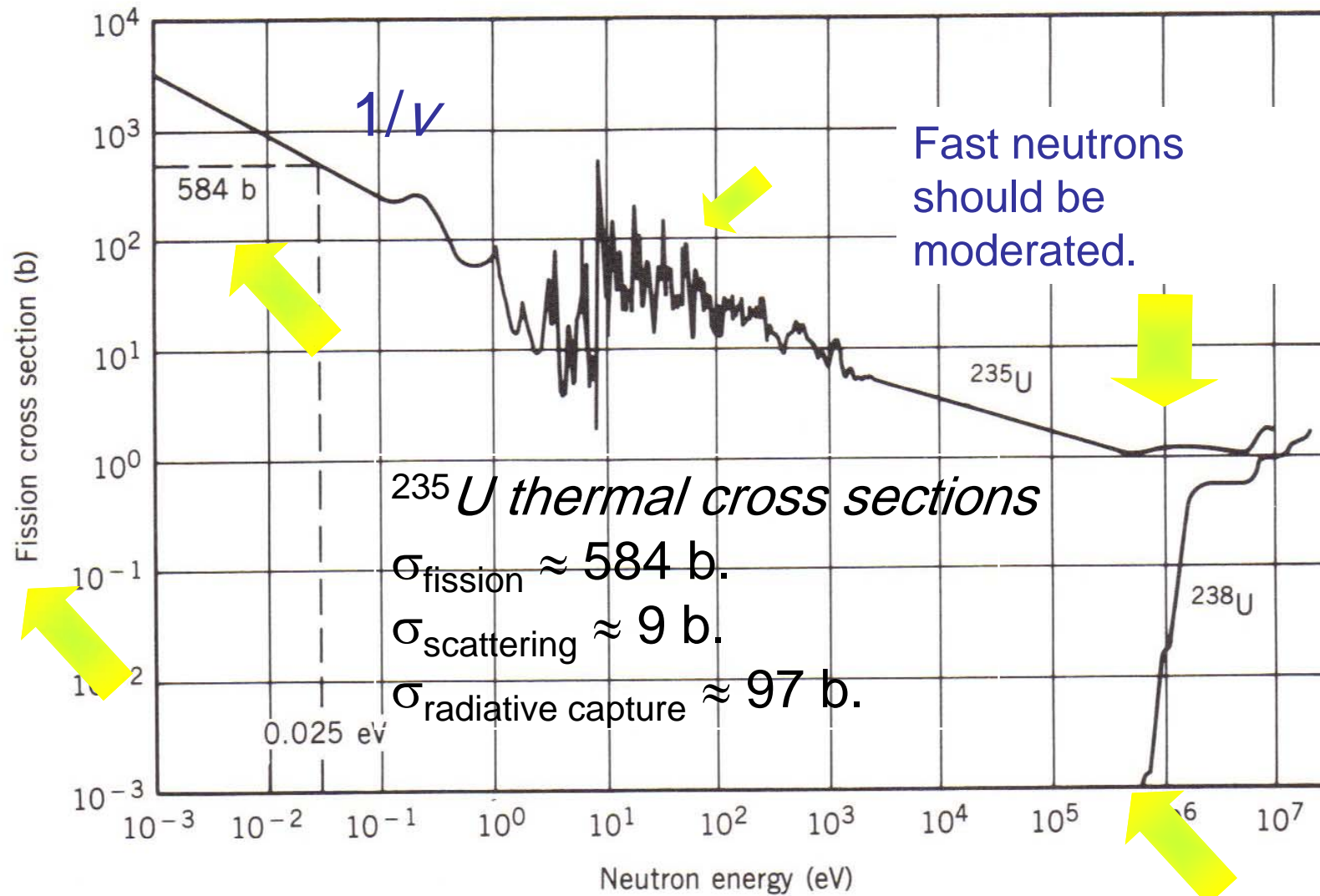


Neutron Cross Section (Different Features)



Fission Barriers

Neutron Induced Reactions

$$X(n,b)Y \quad \sigma_n \propto \hat{\lambda}^2 \left| \langle Y+b | H_{II} | C \rangle \langle C | H_I | X+n \rangle \right|^2$$

$$\propto \frac{1}{E} \propto \frac{1}{v^2} \quad \Gamma_b(Q+E_n)$$

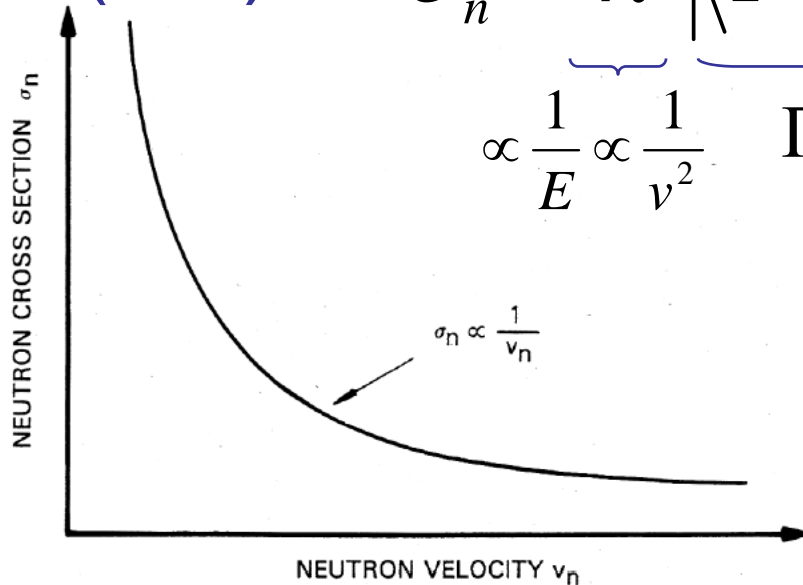
$$\Gamma_n(E_n)$$

$$\propto v_n \underbrace{P_{l_n}(E_n)}$$

Probability to
penetrate the
potential barrier

$$P_o(E_{thermal}) = 1$$

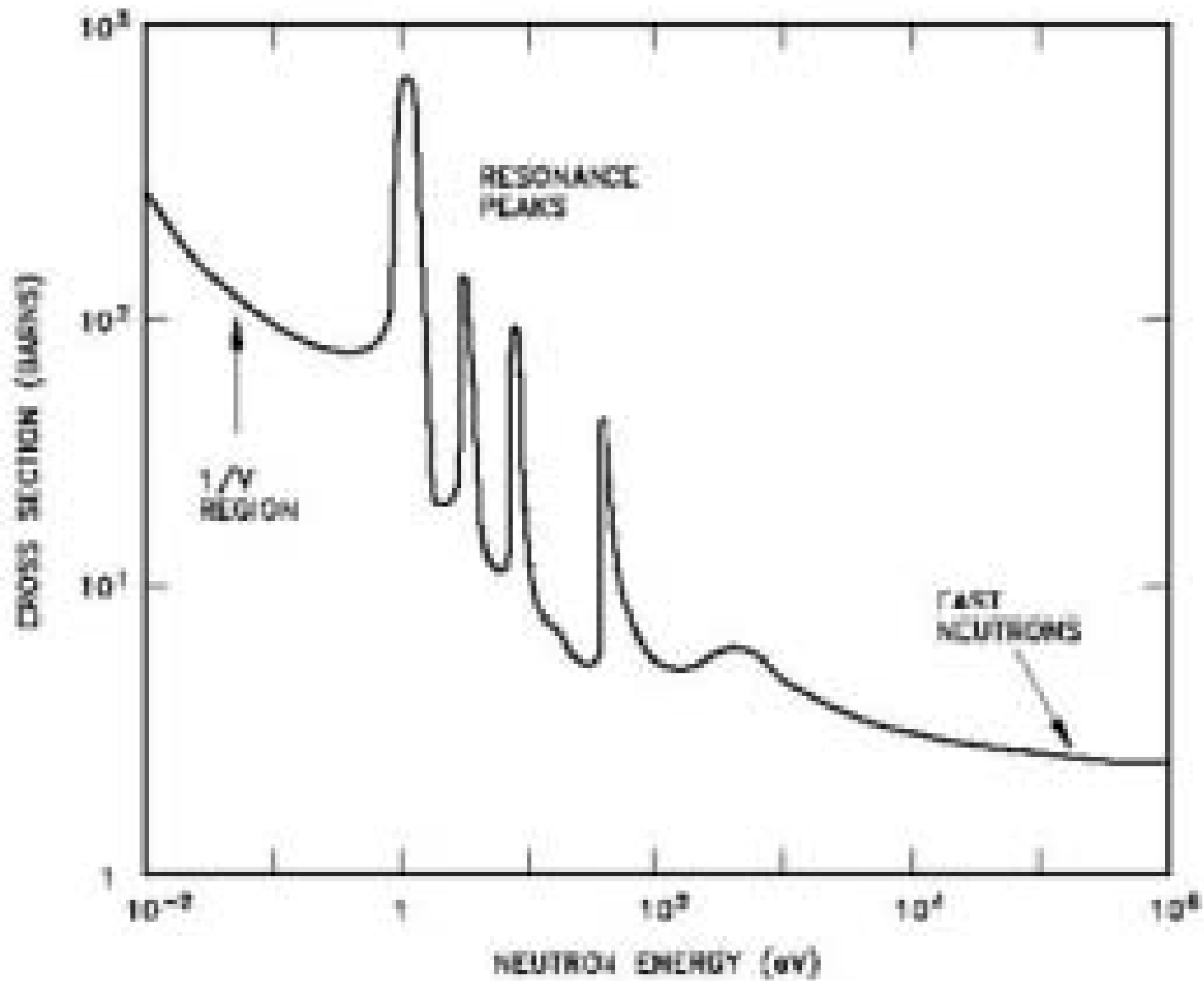
$$P_{>o}(E_{thermal}) = 0$$



For thermal neutrons $Q \gg E_n$ $\Gamma_b(Q) \approx \text{constant}$

Non-resonant $\sigma_n(E_n) \propto \frac{1}{v}$

Neutron Induced Reactions



Statistical Factor (Introduction)

$$L = l\hbar = bp = b \frac{\hbar}{\lambda}$$

$$b = l\lambda$$

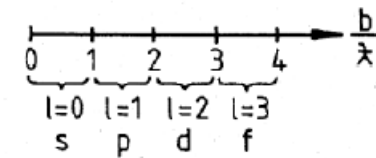
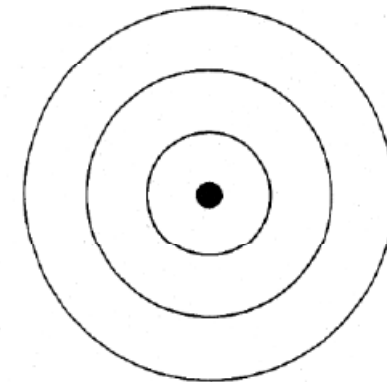
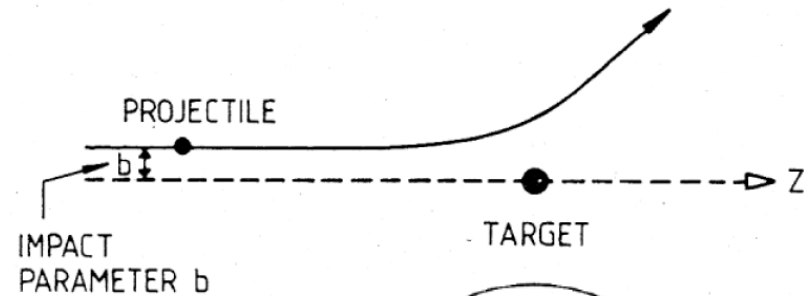
$$\sigma_{l,\max} = \pi b_{l+1}^2 - \pi b_l^2 = (2l + 1)\pi\lambda^2$$

HW 3

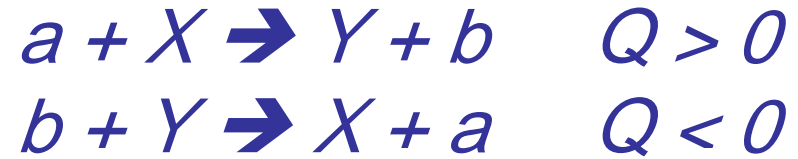
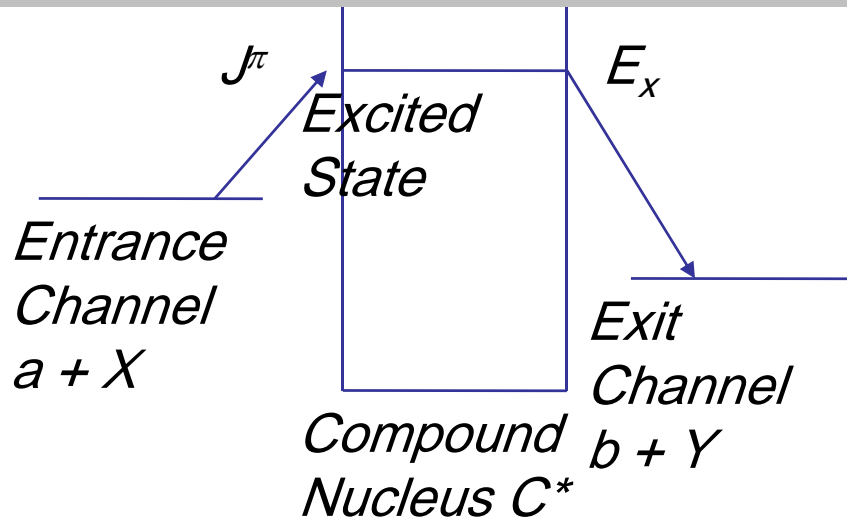
$$\pi\lambda^2(b) = \frac{656.7}{\mu(u)E^{CM} (keV)}$$

Generalization

$$\sigma_{\max} = \pi\lambda_{aX}^2 \underbrace{\frac{2J + 1}{(2J_a + 1)(2J_X + 1)}}_{\omega} (1 + \delta_{aX})$$



Reaction Cross Section



Inverse Reaction

More Generalization

$$\sigma_{aX} = \pi \hat{\lambda}_{aX}^2 \underbrace{\frac{2J+1}{(2J_a+1)(2J_X+1)}}_{\text{Statistical Factor } (\omega)} (1 + \delta_{aX}) \underbrace{\left| \langle Y + b | H_{II} | C \rangle \langle C | H_I | a + X \rangle \right|^2}_{\text{Identical particles}}$$

QM
Statistical Factor (ω)
Identical particles

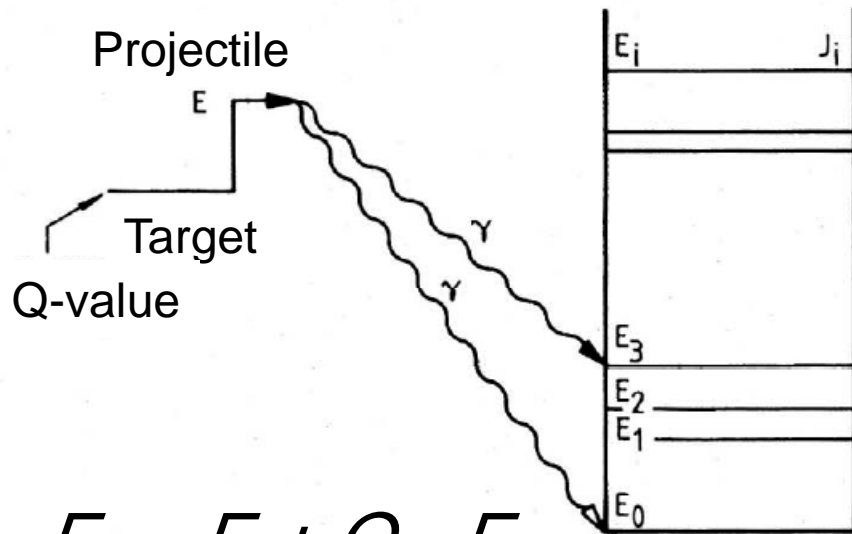
- Nature of force(s).
- Time-reversal invariance.

$$\sigma_{bY} = \pi \hat{\lambda}_{bY}^2 \frac{2J+1}{(2J_b+1)(2J_Y+1)} (1 + \delta_{bY}) \left| \langle a + X | H_I | C \rangle \langle C | H_{II} | b + Y \rangle \right|^2$$

HW 4

$$\frac{\sigma_{aX}}{\sigma_{bY}} = ??$$

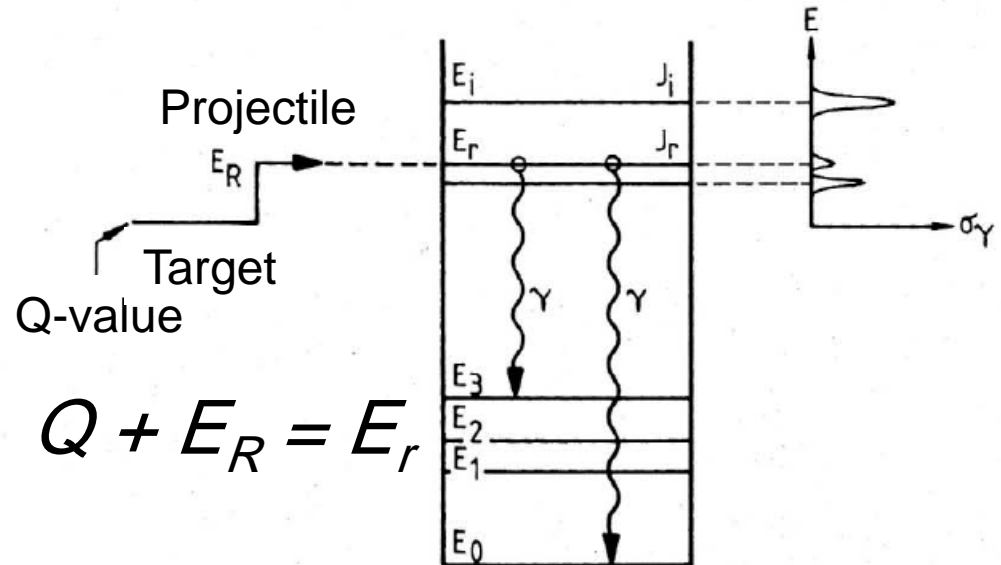
Resonance Reactions



$$E_\gamma = E + Q - E_{ex}$$

**Direct
Capture**
(all energies)

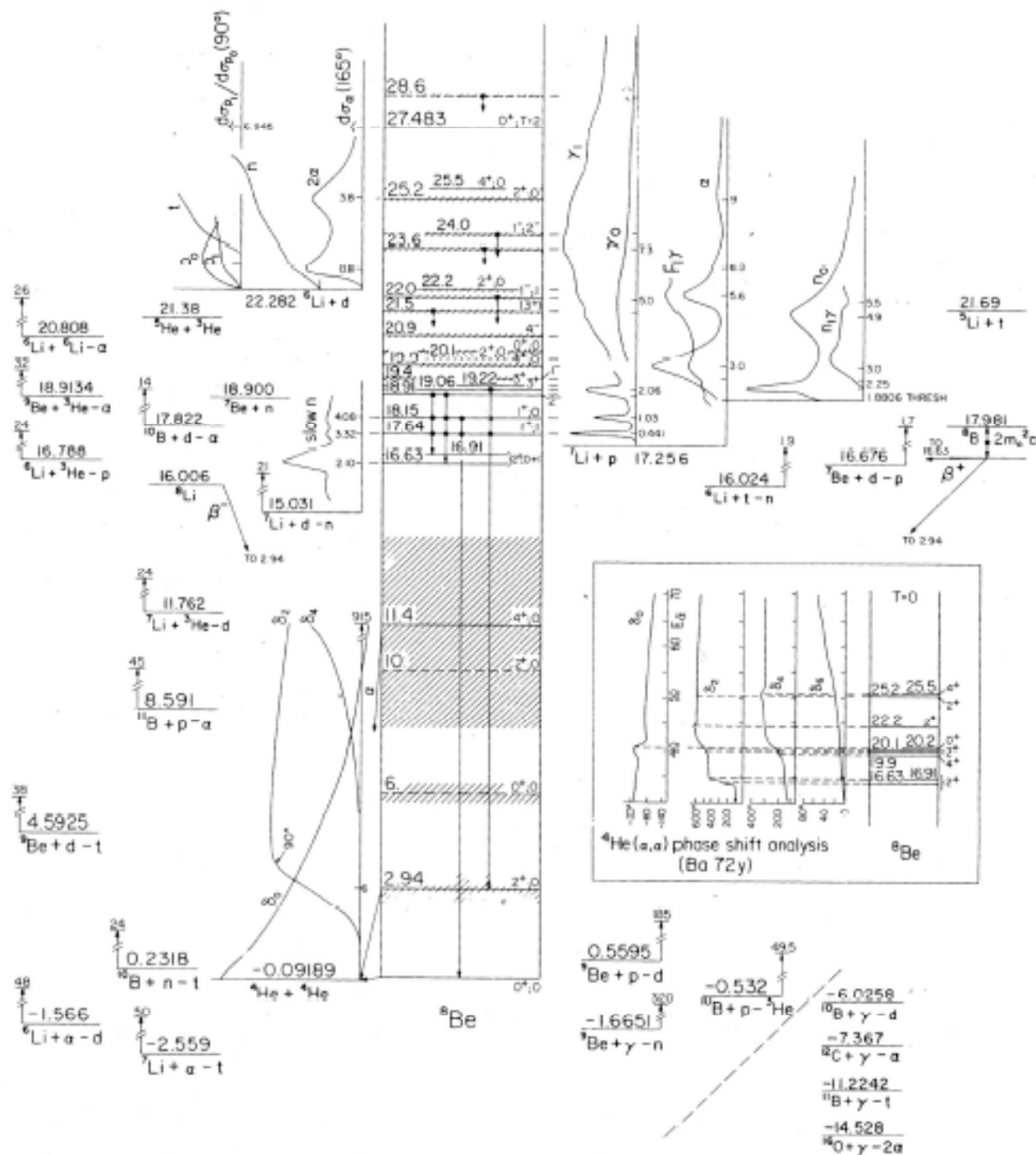
$$\sigma_\gamma \propto \left| \langle Y | H_\gamma | a + X \rangle \right|^2$$



$$Q + E_R = E_r$$

**Resonant
Capture**
(selected energies
with large X-section)

$$\sigma_\gamma \propto \left| \langle E_f | H_\gamma | E_r \rangle \right|^2 \left| \langle E_r | H_{CN} | a + X \rangle \right|^2$$



Resonance Reactions

Damped Oscillator

Oscillator strength

$$\text{response} \propto \frac{f}{(\omega - \omega_o)^2 + (\frac{\delta}{2})^2}$$

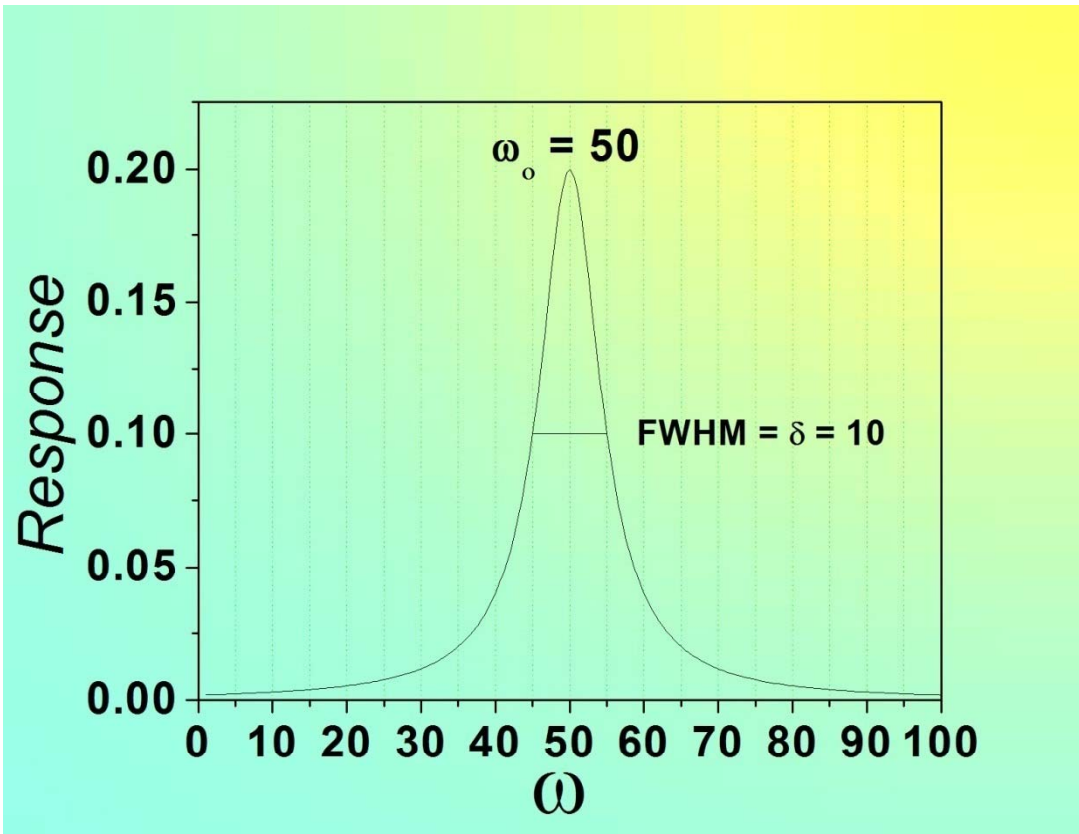
$$\delta = \frac{1}{t_0}$$

Damping factor

eigenfrequency

$$\sigma(E) \propto \frac{\Gamma_a \Gamma_b}{(E - E_R)^2 + (\frac{\Gamma}{2})^2}$$

$$\Gamma t_o = \hbar$$



Resonance Reactions

$$\sigma(E) = \pi \hat{\lambda}_{aX}^2 \frac{2J+1}{(2J_a+1)(2J_X+1)} (1 + \delta_{aX}) \frac{\Gamma_a \Gamma_b}{(E - E_R)^2 + (\frac{\Gamma}{2})^2}$$

Breit-Wigner formula

$$\Gamma = \Gamma_a + \Gamma_b$$

- All quantities in CM system
- Only for isolated resonances.

$\sigma_R \propto \Gamma_a \Gamma_b$ ← **Reaction** Usually $\Gamma_a \gg \Gamma_b$.

$\sigma_e \propto \Gamma_a \Gamma_a$ ← **Elastic scattering**

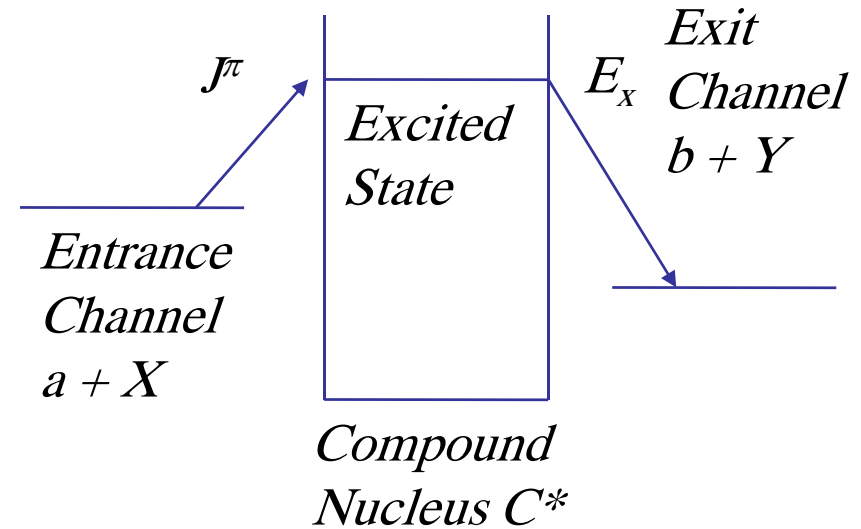
$\frac{\sigma_R}{\sigma_e} = \frac{\Gamma_b}{\Gamma_a}$ **HW 5** When does σ_R take its maximum value?

Resonance Reactions

$$J_a + J_X + l = J$$

$$(-1)^l \pi(J_a) \pi(J_X) = \pi(J)$$

$$(-1)^l = \pi(J) \quad \text{Natural parity.}$$



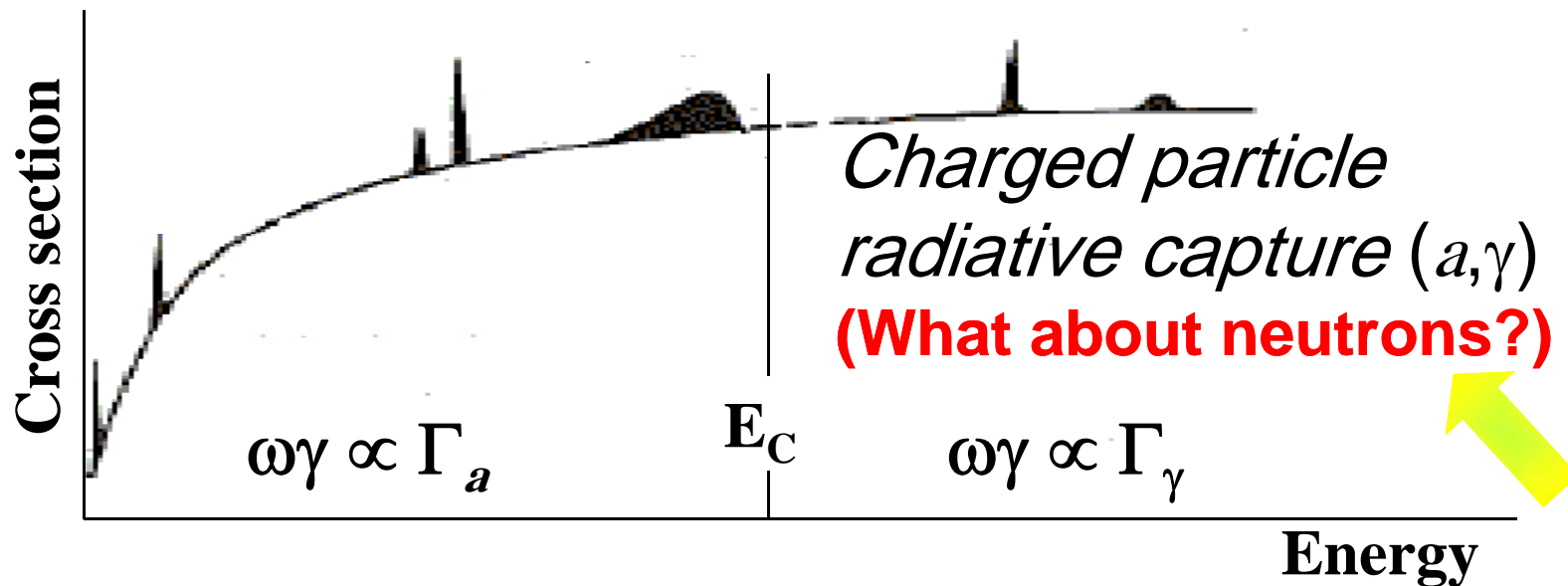
Resonance Reactions

What is the “Resonance Strength” ...?

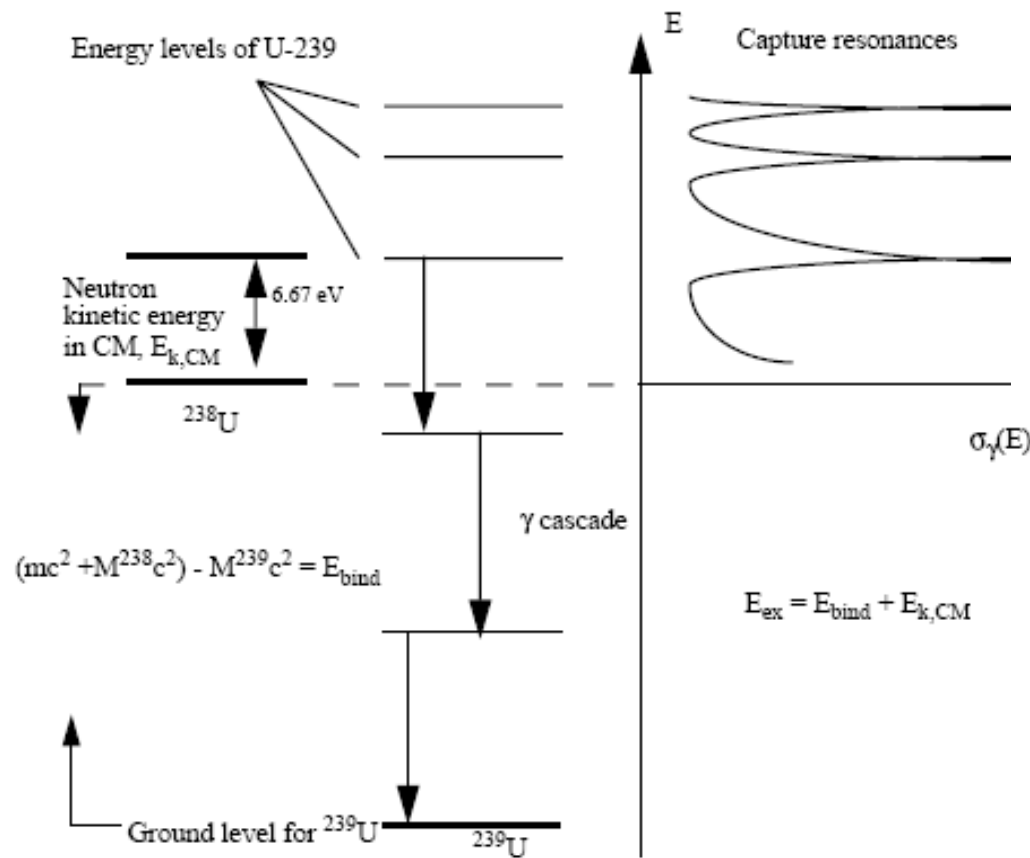
What is its significance?

In what units is it measured?

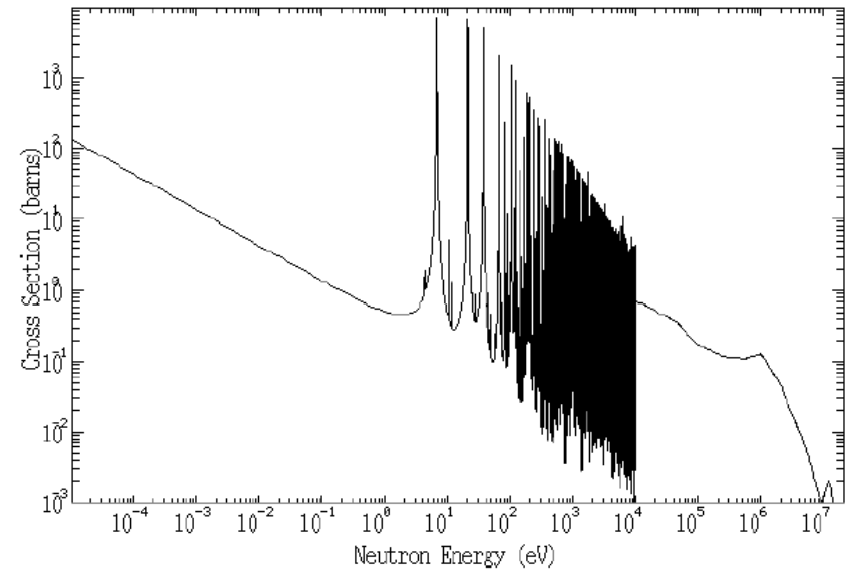
$$\omega\gamma = \frac{2J + 1}{(2J_a + 1)(2J_X + 1)} (1 + \delta_{aX}) \frac{\Gamma_a \Gamma_b}{\Gamma}$$



Neutron Resonance Reactions



Radiative Capture Cross Section for U-238 MT = 102



Neutron Flux and Reaction Rate

Recall $F_t = n v \sigma_t N = I \Sigma_t$

Simultaneous beams, different intensities, **same energy**.

$$F_t = \Sigma_t (I_A + I_B + I_C + \dots) = \Sigma_t (n_A + n_B + n_C + \dots) v$$

In a **reactor**, if neutrons are moving in **all directions**

$$n = n_A + n_B + n_C + \dots$$

$$F_t = \Sigma_t n v$$

Locally

neutron flux $\phi = n v$

Not talking about a beam anymore.

Reaction Rate $R_t \equiv F_t = \Sigma_t \phi = \phi / \lambda_t (= n v N \sigma_t)$

same energy

Neutron Flux and Reaction Rate

Different energies

Density of neutrons with energy between E and $E+dE$

Units! $n(E)dE$

Reaction rate for those “monoenergetic” neutrons

$$dR_t = \Sigma_t(E) n(E)dE v(E)$$

$$n = \int_0^{\infty} n(E)dE$$

$$\phi = \int_0^{\infty} \phi(E)dE = \int_0^{\infty} n(E)v(E)dE$$

$$R_t = \int_0^{\infty} \Sigma_t(E)n(E)v(E)dE = \int_0^{\infty} \Sigma_t(E)\phi(E)dE$$

$$R_i = \int_0^{\infty} \Sigma_i(E)\phi(E)dE$$

Neutron Flux and Reaction Rate

In general, neutron flux depends on:

- **Neutron energy, E .**
- **Neutron spatial position, r .**
- **Neutron angular direction, Ω .**
- **Time, t .**

Various kinds of neutron fluxes (depending on the degree of detail needed).

Time-dependent and time-independent angular neutron flux.

$$\phi(r, E, \Omega, t)$$

$$\phi(r, E, \Omega)$$