  $\exp(4\eta_i)$ )
  - less sensitivity to  $l_i, l_f$   
(Coulomb barrier dominates)
- highly charged core (= large nuclei)
  - $\Rightarrow$  no halo effect



# Coulomb Dissociation of $^{11}\text{Be}$

- $E1$  transition from  $s$ -wave halo ground state ( $S_n = 504$  keV,  $\gamma = 0.41$ ,  $R = 2.78$  fm) to  $p$ -wave continuum states with  $j = 3/2, 1/2$

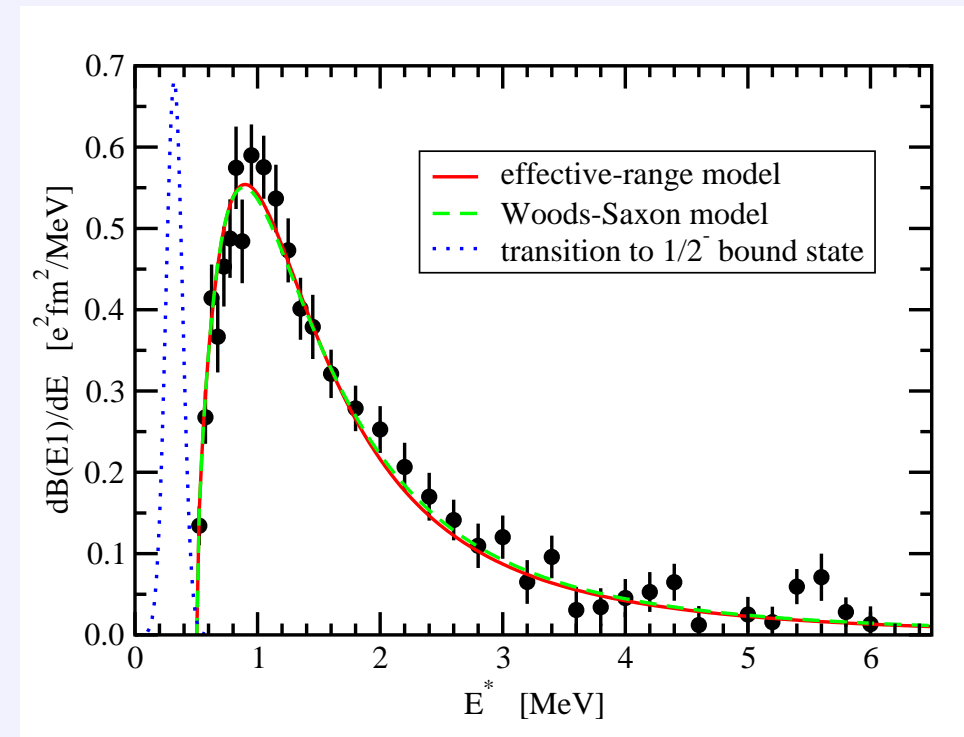
- effective-range expansion for phase shifts

$$\tan \delta_l^j = -(c_l^j x \gamma)^{2l+1}$$

with reduced scattering length  $c_l^j$

- fit to experimental data from Coulomb breakup of  $^{11}\text{Be}$  at 520 A·MeV on Pb
  - ⇒ ANC  $C_0 = 0.724(8)$  fm $^{-1/2}$
  - ⇒ spectroscopic factor  $C^2S = 0.704(15)$
  - ⇒ reduced scattering lengths
    - $c_1^{3/2} = -0.41(86, -20)$
    - $c_1^{1/2} = 2.77(13, -14)$

(S. Typel and G. Baur, Phys. Rev. Lett. 93 (2004) 142502)



exp. data: R. Palit et al., PRC 68 (2003) 034318

- $c_1^{1/2}$  unnaturally large
  - ⇔ existence of bound  $1/2^-$  state
  - 320 keV above ground state
  - ⇒ reduced  $E1$  strength in continuum

# Part III:

## Indirect Methods

# Indirect Methods - Overview I

## Coulomb dissociation

G. Baur et al.,

NPA 458 (1986) 188

- study inverse of radiative capture reaction

$$b(x, \gamma)a \Leftrightarrow a(\gamma, x)b$$

- use Coulomb field of target nucleus  $A$  as source of photons

$$a(\gamma, x)b \Leftrightarrow A(a, bx)A$$



absolute  $S$  factors  
as a function of energy

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## ANC method

H. M. Xu et al.,  
PRL 73 (1994) 2027

- extract asymptotic normalization coefficient of ground state wave function of nucleus  $a$  from transfer reactions
- calculate matrix elements for radiative capture reaction  $b(x, \gamma)a$



$S$  factor at zero energy

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- study inverse of **radiative capture reaction**  
 $b(x, \gamma)a \Leftrightarrow a(\gamma, x)b$
- use **Coulomb field** of target nucleus  $A$  as **source of photons**  
 $a(\gamma, x)b \Leftrightarrow A(a, bx)A$



**absolute S factors**  
as a function of energy

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- extract **asymptotic normalization coefficient** of ground state wave function of nucleus  $a$  from **transfer reactions**
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**S factor at zero energy**

## Trojan-Horse method

G. Baur,  
PLB 178 (1986) 35

- study three-body reaction  
 $A + a \rightarrow C + c + b$   
with **Trojan horse**  
 $a = b + x$   
and **spectator**  $b$
- extract cross section of two-body reaction  
 $A + x \rightarrow C + c$

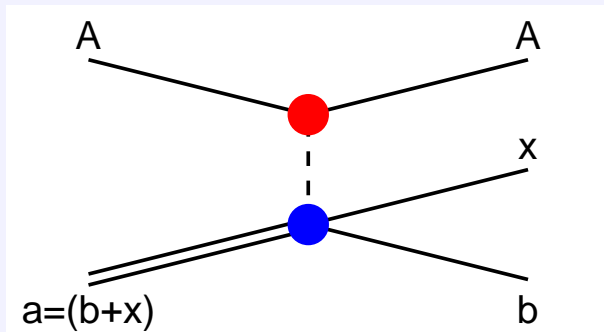


**energy dependence**  
of S factor

theoretical description? relation of methods?

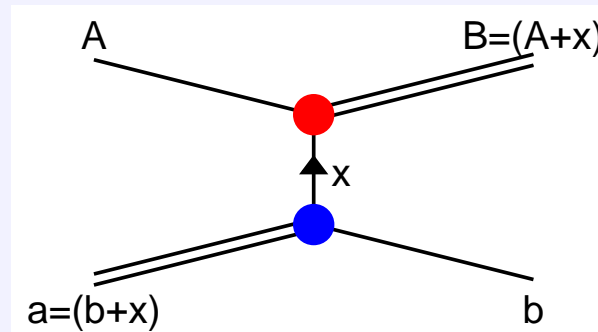
# Indirect Methods - Overview II

## Coulomb dissociation



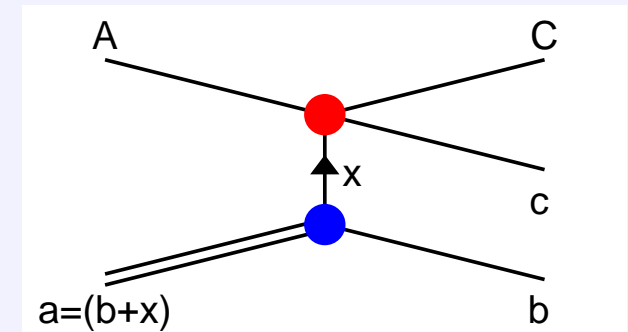
photon exchange

## ANC method



transfer of particle to bound state

## Trojan-Horse method



transfer of particle to continuum state

- similar reaction mechanisms: [transfer of virtual particle](#)
- final state with [three particles](#) (bound/continuum states)
- theoretical description with [direct reaction theory](#)

# Indirect Methods - Overview III

## general characteristics:

- **two-body** reaction at **low-energy** is replaced by **three-body** reaction at “**high-energy**” with large cross section

- Coulomb dissociation  $b(x, \gamma)a \Rightarrow A(a, bx)A$

- ANC method  $b(x, \gamma)a \Rightarrow A(a, B)b$

$$a = (b + x) \quad B = (A + x)$$

- Trojan-horse method  $A(x, c)C \Rightarrow A(a, Cc)b$

# Indirect Methods - Overview III

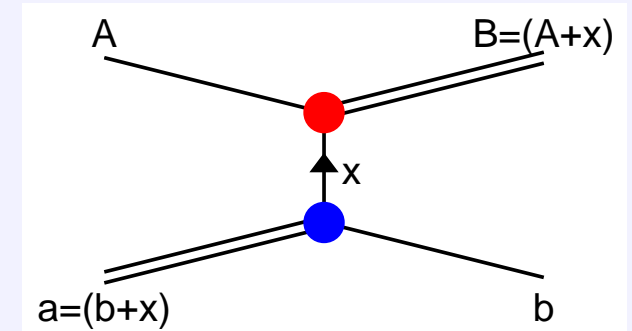
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  - ANC method  $b(x, \gamma)a \Rightarrow A(a, B)b$        $a = (b + x)$      $B = (A + x)$
  - Trojan-horse method  $A(x, c)C \Rightarrow A(a, Cc)b$
- **transfer** of **virtual particle** (photon  $\gamma$  or nucleus  $x$ )
- relation of **cross sections** is found with the help of nuclear direct **reaction theory**
- theoretical **approximations** essential
- study of **peripheral** reactions
  - **asymptotics** of wave functions relevant
  - selection of suitable **kinematical conditions** important

# Transfer Reactions - Cross Sections

- **transfer reaction**  $A + a \rightarrow B + b$  with  $a = b + x$   
to **bound state** of  $B = A + x$
- **cross section**

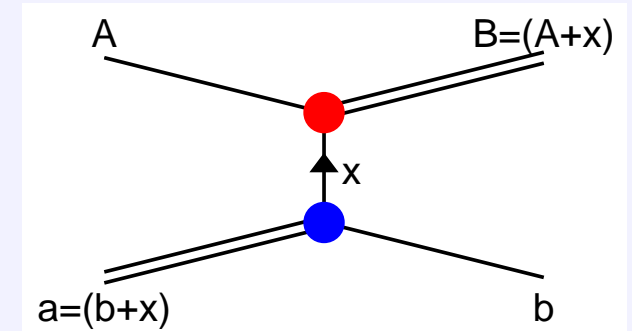
$$d\sigma = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} \frac{\mu_{Aa}}{p_{Aa}} |T_{fi}|^2 \delta(E_B + E_b - E_A - E_a - Q) \frac{d^3 p_{Bb}}{(2\pi\hbar)^3}$$



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with **T-matrix** in **prior** formulation  $T_{fi} = \langle \Psi_{Bb}^{(-)} | V_{Aa}^{(i)} | \exp(i\vec{k}_{Aa} \cdot \vec{r}_{Aa}) \phi_A \phi_a \rangle$

or in **post** formulation  $T_{fi} = \langle \exp(i\vec{k}_{Bb} \cdot \vec{r}_{Bb}) \phi_B \phi_b | V_{Bb}^{(f)} | \Psi_{Aa}^{(+)} \rangle$

$\Psi_{Aa}^{(+)} / \Psi_{Bb}^{(-)}$ : exact **scattering wave functions** in initial/final state

$V_{Aa}^{(i)} / V_{Bb}^{(f)}$ : full **potentials** in initial/final state

- **T-matrix element** contains essential information on reaction process
- transferred particle  $x$  is virtual, i.e.  $E_x \neq \frac{p_x^2}{2m_x}$
- two poles in diagram  $\Rightarrow$  **factorization**

# T-Matrix Elements - Transformations

- introduce optical potentials  $U_{ij}$  ( $ij = Aa, Bb$ ) and

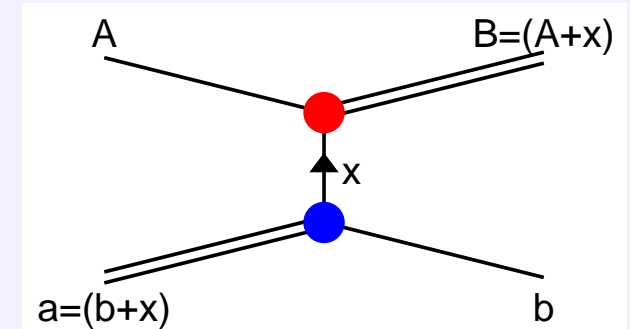
distorted waves  $\chi_{ij}^{(\pm)}$  with  $(\hat{T}_{ij} + U_{ij})\chi_{ij}^{(\pm)} = E_{ij}\chi_{ij}^{(\pm)}$

- apply Gell-Mann–Goldberger relation

(Phys. Rev. 91 (1953) 398)  $\Rightarrow$

○ prior form  $T_{fi} = \langle \Psi_{Bb}^{(-)} | V_{Aa}^{(i)} - U_{Aa} | \chi_{Aa}^{(+)} \phi_A \phi_a \rangle$  exact!

○ post form  $T_{fi} = \langle \chi_{Bb}^{(-)} \phi_B \phi_b | V_{Bb}^{(f)} - U_{Bb} | \Psi_{Aa}^{(+)} \rangle$  exact!



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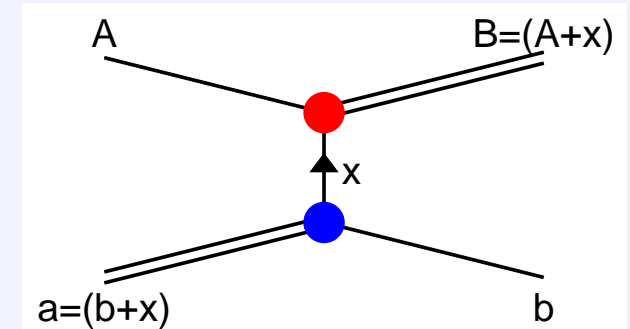
○ post form  $T_{fi} = \langle \chi_{Bb}^{(-)} \phi_B \phi_b | V_{Bb}^{(f)} - U_{Bb} | \Psi_{Aa}^{(+)} \rangle$  exact!

- distorted-wave Born approximation (DWBA):

replace exact scattering wave functions  $\Psi_{Aa}^{(+)} \rightarrow \chi_{Aa}^{(+)} \phi_A \phi_a$  or  $\Psi_{Bb}^{(-)} \rightarrow \chi_{Bb}^{(-)} \phi_B \phi_b$

○ prior form  $T_{fi} \approx \langle \chi_{Bb}^{(-)} \Phi_{Ax}^B | V_{Aa}^{(i)} - U_{Aa} | \chi_{Aa}^{(+)} \Phi_{bx}^a \rangle$

○ post form  $T_{fi} \approx \langle \chi_{Bb}^{(-)} \Phi_{Ax}^B | V_{Bb}^{(f)} - U_{Bb} | \chi_{Aa}^{(+)} \Phi_{bx}^a \rangle$

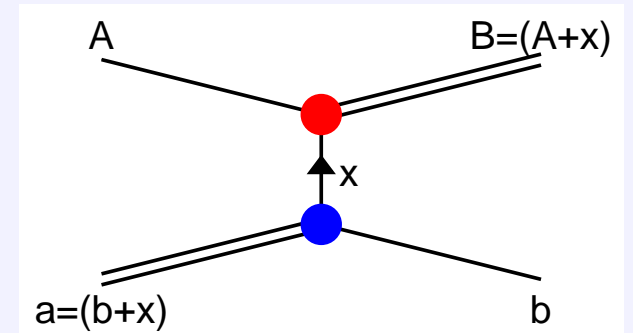


# Spectroscopic Factors

transfer reaction  $A + a \rightarrow B + b$

- overlap functions  $\hat{=}$  wave function of transferred particle

$$\Phi_{bx}^a = \langle \phi_b | \phi_a \rangle \quad \Phi_{Ax}^B = \langle \phi_A | \phi_B \rangle$$

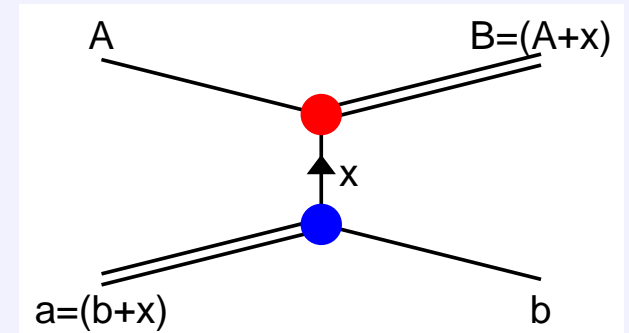


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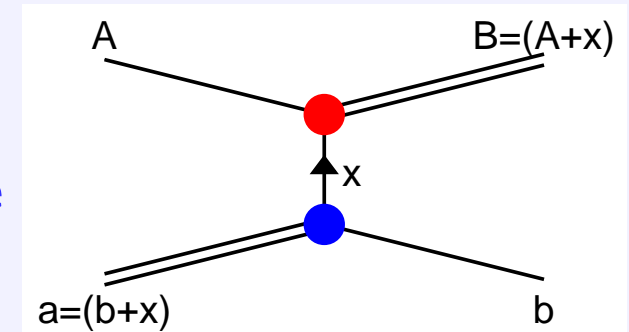


- approximation with spectroscopic amplitudes and single-particle wave functions

$$\Phi_{bx}^a \approx \mathcal{A}_{bx}^a \varphi_{bx}^a(\vec{r}_{bx}) \phi_x \quad \Phi_{Ax}^B \approx \mathcal{A}_{Ax}^B \varphi_{Ax}^B(\vec{r}_{Ax}) \phi_x \quad \langle \varphi_{bx}^a | \varphi_{bx}^a \rangle = \langle \varphi_{Bx}^A | \varphi_{Bx}^A \rangle = 1$$

- spectroscopic factors  $\mathcal{S}_{bx}^a = \langle \Phi_{bx}^a | \Phi_{bx}^a \rangle \approx |\mathcal{A}_{bx}^a|^2 \quad \mathcal{S}_{Ax}^B = \langle \Phi_{Ax}^B | \Phi_{Ax}^B \rangle \approx |\mathcal{A}_{Ax}^B|^2$

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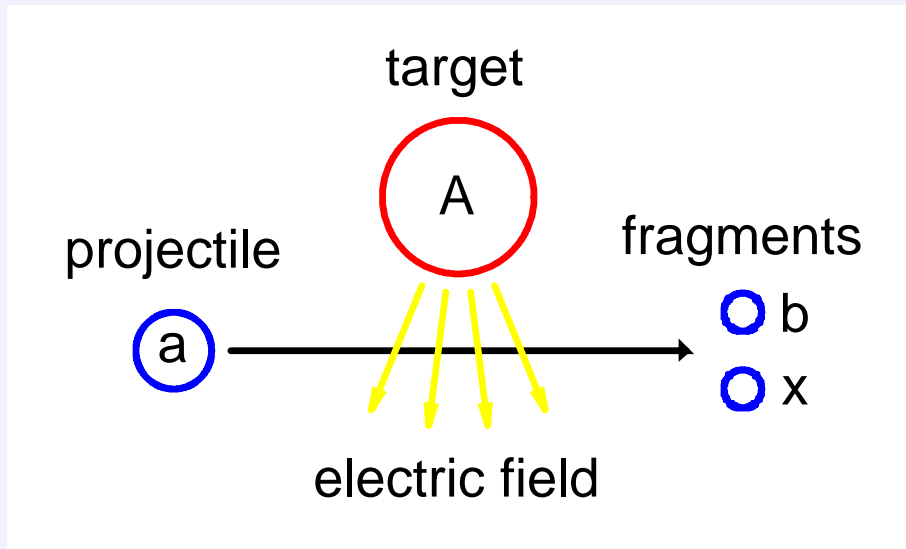
- **T-matrix elements** in DWBA

- post form:  $T_{(Bb)(Aa)} = \langle \Phi_{Ax}^B \chi_{Bb}^{(-)} | V_{Bb} - U_{Bb} | \Phi_{bx}^a \chi_{Aa}^{(+)} \rangle$

- prior form:  $T_{(Bb)(Aa)} = \langle \Phi_{Ax}^B \chi_{Bb}^{(-)} | V_{Aa} - U_{Aa} | \Phi_{bx}^a \chi_{Aa}^{(+)} \rangle$

- **cross sections**  $d\sigma \propto |T_{(Bb)(Aa)}|^2 \Rightarrow d\sigma \approx \mathcal{S}_{bx}^a \mathcal{S}_{Ax}^B d\sigma_{sp}$  factorization!

# Coulomb Dissociation - Idea



radiative capture  $b(x, \gamma)a$

detailed balance  $\Updownarrow$

photo absorption  $a(\gamma, x)b$

equivalent photons in Coulomb field of target A  $\Updownarrow$

Coulomb dissociation  $A(a, bx)A$

(G. Baur, H. Rebel, C. Bertulani, Nucl. Phys. A 458 (1986) 188)

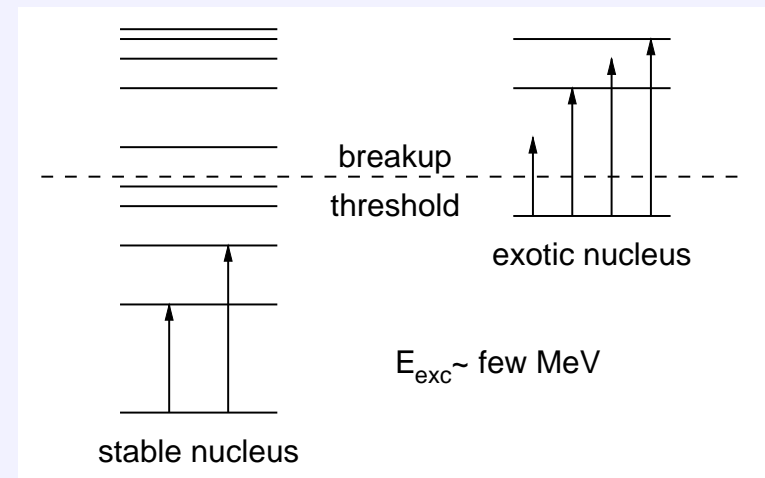
## correspondence

(Fermi 1924, Weizsäcker-Williams 1932)

time-dependent electromagnetic field  
of highly-charged nucleus  $A$   
during scattering of projectile  $a$



spectrum of (virtual, equivalent) photons



only ground state transitions !

# Coulomb Dissociation - Theory

Coulomb dissociation reaction:  $a + A \rightarrow b + x + A$   
with **three-body final state** in the continuum  
 $\Rightarrow$  only approximate theoretical treatment

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Coulomb dissociation reaction:  $a + A \rightarrow b + x + A$

with **three-body final state** in the continuum

⇒ only approximate theoretical treatment

- **semiclassical methods**

- classical description of projectile-target relative motion

- (valid for heavy targets if  $\eta_{Aa} = Z_A Z_a e^2 / (\hbar v) \gg 1$  with beam velocity  $v$ )

- time-dependent perturbation  $V(t)$  of projectile system

- **time-dependent perturbation theory**

- ⇒ excitation amplitude  $a_{fi}$

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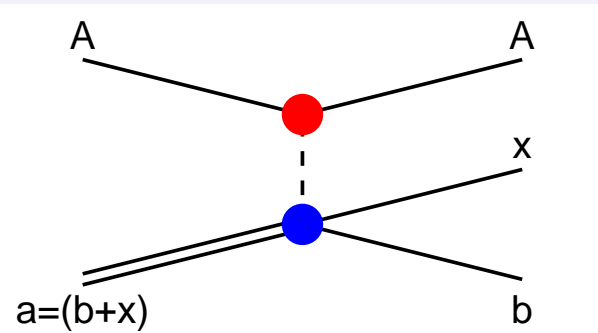
- **quantal methods**

- valid for all projectile/target combinations and all beam energies

- **time-independent scattering theory**

⇒ T-matrix element  $T_{fi}$

# Coulomb Dissociation - Quantal Theory

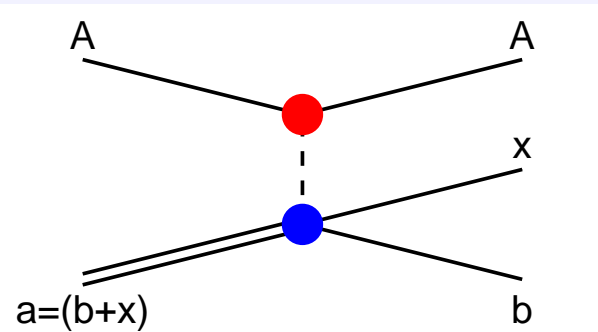


- prior-form distorted-wave Born approximation (DWBA)

$$T_{fi} = \langle \chi_{A(bx)}^{(-)} \phi_A \Psi_{bx}^{(-)} | V_{Aa} - U_{Aa} | \phi_A \phi_a \chi_{Aa}^{(+)} \rangle$$

- neglect of nuclear interaction in  $V_{Aa}$  and  $U_{Aa}$

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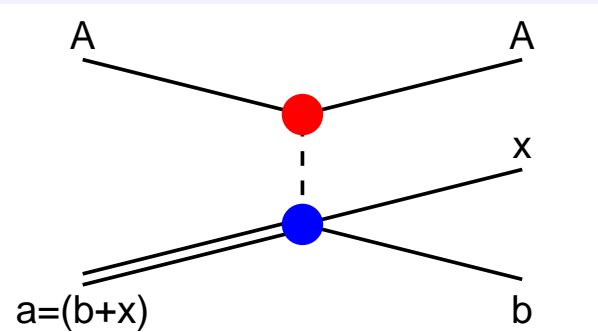
- multipole expansion of Coulomb potential in far-field approximation ( $r_{bx} < r_{Aa}$ )

$$V_{Aa} - U_{Aa} = \frac{Z_A Z_b e^2}{|\vec{r}_b - \vec{r}_A|} + \frac{Z_A Z_x e^2}{|\vec{r}_x - \vec{r}_A|} - \frac{Z_A Z_a e^2}{|\vec{r}_a - \vec{r}_A|} \approx 4\pi Z_A e \sum_{\lambda\mu} \frac{Z_{\text{eff}}^{(\lambda)} e}{2\lambda+1} \frac{r_{bx}^\lambda}{r_{Aa}^{\lambda+1}} Y_{\lambda\mu}(\hat{r}_{bx}) Y_{\lambda\mu}^*(\hat{r}_{Aa})$$

with effective charge numbers  $Z_{\text{eff}}^{(\lambda)} = Z_b \left( \frac{m_x}{m_b + m_x} \right)^\lambda + Z_x \left( -\frac{m_b}{m_b + m_x} \right)^\lambda$

and relative coordinates  $\vec{r}_{bx} = \vec{r}_b - \vec{r}_x$ ,  $\vec{r}_{Aa} = \vec{r}_A - \vec{r}_a$

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and relative coordinates  $\vec{r}_{bx} = \vec{r}_b - \vec{r}_x$ ,  $\vec{r}_{Aa} = \vec{r}_A - \vec{r}_a$

⇒ factorization of T-matrix element

$$T_{fi} \approx Z_A e \sum_{\lambda\mu} \frac{4\pi}{2\lambda+1} \langle \Psi_{bx}^{(-)} | \underbrace{Z_{\text{eff}}^{(\lambda)} e r_{bx}^\lambda Y_{\lambda\mu}(\hat{r}_{bx})}_{\mathcal{M}(E\lambda\mu)} | \phi_a \rangle \langle \chi_{A(bx)}^{(-)} | r_{Aa}^{-\lambda-1} Y_{\lambda\mu}^*(\hat{r}_{Aa}) | \chi_{Aa}^{(+)} \rangle$$

$\mathcal{M}(E\lambda\mu)$  electric multipole transition operator

⇒ transition matrix element  $\times$  quantal Coulomb integral

# Coulomb Dissociation - Cross Section

## Coulomb dissociation cross section

(with angular integration over relative momentum between fragments)

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d^2\sigma}{dE_{bx}d\Omega_{aA}} = \frac{1}{E_\gamma} \sum_{\pi\lambda} \sigma_{\pi\lambda}(a + \gamma \rightarrow b + x) \frac{dn_{\pi\lambda}}{d\Omega_{aA}} \quad \pi = E, M \quad \lambda = 1, 2, \dots$$

• photo absorption cross section  $\sigma_{\pi\lambda}(a + \gamma \rightarrow b + x)$

• virtual photon numbers  $\frac{dn_{\pi\lambda}}{d\Omega_{aA}}$

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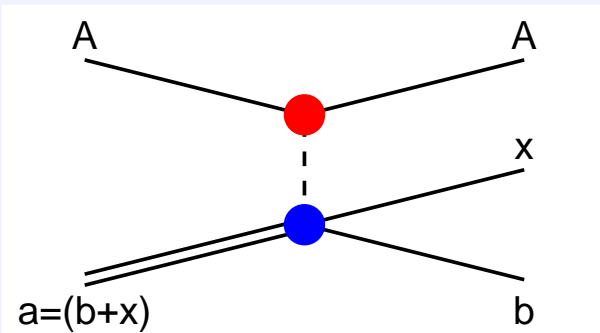
- photo absorption cross section  $\sigma_{\pi\lambda}(a + \gamma \rightarrow b + x)$
- virtual photon numbers  $\frac{dn_{\pi\lambda}}{d\Omega_{aA}}$  that depend on kinematics:
  - scattering angle  $\vartheta_{aA}$ /impact parameter  $b$
  - projectile velocity  $v$
  - excitation energy  $E_\gamma = \hbar\omega$

calculation in

- non-relativistic approximation with Coulomb (hyperbolic) scattering trajectories
- relativistic approximation with straight-line trajectories

$$\Rightarrow \text{E2 enhancement } \frac{dn_{E2}}{d\Omega_{aA}} / \frac{dn_{E1}}{d\Omega_{aA}} \approx \frac{4\hbar^2 c^2}{E_\gamma^2 b^2} \quad \text{M1 suppression } \frac{dn_{M1}}{d\Omega_{aA}} / \frac{dn_{E1}}{d\Omega_{aA}} \approx \frac{v^2}{c^2}$$

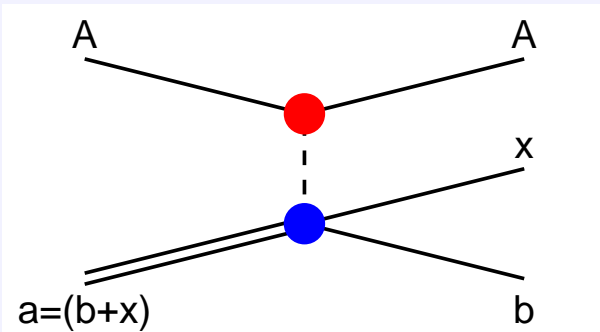
# Coulomb Dissociation - Relation of Cross Sections



- Coulomb dissociation cross section

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# Coulomb Dissociation - Relation of Cross Sections



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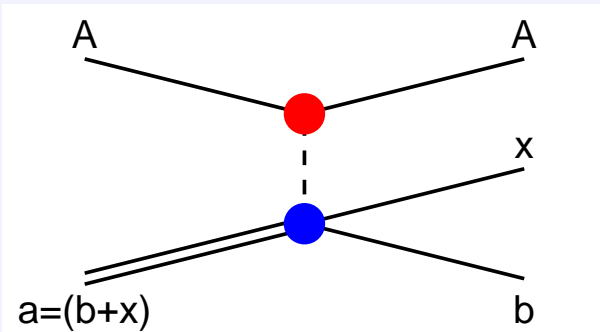
$$\frac{d^2\sigma}{dE_{bx}d\Omega_{Aa}} = \frac{1}{E_\gamma} \sum_{\pi\lambda} \sigma_{\pi\lambda}(a + \gamma \rightarrow b + x) \frac{dn_{\pi\lambda}}{d\Omega_{Aa}}$$

- theorem of detailed balance

$$\sigma_{\pi\lambda}(a + \gamma \rightarrow b + x) = \frac{(2J_b + 1)(2J_x + 1)}{2(2J_a + 1)} \frac{k_{bx}^2}{k_\gamma^2} \sigma_{\pi\lambda}(b + x \rightarrow a + \gamma)$$

with [photo absorption](#) and [radiative capture](#) cross sections

# Coulomb Dissociation - Relation of Cross Sections



- Coulomb dissociation cross section

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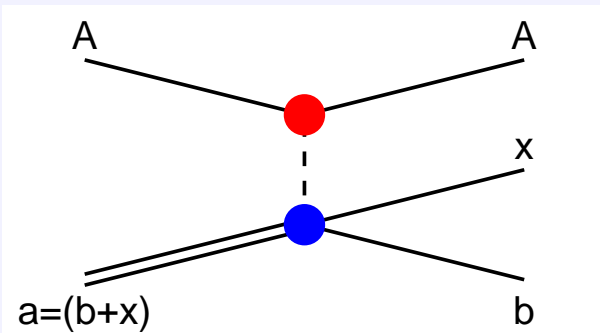
with **photo absorption** and **radiative capture** cross sections

- phase space factor  $\frac{k_{bx}^2}{k_\gamma^2} = \frac{2\mu_{bx}c^2 E_{bx}}{(E_{bx} + S_{bx})^2} \gg 1$  for not too small  $E_{bx}$

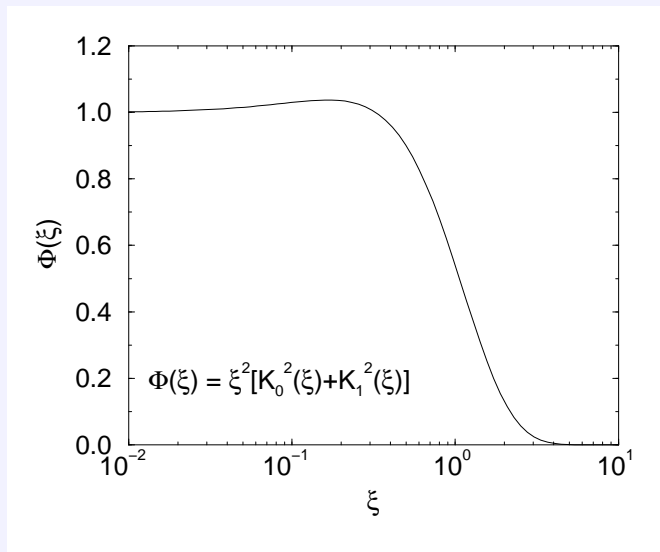
- virtual photon numbers  $\frac{dn_{\pi\lambda}}{d\Omega_{Aa}} \gg 1$  for large  $Z_A$  and for not too high  $E_{bx}$  ( $\hat{=}$   $\xi$ )

$\Rightarrow$  **large Coulomb dissociation cross sections**

# Coulomb Dissociation - Characteristic Parameters



virtual photon spectrum (E1)



(Fermi 1924, Weizsäcker-Williams 1932)

- **adiabaticity parameter**

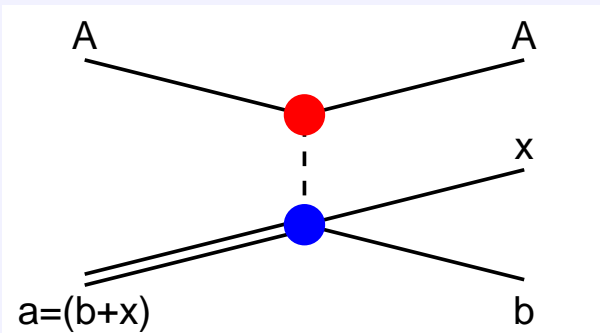
$$\xi = \frac{\omega b}{\gamma v} = \frac{\text{duration of scattering process}}{\text{excitation period}}$$

$\xi = 0$ : sudden excitation

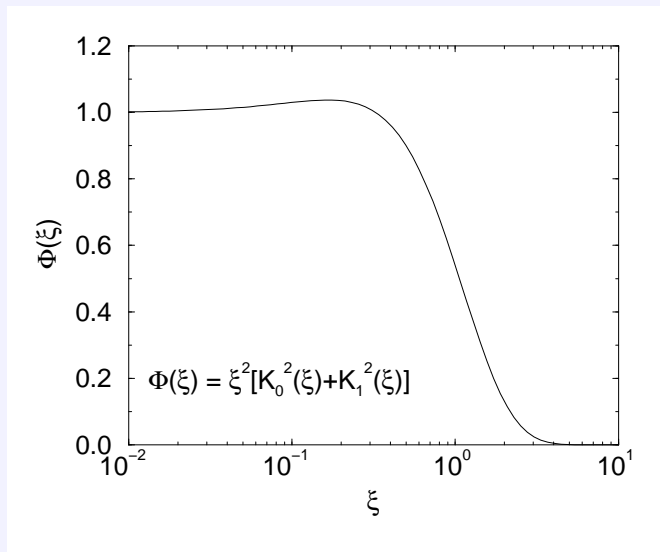
$\xi \gg 1$ : adiabatic excitation

$\xi \approx 1 \Rightarrow E_{\text{exc}}^{\text{max}} \approx \gamma v \hbar / b$

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- **strength parameter**

$$\chi = \frac{Z_A e \langle f | \mathcal{M}(\pi \lambda) | i \rangle}{\hbar v b^\lambda} \quad \begin{array}{l} Z_A e \\ \mathcal{M}(\pi \lambda) \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{target charge} \\ \text{multipole operator} \end{array}$$

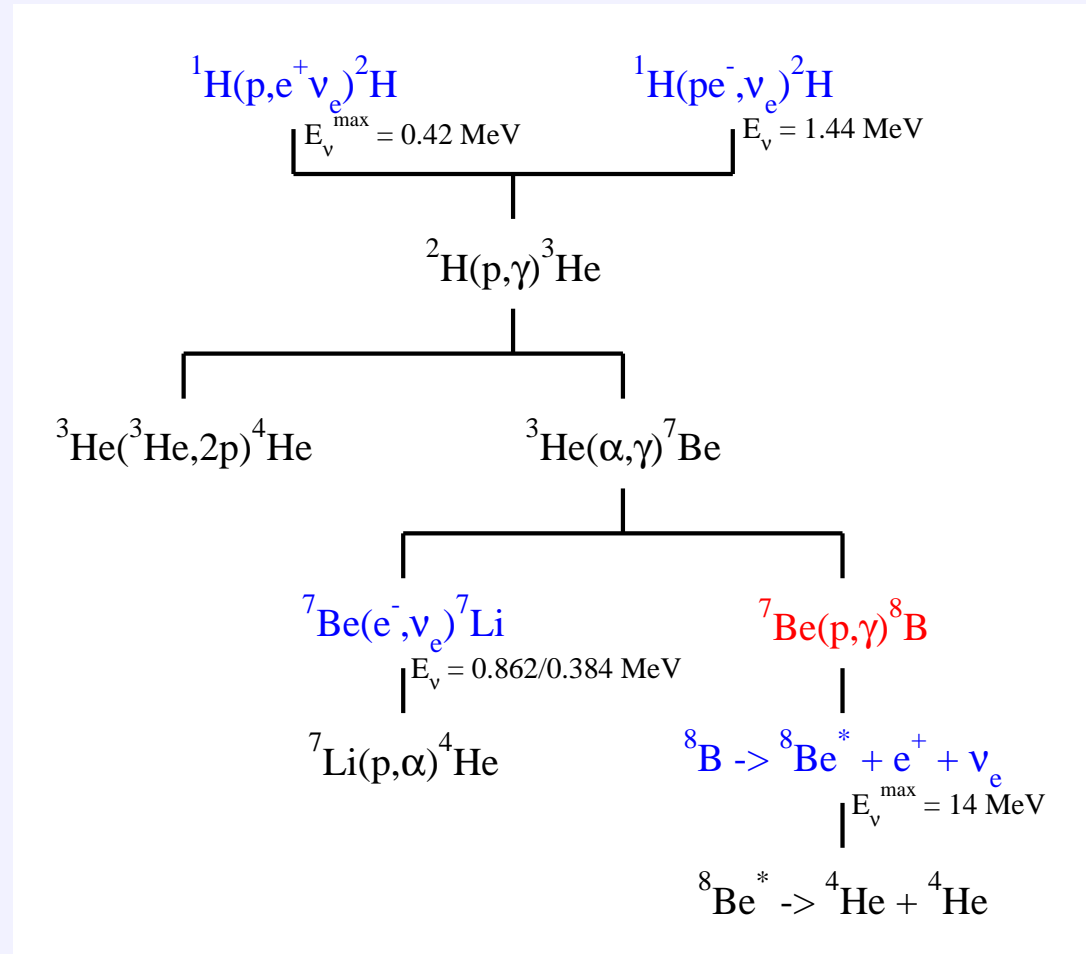
$\chi$  small  $\Rightarrow$  first-order perturbation theory sufficient

$\chi$  large  $\Rightarrow$  higher-order effects

# Coulomb Dissociation - Example: $^8\text{B}$

## $^8\text{B}$ and solar neutrinos

- **pp chains**: main source of solar energy production
  - flux of **high-energy neutrinos** proportional to synthesized  $^8\text{B}$
  - precise knowledge of  $^7\text{Be}(p,\gamma)^8\text{B}$  S factor  $S_{17}(E)$  in Gamov window ( $E \approx 20$  keV) required
  - **solar neutrino problem** solved with neutrino oscillation
  - more **precise direct capture data** available recently
- ⇒ **test case** for  
**Coulomb dissociation method**  
 see lecture by K. Sümmerer



# Coulomb Dissociation - Higher-Order Effects I

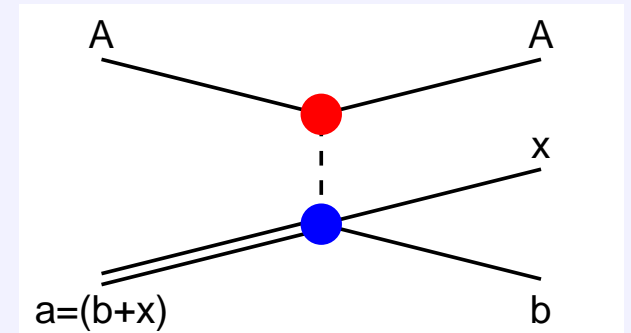
interaction of fragments in final state

with target Coulomb field after breakup

⇒ “post-acceleration”  $\hat{=}$  multi-photon exchange

⇒ Coulomb dissociation cross section

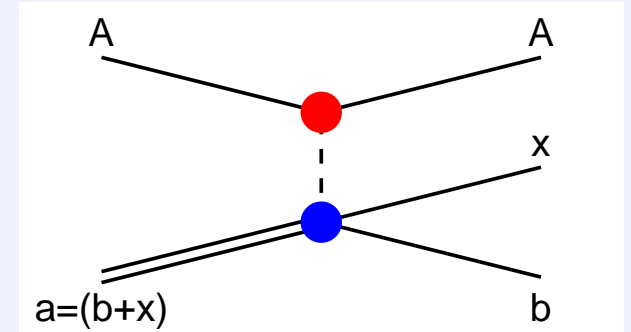
not proportional to photo absorption cross section



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not proportional to photo absorption cross section



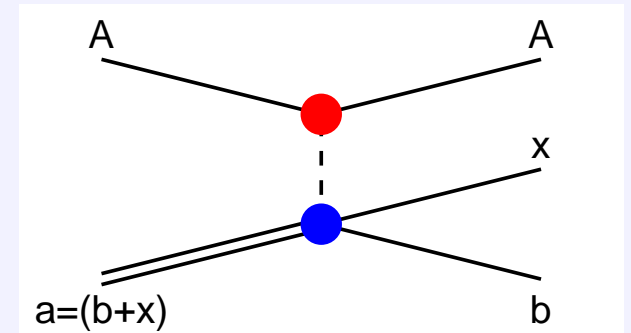
## theoretical approaches

- semiclassical description
  - higher-order perturbation theory
  - full dynamical calculation (solving the time-dependent Schrödinger equation)
  - sudden approximation

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## theoretical approaches

- semiclassical description
  - higher-order perturbation theory
  - full dynamical calculation (solving the time-dependent Schrödinger equation)
  - sudden approximation

- quantal description

- post-form DWBA  $T_{fi} = \langle \chi_{Ab}^{(-)} \chi_{Ax}^{(-)} \phi_A \phi_b \phi_x e^{i\vec{k}_{bx} \cdot \vec{r}_{bx}} | V_{bx} | \phi_A \phi_a \chi_{Aa}^{(+)} \rangle$

first order in  $V_{bx}$ , all orders in  $V_{Ab}$  and  $V_{Ax}$

⇒ factorization, Bremsstrahlung integrals

# Coulomb Dissociation - Higher-Order Effects II

**Coulomb excitation** of  $^{11}\text{Be}$

from **ground state** ( $\frac{1}{2}^+$ , s-wave,  $E_0 = -504$  keV)

to **first excited state** ( $\frac{1}{2}^-$ , p-wave,  $E_1 = -184$  keV)

- excitation amplitude in **sudden approximation**

$$a_{\text{sudden}} = \langle f | \exp(-i\vec{q}_{\text{Coul}} \cdot \vec{r}) | i \rangle \quad \text{with}$$

$$\text{momentum transfer } \hbar\vec{q}_{\text{Coul}} = \frac{2ZZ_{\text{eff}}^{(1)}e^2}{vb} \vec{e}_z$$

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- reduction factors**

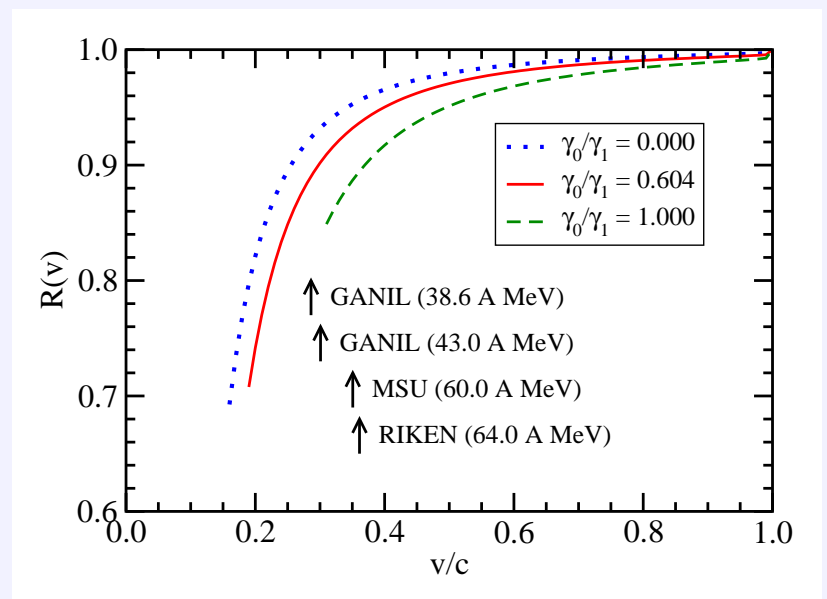
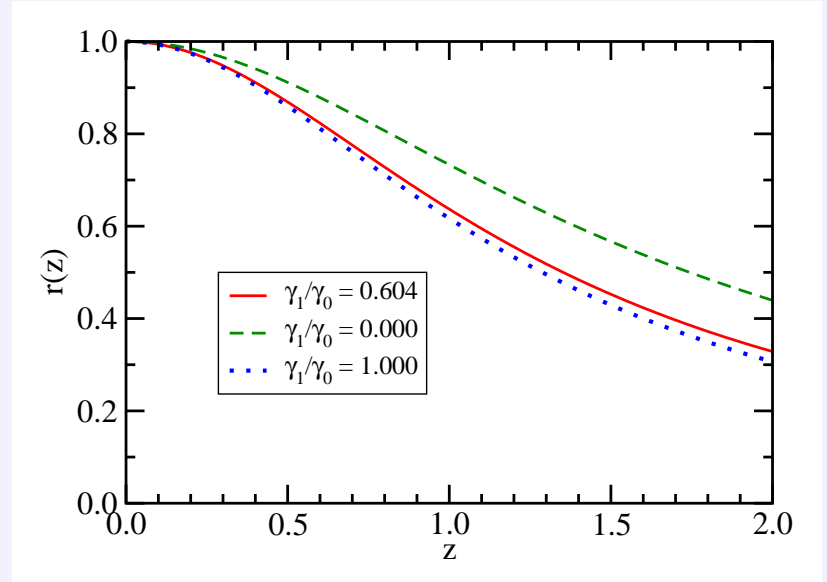
probability  $r(z) = \frac{|a_{\text{sudden}}|^2}{|a_1|^2}$  depends on

$$z = \frac{q_{\text{Coul}}R}{\gamma_0 + \gamma_1} \quad \text{and} \quad \gamma_1/\gamma_0 = \sqrt{E_1/E_0} \quad (\text{analytical})$$

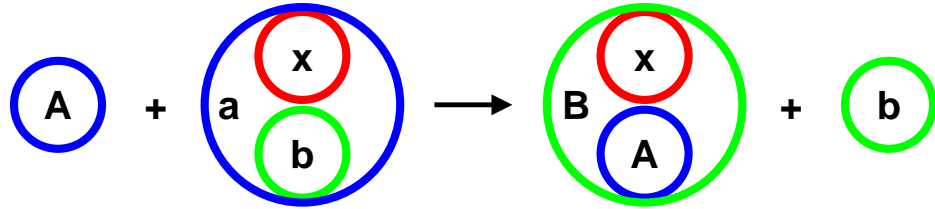
cross section  $R(v) = \sigma^{(\infty)}/\sigma^{(1)}$

$\Rightarrow$  simple **scaling laws**

(S. Typel and G. Baur, Eur. Phys. J. A 38 (2008) 355)



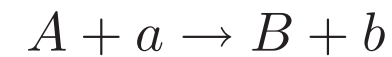
# ANC Method - Idea



extract asymptotic normalization coefficient  
(ANC)

for breakup of nucleus  $B$  into  $A + x$   
or nucleus  $a$  into  $b + x$

from cross section of transfer reaction



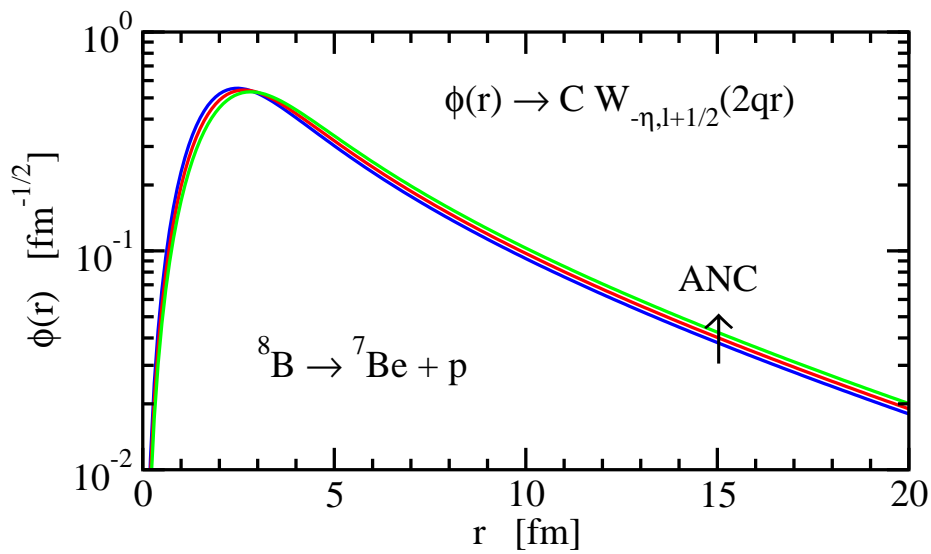
with  $a = b + x$  and  $B = A + x$

↓

calculate astrophysical S factor  $S(E)$

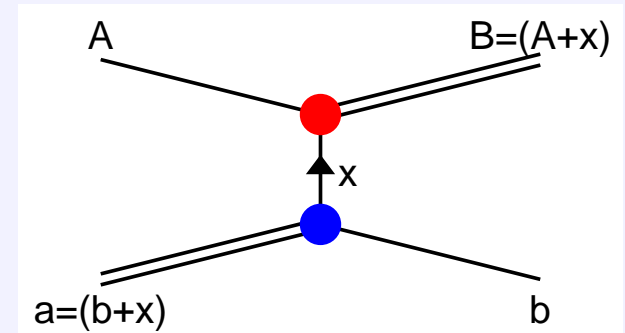
in the limit  $E \rightarrow 0$

(H.M. Xu et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 73 (1994) 2027)



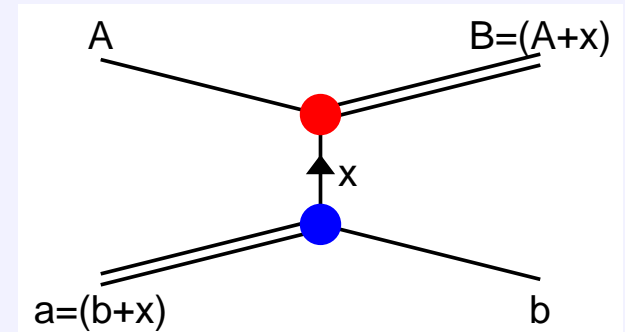
# ANC Method - Theory I

- T-matrix element in post-form DWBA
- replace exact overlap functions by asymptotic form with **asymptotic normalization coefficients** (ANCs) and Whittaker functions



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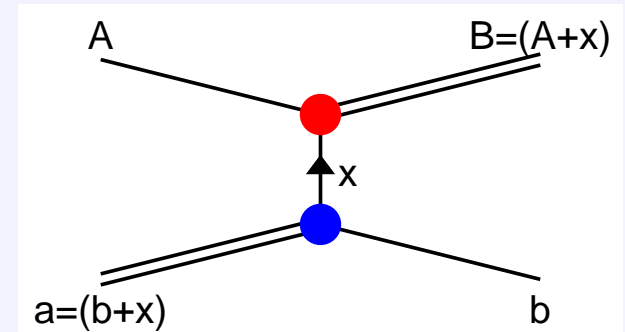
- **overlap functions** ( $\hat{=}$  wave function of transferred particle, neglecting spins)

$$\langle \phi_b | \phi_a \rangle \approx \frac{C_{bx}^a(l_a)}{r_{bx}} W_{-\eta_{bx}, l_a + 1/2}(2q_{bx} r_{bx}) Y_{l_a m_a}(\hat{r}_{bx}) \phi_x$$

$$\langle \phi_A | \phi_B \rangle \approx \frac{C_{Ax}^B(l_B)}{r_{Ax}} W_{-\eta_{Ax}, l_B + 1/2}(2q_{Ax} r_{Ax}) Y_{l_B m_B}(\hat{r}_{Ax}) \phi_x$$

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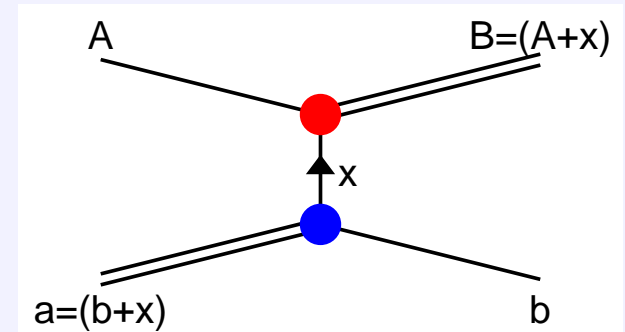
$$\langle \phi_A | \phi_B \rangle \approx \frac{C_{Ax}^B(l_B)}{r_{Ax}} W_{-\eta_{Ax}, l_B + 1/2}(2q_{Ax} r_{Ax}) Y_{l_B m_B}(\hat{r}_{Ax}) \phi_x$$

- **cross section** of **transfer reaction to bound state**

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega_{Bb}} = |C_{bx}^a|^2 |C_{Ax}^B|^2 \frac{d\tilde{\sigma}}{d\Omega_{Bb}} \quad \text{with reduced DWBA cross section} \quad \frac{d\tilde{\sigma}}{d\Omega_{Bb}}$$

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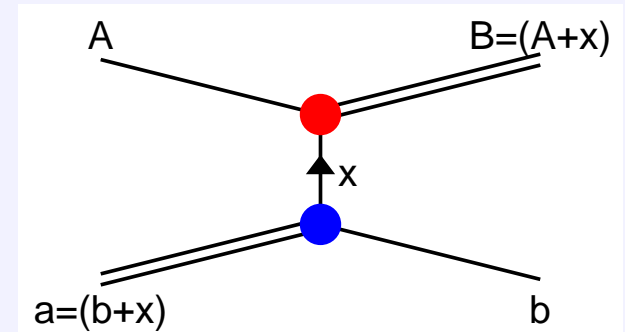
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- two ANCs appear corresponding to two poles in diagram
- ANC/Whittaker functions replace spectroscopic factors/full single-particle wave functions in conventional DWBA

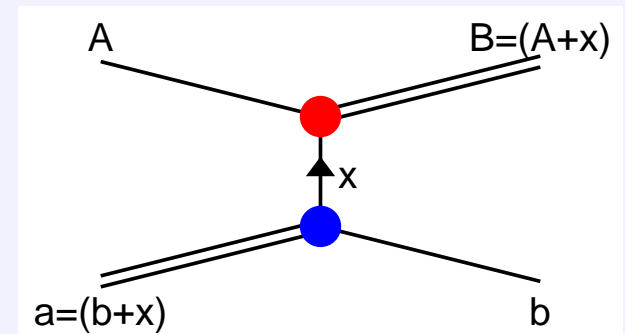
# ANC Method - Theory II

- approximations only valid for **weakly bound states**/ **peripheral reactions**
- precise **optical potentials** for  $A + a$  and  $B + b$  scattering required
- one **additional ANC** needed



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⇒ calculate **low-energy S factor** of capture reaction  $b(x, \gamma)a$  numerically

with extracted ANC  $C_{bx}^a(l_a)$  and asymptotic wave function

- $|C_{bx}^a|^2 \Leftrightarrow S(0)$  **unique relation?**
- effect of **final-state interaction**  $V_{bx}$ ?  
⇒ systematic model calculations

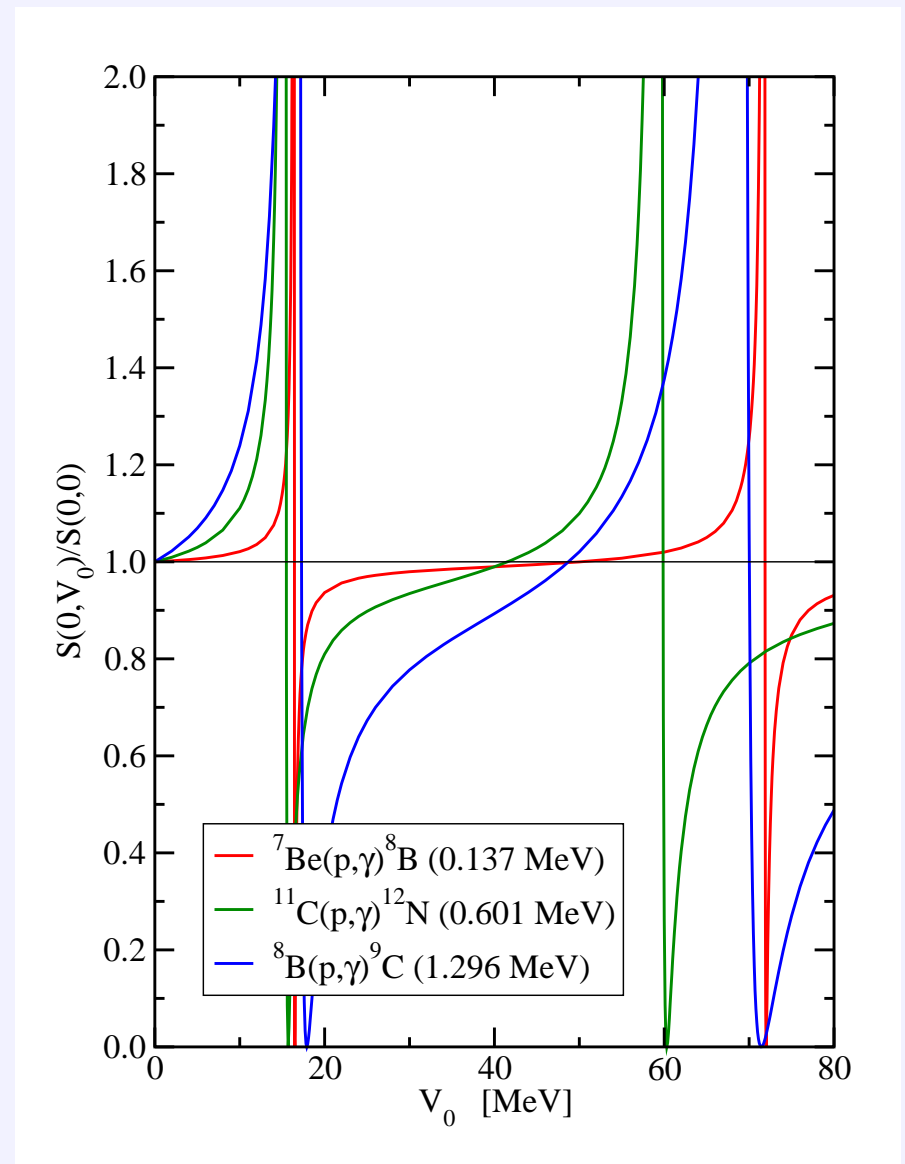
# ANC Method - Continuum Interaction

- effects of interaction in continuum states
  - modification of shape of cross section, S factor (i.e. energy dependence)
  - change of  $S(0)$  even though  $\delta \rightarrow 0$
- calculation of zero-energy S factor  $S(0)$  in single-particle model with Woods-Saxon potential with different depths  $V_0$

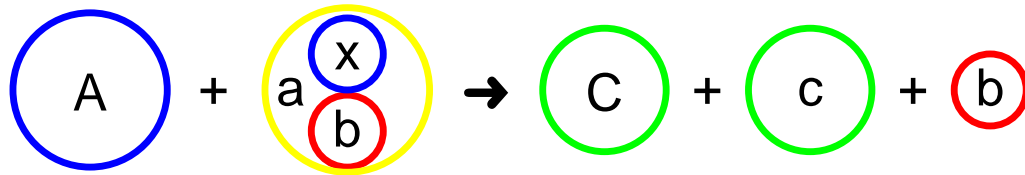
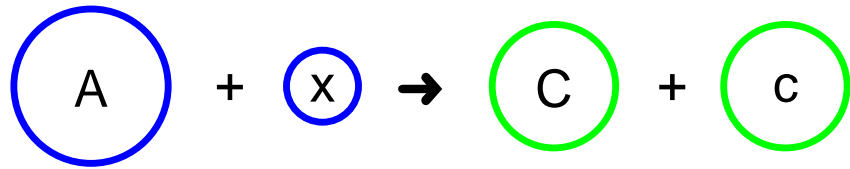
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- example:  $E1$   $s \rightarrow p$  wave capture for different nuclei with proton+core structure  $\Rightarrow$  stronger variation of  $S(0)$  with  $V_0$  with larger proton separation energy
- simple relation  $\text{ANC} \Leftrightarrow S(0)$  only correct for weakly bound nuclei

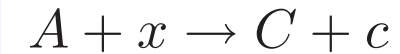
S. Typel and G. Baur, Nucl. Phys. A 759 (2005) 245



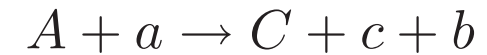
# Trojan-Horse Method - Idea



replace **two-body reaction**



by **three-body reaction**



with **Trojan horse**  $a = b + x$

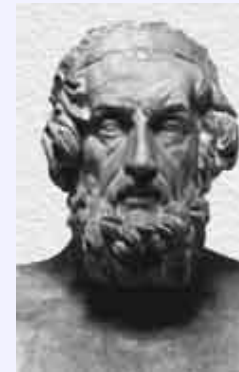
and **spectator**  $b$

- small momentum transfer to spectator  
⇒ quasi-free scattering dominates
- large relative energy of system  $A + a$   
⇒ no suppression of cross section  
⇒ no electron screening
- small relative energies of system  $A + x$  accessible  
⇒ application to nuclear astrophysics

(G. Baur, Phys. Lett. B 178 (1986) 35)

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Homer, Odyssey VIII, 503

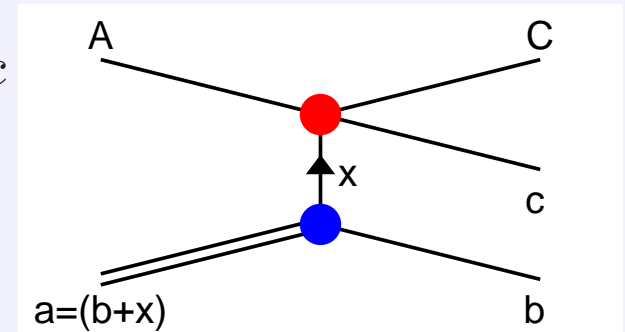


# Trojan-Horse Method - Theory I

- T-matrix element in **post-form DWBA** with  $B = C + c$

$$T_{(Bb)(Aa)} = \langle \phi_B \phi_b \chi_{Bb}^{(-)} | V_{Bb} - U_{Bb} | \phi_a \phi_A \chi_{Aa}^{(+)} \rangle$$

- use asymptotic form of scattering wave function  $\phi_B = \Psi_{Cc}^{(-)}$  in reaction channel  $C + c \rightarrow A + x$  (“**surface approximation**”)

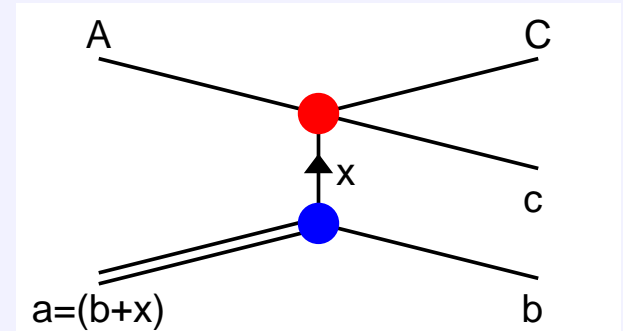


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⇒ **overlap function** ( $\hat{\Psi}$  wave function of transferred particle, neglecting spins)

$$\langle \phi_A | \Psi_{Cc}^{(-)} \rangle \approx \frac{4\pi}{k_{Cc} r_{Ax}} \sqrt{\frac{v_{Cc}}{v_{Ax}}} \sum_{lm} \xi_l^*(r_{Ax}) i^l Y_{lm}(\hat{r}_{Ax}) Y_{lm}^*(\hat{k}_{Cc}) \phi_x$$

with  $\xi_l(r_{Ax}) = \frac{1}{2i} \left[ S_{AxCc}^l u_l^{(+)}(\eta_{Ax}; k_{Ax} r_{Ax}) - \delta_{AxCc} u_l^{(-)}(\eta_{Ax}; k_{Ax} r_{Ax}) \right]$

and **S-matrix element**  $S_{AxCc}^l$  of reaction  $C(c, x)A$

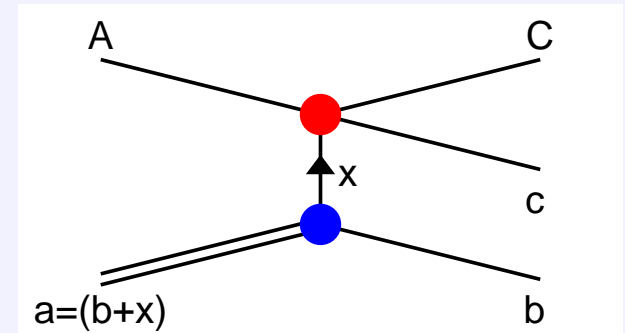
(S. Typel and G. Baur, Ann. Phys. (N.Y.) 305 (2003) 228)

# Trojan-Horse Method - Theory II

- post-form DWBA T-matrix element with surface approximation for  $ax \neq Cc$   
 $\Rightarrow$  factorization

$$T_{(Bb)(Aa)} \propto \sum_{lm} S_{AxCc}^{l*}$$

$$\times \left\langle \frac{u_l^{(+)}(\eta_{Ax}; k_{Ax} r_{Ax})}{k_{Cc} r_{Ax}} Y_{lm}(\hat{r}_{Ax}) \phi_x \phi_b \chi_{Bb}^{(-)} | V_{Bb} - U_{Bb} | \phi_a \chi_{Aa}^{(+)} \right\rangle$$



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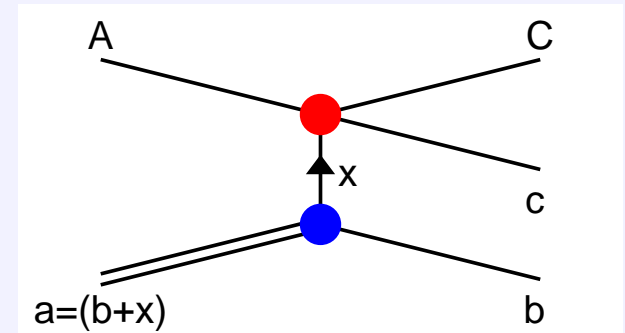
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$\Rightarrow$  **cross section** of transfer reaction to continuum (single channel,  $Ax \neq Cc$ )

$$\frac{d^3 \sigma}{d\Omega_{Bb} d\Omega_{Cc} dE_{Cc}} = \left| S_{AxCc}^l \right|^2 \frac{d^3 \tilde{\sigma}_l}{d\Omega_{Bb} d\Omega_{Cc} dE_{Cc}}$$

with reduced DWBA cross section



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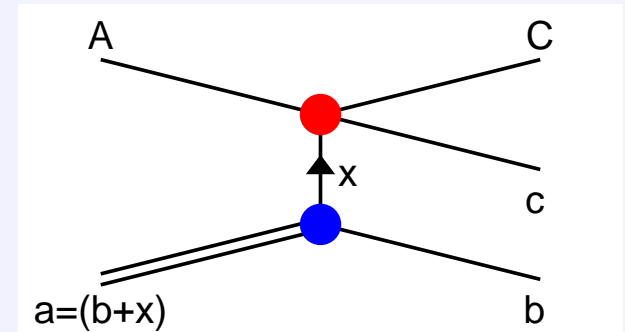
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with reduced DWBA cross section

- S-matrix elements  $S_{AxCc}^l$  determine cross section

$$\frac{d\sigma}{d\Omega_{Ax}}(C + c \rightarrow A + x) = \frac{\pi}{k_{bx}^2} \left| \sum_l S_{AxCc}^l Y_{l0}(\hat{r}_{Ax}) \right|^2$$

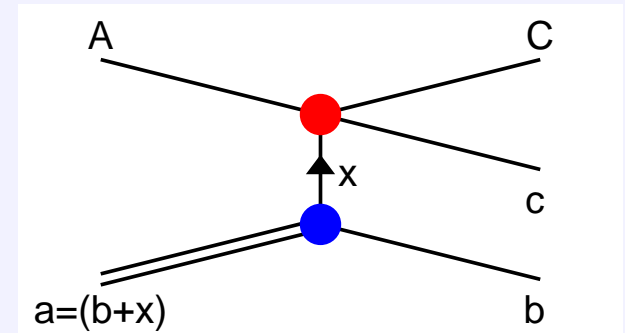


# Trojan-Horse Method - Theory III

additional approximations

(not necessary in general, but convenient)

- potential  $V_{Bb} - U_{Bb} = V_{Ab} + V_{xb} - U_{Bb} \approx V_{xb}$
- plane waves for distorted waves  $\chi_{Bb}^{(-)}$ ,  $\chi_{Aa}^{(+)}$

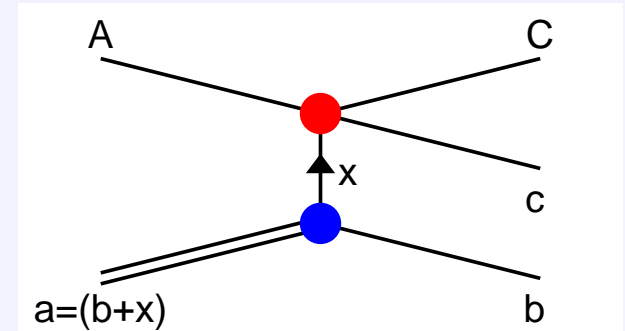


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- plane waves for distorted waves  $\chi_{Bb}^{(-)}, \chi_{Aa}^{(+)}$
- T-matrix element in **PWBA with surface approximation**



$$T_{(Bb)(Aa)} \propto \sum_{lm} S_{Ax}^{l*} C_c \langle \phi_x \phi_b \exp(i\vec{Q}_{Bb} \cdot \vec{r}_{bx}) | V_{xb} | \phi_a \rangle$$

$$\times \left\langle \frac{u_l^{(+)}(\eta_{Ax}; k_{Ax} r_{Ax})}{k_{Cc} r_{Ax}} Y_{lm}(\hat{r}_{Ax}) \middle| \exp(i\vec{Q}_{Aa} \cdot \vec{r}_{Ax}) \right\rangle$$

with momentum transfers

$$\vec{Q}_{Aa} = \vec{k}_{Aa} - \frac{\mu_{Ax}}{m_x} \vec{k}_{Bb} \quad \vec{Q}_{Bb} = \vec{k}_{Bb} - \frac{\mu_{bx}}{m_x} \vec{k}_{Aa}$$

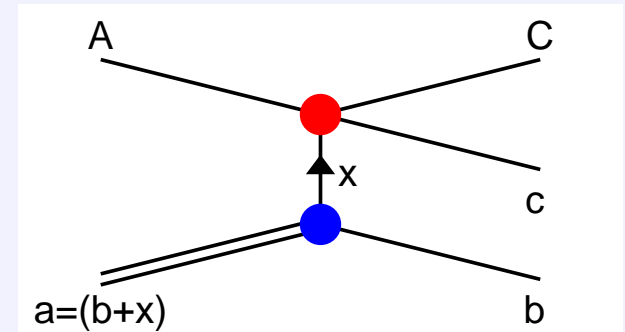
- factorization with three factors:
  - two factors for two poles in diagram
  - additional matrix element, depends on kinematics ( $\eta_{Ax}$ !)

# Trojan-Horse Method - Theory IV

additional approximations

(not necessary in general, but convenient)

- potential  $V_{Bb} - U_{Bb} \approx V_{xb}$
- plane waves for distorted waves  $\chi_{Bb}^{(-)}$ ,  $\chi_{Aa}^{(+)}$



⇒ **cross section** of **transfer reaction to continuum** (single channel)

$$\frac{d^3\sigma}{d\Omega_{Bb}d\Omega_{Cc}dE_{Cc}} = K W(\vec{Q}_{Bb}) \frac{d\sigma_l}{d\Omega}(Ax \rightarrow Cc) T_l(k_{Ax}) \quad \text{with kinematic factor } K$$

- **momentum distribution**  $W(\vec{Q}_{Bb}) = |\tilde{\Phi}_{bx}^a(\vec{Q}_{Bb})|^2$

depending on momentum transfer to spectator  $b \Rightarrow$  quasi-free scattering conditions

- **cross section**  $\frac{d\sigma_l}{d\Omega}(Ax \rightarrow Cc)$  of two-body reaction

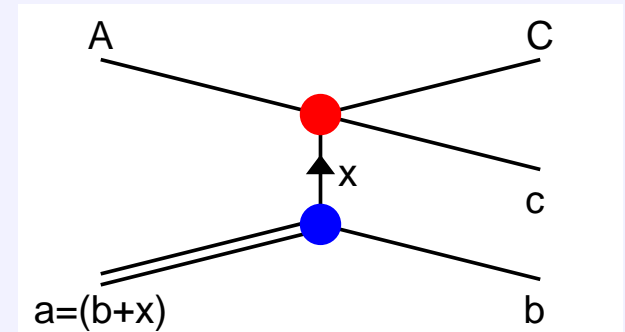
- **penetration factor**  $T_l(k_{Ax}) \approx k_{Ax}^3 \exp(2\pi\eta_{Ax})$

# Trojan-Horse Method - Theory IV

additional approximations

(not necessary in general, but convenient)

- potential  $V_{Bb} - U_{Bb} \approx V_{xb}$
- plane waves for distorted waves  $\chi_{Bb}^{(-)}$ ,  $\chi_{Aa}^{(+)}$



⇒ **cross section** of **transfer reaction to continuum** (single channel)

$$\frac{d^3\sigma}{d\Omega_{Bb}d\Omega_{Cc}dE_{Cc}} = K W(\vec{Q}_{Bb}) \frac{d\sigma_l}{d\Omega}(Ax \rightarrow Cc) T_l(k_{Ax}) \quad \text{with kinematic factor } K$$

- **momentum distribution**  $W(\vec{Q}_{Bb}) = |\tilde{\Phi}_{bx}^a(\vec{Q}_{Bb})|^2$

depending on momentum transfer to spectator  $b \Rightarrow$  quasi-free scattering conditions

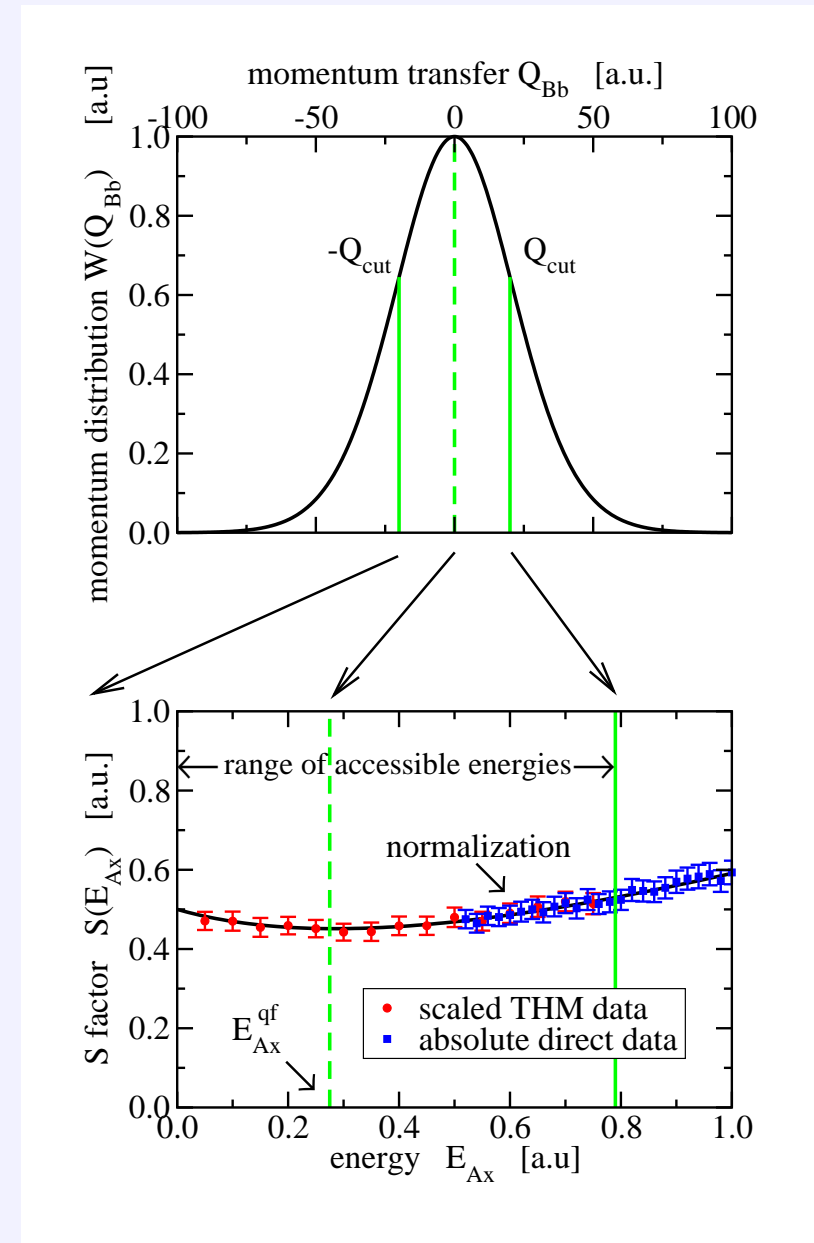
- **cross section**  $\frac{d\sigma_l}{d\Omega}(Ax \rightarrow Cc)$  of two-body reaction

- **penetration factor**  $T_l(k_{Ax}) \approx k_{Ax}^3 \exp(2\pi\eta_{Ax})$

⇒ **cancels suppression** of two-body cross section by **Coulomb barrier** for  $E_{Ax} \rightarrow 0$

# Trojan-Horse Method - Application

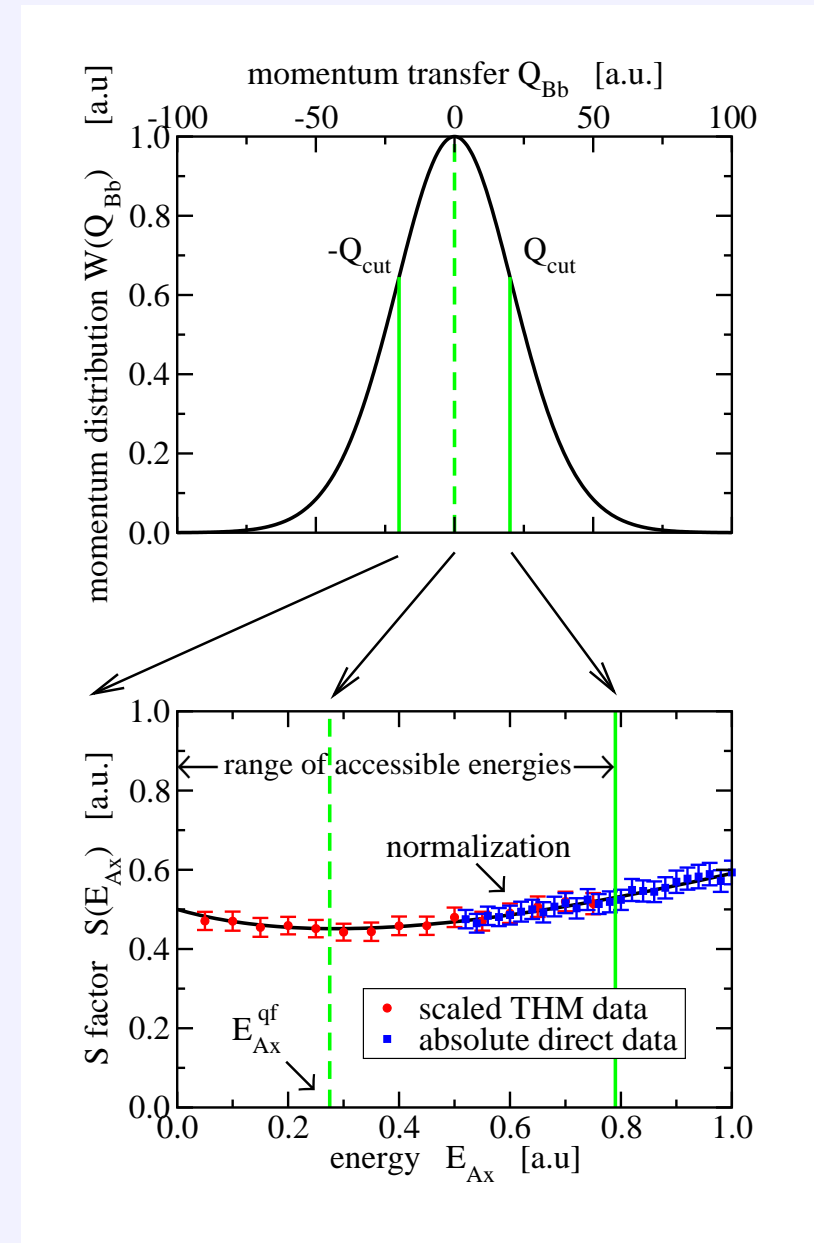
- selection of Trojan horse  $a = b + x$   
(e.g.  ${}^2\text{H} = n + p$ ,  ${}^6\text{Li} = \alpha + d$ , ...) with binding energy  $\epsilon_a > 0$  and well known ground state wave function  
 $\Rightarrow$  momentum distribution  $W(\vec{Q}_{Bb})$
- width of momentum distribution  $W$   
 $\Leftrightarrow$  Fermi motion of  $x$  inside  $a$



# Trojan-Horse Method - Application

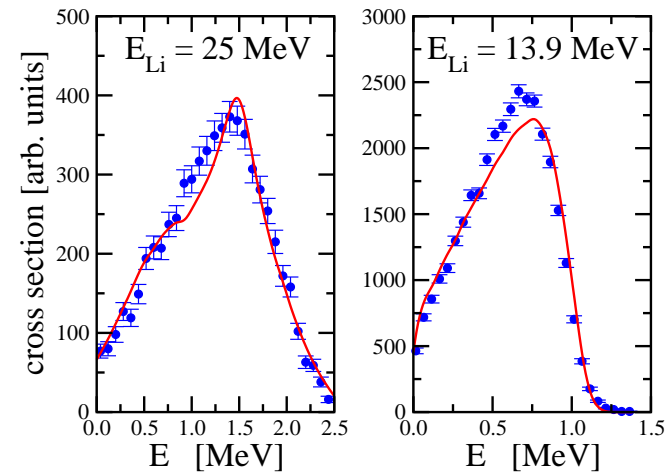
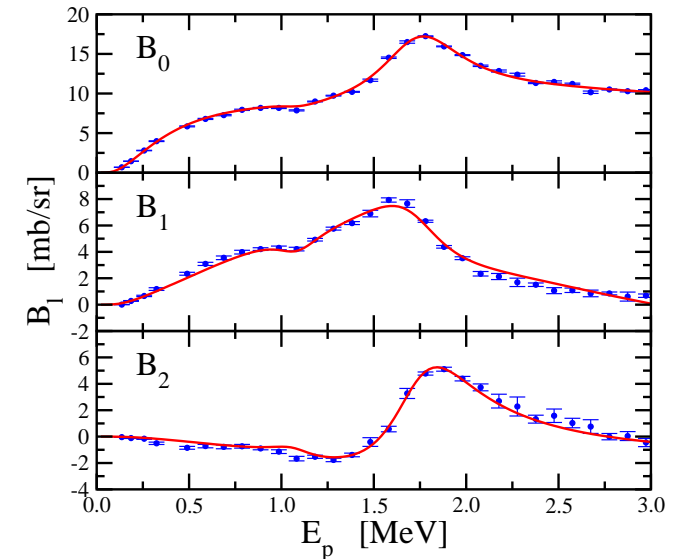
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- width of momentum distribution  $W \Leftrightarrow$  Fermi motion of  $x$  inside  $a$
- condition  $\vec{Q}_{Bb} = 0$  defines “quasi-free energy” in  $A + x$  system
 

$$E_{Ax}^{qf} = E_{Aa} \left( 1 - \frac{\mu_{Aa} \mu_{bx}^2}{\mu_{Bb} m_x^2} \right) - \epsilon_a \ll E_{Aa}$$
- cutoff in  $\vec{Q}_{Bb}$  determines range of accessible energies  $E_{Ax}$  around  $E_{Ax}^{qf}$
- small momentum transfer  $\Rightarrow$  dominance of quasi-free process
- normalization of cross section to direct data at higher  $E_{Ax}$



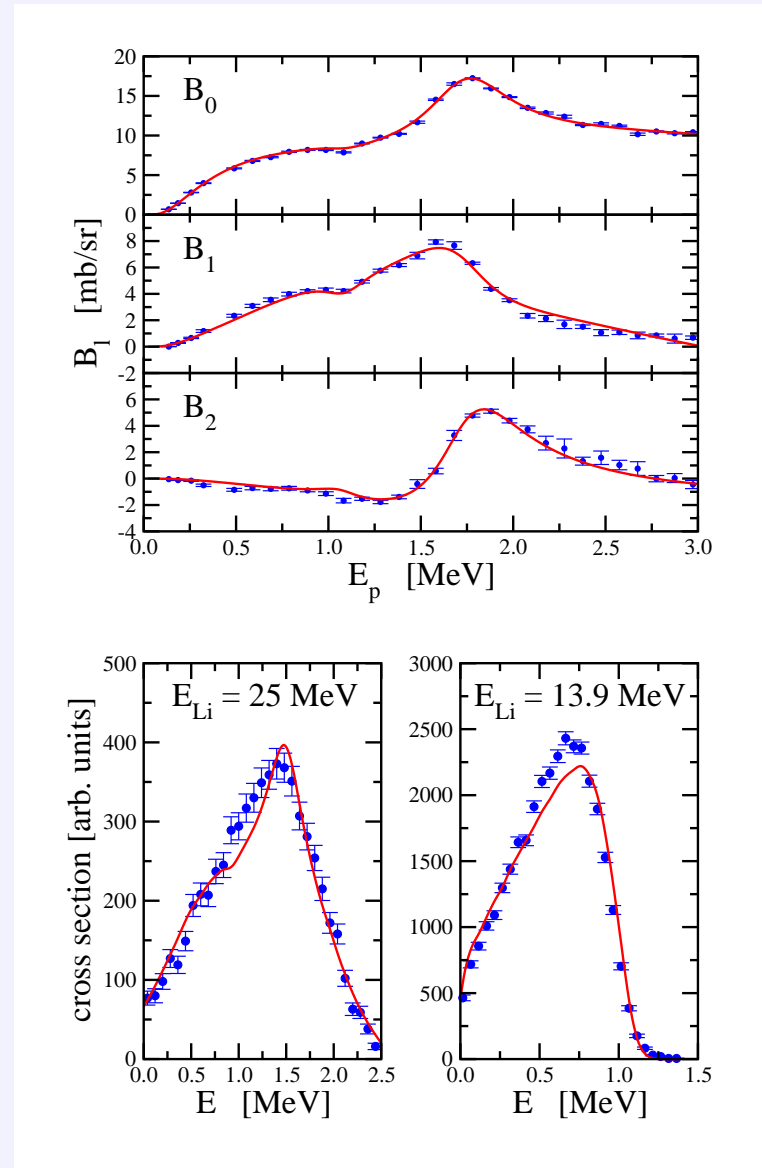
# Trojan-Horse Method - Example: ${}^6\text{Li}(p,\alpha){}^3\text{He}$

- **direct reaction:**  ${}^6\text{Li}(p,\alpha){}^3\text{He}$
- **experimental data**  
(J. Elwyn et al., Phys. Rev. C 20 (1979) 1084)
- **differential cross section**  
$$d\sigma/d\Omega = \sum_l B_l P_l(\cos\theta)$$
- non-resonant s wave and resonant p wave contribution
- S matrix from **R-matrix fit**  
⇒ simulation of THM experiment



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⇒ simulation of THM experiment
- **THM:**  ${}^2\text{H}({}^6\text{Li},\alpha){}^3\text{He}n$
- **experiments with 13.9/25 MeV  ${}^6\text{Li}$  beam**  
(A. Tumino et al., Phys. Rev. C 67 (2003) 065803)
- $E^{qf} = -0.24/1.35$  MeV
- $\hbar Q_{Bb} < 30$  MeV/c
- **finite cross section at  $E = 0$  MeV!**



# Trojan-Horse Method - Electron Screening

## direct experiments:

- reduction of Coulomb barrier by electron cloud of target nucleus
- enhanced cross section at low energies

$$\sigma_{\text{exp}}(E) = \sigma_{\text{bare}}(E)f(E) \quad \text{with}$$

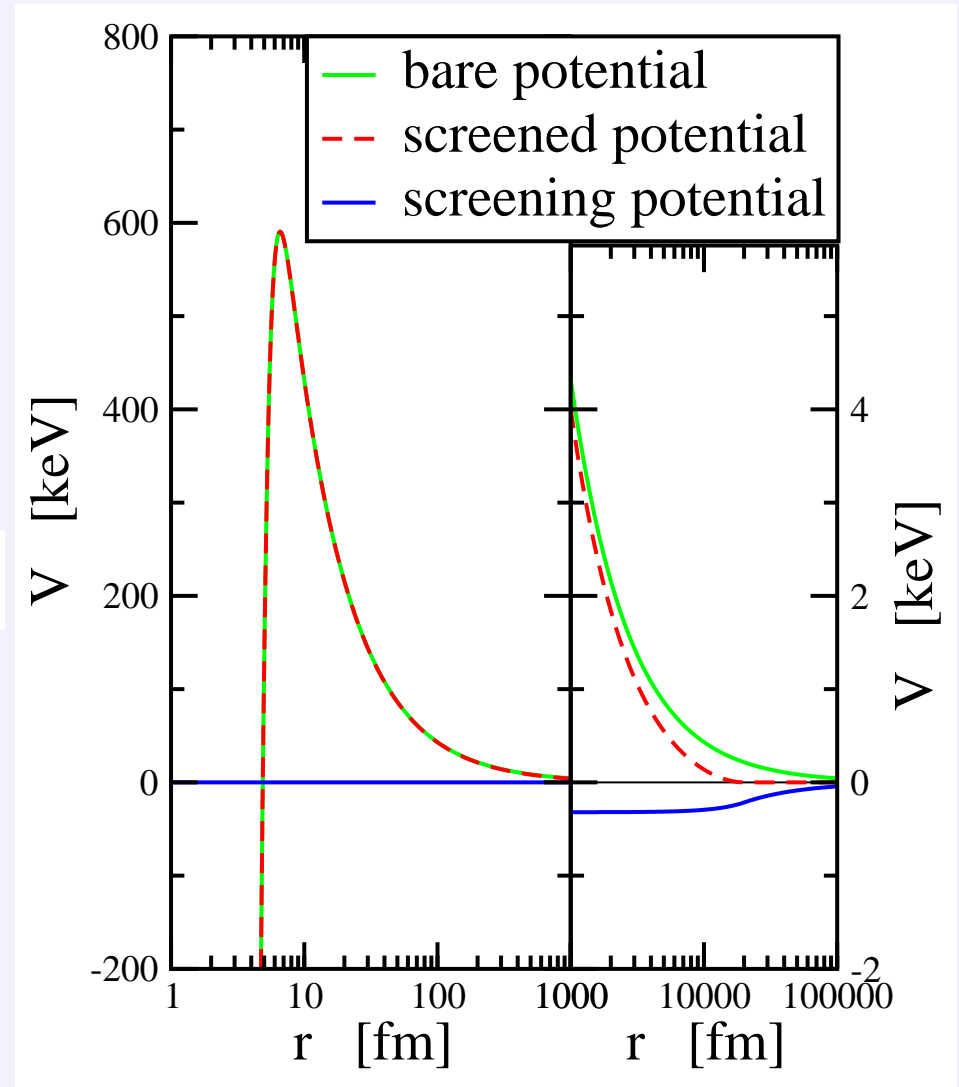
$$f(E) = \exp(\pi\eta U_e/E) \quad \text{and}$$

electron screening potential energy  $U_e$

- discrepancy between experimental observation and theoretical models, explanation?

## stellar conditions:

- electron screening in plasma

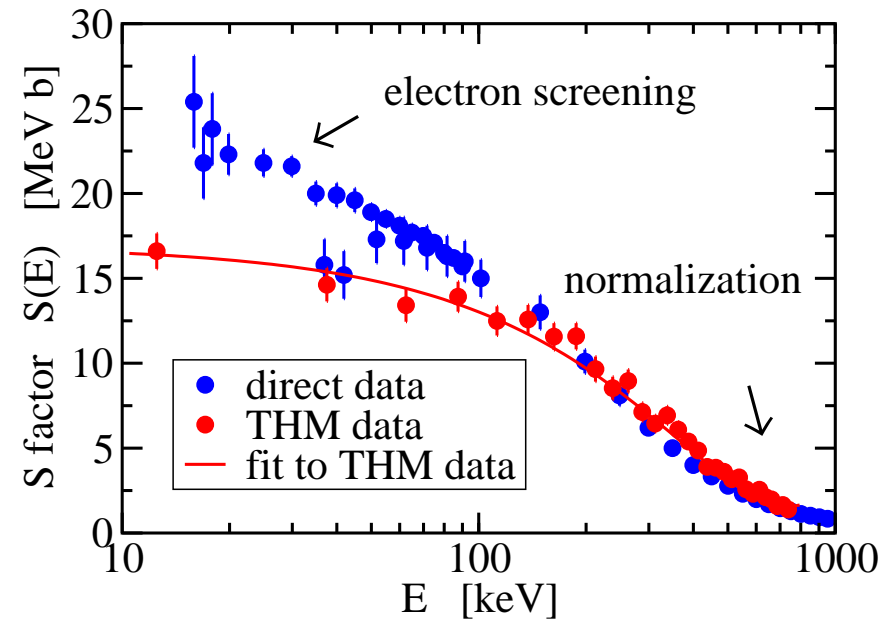


# Trojan-Horse Method - Example: ${}^2\text{H}({}^6\text{Li},\alpha){}^4\text{He}$

- **direct reaction:**  ${}^2\text{H}({}^6\text{Li},\alpha){}^4\text{He}$
- experiment with gas target
  - (S. Engstler et al., Z. Phys. A 342 (1992) 471)
- $S(0) = 17.4 \text{ MeV b}$   
(corrected for electron screening)

# Trojan-Horse Method - Example: ${}^2\text{H}({}^6\text{Li},\alpha){}^4\text{He}$

- **direct reaction:**  ${}^2\text{H}({}^6\text{Li},\alpha){}^4\text{He}$ 
  - experiment with gas target  
(S. Engstler et al., Z. Phys. A 342 (1992) 471)
  - $S(0) = 17.4 \text{ MeV b}$   
(corrected for electron screening)
- **THM:**  ${}^6\text{Li}({}^6\text{Li},\alpha\alpha){}^4\text{He}$ 
  - experiment with 6 MeV  ${}^6\text{Li}$  beam  
(C. Spitaleri et al., Phys. Rev. C 63 (2001) 055801;  
A. Musumarra et al., Phys. Rev. C 64 (2001) 068801)
  - $E^{qf} = 25 \text{ keV}$
  - target and projectile breakup
  - $l = 0$ ,  $\hbar Q_{Bb} < 35 \text{ MeV}/c$
  - normalization to direct data  
for  $E > 600 \text{ keV}$   
 $\Rightarrow S(0) = (16.9 \pm 0.5) \text{ MeV b}$



- **electron screening potential:**
  - $U_e(\text{direct}) = (330 \pm 120) \text{ eV}$
  - $U_e(\text{THM}) = (320 \pm 50) \text{ eV}$
  - $U_e(\text{theory}) = 186 \text{ eV}$  (adiabatic limit)

# Trojan-Horse Method - Extensions

- analysis only in simple theoretical approximations  
⇒ full DWBA calculations needed for quasi-free scattering conditions with consistent treatment of bound/scattering/resonant states (numerically very demanding)
- finite cross section at  $E_{Ax} = 0 \Rightarrow$  continue to  $E_{Ax} < 0$ : investigation of subthreshold resonances
- extension to radiative capture reactions possible  
⇒ additional approach independent from Coulomb dissociation and ANC methods
- study elastic scattering without Coulomb contribution  $\Rightarrow$  optical potentials
- application to reactions with exotic nuclei  $\Rightarrow$  large cross sections
- extracted S factor not affected by electron screening  
⇒ determination of electron screening potential  $U_e$  by comparison to direct data  
⇒ consistent values for  $U_e$ , larger than adiabatic limit, challenge for theory

- **Halo nuclei**

- unstable exotic nuclei with small binding energy
- often well described in simple models
- essential properties determined by asymptotics of wave functions
- characterized by few low-energy constants
- scaling laws

- **Indirect methods** (CD, ANC, THM)

- provide complementary information for reactions of astrophysical interest
- peripheral reactions
- specific kinematical conditions
- description with direct reaction theory
- factorization of cross sections
- great potential for future applications