# Previously in Breakup-Reaction Theory...

On Monday, we've seen

- how to include Coulomb in scattering problems
- how to account for closed channels in a simple effective way : optical potentials

i.e. with imaginary part that absorbs flux from elastic channel

how to explicitly include the breakup channel for 2-b projectiles
 ⇒ need to solve a three-body Schrödinger equation

Yesterday, we've seen various methods to solve that 3-b problem

• CDCC

- Time-dependent approach
- Eikonal approximation and its variations
  - DEA
  - CCE (used in the project)

You've started the breakup-reaction project

- develop the *c*-*f* interaction (e.g. within Halo-EFT)
- find optical potentials for the *c*-*T* and *f*-*T* interactions
- pay attention to the numerical convergence of the scheme

Breakup-Reaction Theory Part III: Reaction Dynamics and Application to Nuclear Astrophysics

Pierre Capel

JGU





## Benchmarking breakup models : Coulomb breakup of <sup>15</sup>C

### 2 Dynamics of Breakup Reactions

#### 3 Nuclear Astrophysics

- Introduction
- pp chain and CNO cycle
- Reaction rate and Gamow window
- Astrophysical Application of Coulomb Breakup

# Structure of <sup>15</sup>C



	$_{14}C + n_{}$
5/2+	-0.478 0d5/2
1/2+	-1.218 1 <i>s</i> 1/2

# <sup>15</sup>C spectrum

$${}^{15}C \equiv {}^{14}C(0^+) + n$$

<sup>14</sup>C cluster assumed in 0<sup>+</sup> ground state (extreme shell model) (see Daniel's classes)

 $\Rightarrow$  spin and parity of <sup>15</sup>C states

fixed by angular momenta l and j of n :

- $1/2^+$  ground state in s1/2
- $5/2^+$  excited (bound) state in d5/2

# <sup>15</sup>C+Pb @ 68AMeV : energy distribution



- Excellent agreement between all three methods [P.C., Esbensen and Nunes, PRC 85, 044604 (2012)]
- Excellent agreement with experiment

[Nakamura et al. PRC 79, 035805 (2009)]

 $\Rightarrow$  Confirms the validity of the approximations

... and the two-body structure of <sup>15</sup>C

# <sup>15</sup>C+Pb @ 68AMeV : angular distribution



- TD lacks quantum interferences but reproduces the general trend at small θ
- DEA exhibits quantum interferences though much less time consuming than CDCC

# <sup>15</sup>C + Pb @ 20AMeV



 $TD \equiv CDCC$ DEA too high TD gives trend of CDCC (lacks oscillations) DEA peaks too early

DEA≠CDCC due to Coulomb deflection Eikonal is a high-energy approximation Could an Eikonal-CDCC model solve the problem? [Ogata *et al.* PRC 68, 064609 (2003)]

## Semiclassical correction



[Fukui, Ogata, P.C. PRC 90, 034617 (2014)] • E-CDCC also too high and too forward

## Semiclassical correction



[Fukui, Ogata, P.C. PRC 90, 034617 (2014)]

- E-CDCC also too high and too forward
   Shift in L ⇒ correction b → b' (classical closest approach)
- hybrid solution : CDCC at low L (b) and eikonal at large L (b)
   ⇒ excellent agreement with full CDCC
- Improve eikonal using Coulomb correction : b → b'

## Dynamical vs. First-Order Calculations



[P. C., Baye, PRC 71, 044609 (2005)]

- Comparison exact TD/FO for breakup of <sup>11</sup>Be on Pb at different *v* and *b*
- Relative agreement between first-order and exact solution
- Accuracy of first order improves at large *v*
- But systematic distortion even at high *b*

See also [Typel, Baur, PRC 64, 024601 (2001)] [Esbensen, Bertsch, Snover PRL 94, 042502

(2005)]

## Partial-wave analysis



- *dP*<sub>bu</sub>/*dE* decomposed in partial-wave contributions
- First order predicts mainly E1 transitions
  - $\Rightarrow$  *p* waves from *s* bound state
- In exact solution :
  - Total close to first-order
  - p waves indeed dominate
  - But s and d components which are not first-order

⇒ higher-order effects



- At closest approach t = 0 steep rise
   Only p waves : E1 transition from s ground state
- At t > 0 p waves depleted towards s and d But total remains constant
- ⇒ Significant couplings in the continuum with  $\Delta l = 1$  and  $\Delta E \approx 0$  ⇒ mostly E1 coupling  $\approx \frac{\Gamma}{R^2}$ [P. C., Baye, PRC 71, 044609 (2005)] ⇒ FO does not capture the whole reaction mechanism

#### Benchmarking breakup models : Coulomb breakup of <sup>15</sup>C

#### 2 Dynamics of Breakup Reactions

#### 3 Nuclear Astrophysics

- Introduction
- pp chain and CNO cycle
- Reaction rate and Gamow window
- Astrophysical Application of Coulomb Breakup

# Introduction : a bit of history

Where do we come from?

Where was produced the matter that surrounds us?

The answer came from astrophysics...

In 1920 A. Eddington : stars are nuclear powered In 1929 R. Atkinson and F. Houtermans : fusion of light elements produces energy

e.g. fusion of 4 protons into <sup>4</sup>He

$$4 \text{ p} \rightarrow {}^{4}\text{He} + 2e^{+} + 2v_{e} + 26.73 \text{ MeV}$$

In 1938-39, H. Bethe and C. Critchfield : pp chain and CNO cycles (H. Bethe got NP in 1967)

In 1957, seminal paper of Burbidge, Burbidge, Fowler and Hoyle on nucleosynthesis in stars [Rev. Mod. Phys. 29, 257]

# Introduction : nucleosynthesis in a nutshell

By fusion of light elements we can reach the Fe-Ni region because reactions are excenergetic and Coulomb repulsion is small



Beyond, processes based on n or p capture lead to heavy nuclei : *s*, *r*, *p*, *rp* processes...

# pp chain



# Ray Davis' Experiment

In 1964, Ray Davis measures the solar neutrino flux using

$${}^{37}\text{Cl} + v_e \rightarrow {}^{37}\text{Ar} + e^{-7}$$

threshold  $E_{\nu_e} = 0.8 \text{ MeV} \Rightarrow$  sensitive mostly to <sup>8</sup>B neutrinos



The measured flux does not fit the prediction of the Solar Model... Solved by SNO and Super Kamiokande : neutrino oscillations NP : Davis in 2002 and Mc Donald and Kajita in 2015

## CNO cycle(s)

If the star contains C, N or O they can be used as catalyst to synthesise <sup>4</sup>He from 4 p e.g. CNO C cycle :

$${}^{12}C + p \rightarrow {}^{13}N + \gamma$$

$${}^{13}N \rightarrow {}^{13}C + e^+ + \nu_e$$

$${}^{13}C + p \rightarrow {}^{14}N + \gamma$$

$${}^{14}N + p \rightarrow {}^{15}O + \gamma$$

$${}^{15}O \rightarrow {}^{15}N + e^+ + \nu_e$$

$${}^{15}N + p \rightarrow {}^{12}C + \alpha$$

Summary :  $4p \rightarrow {}^{4}_{2}He + 2e^{+} + 2\nu_{e} + 25\text{MeV}$ 



#### CNO C cycle

#### Other cycles

Other cycles are possible

• CNO N cycle using <sup>14</sup>N as catalyst :

$${}^{14}N + p \rightarrow {}^{15}O + \gamma$$

$${}^{15}O \rightarrow {}^{15}N + e^+ + \nu_e$$

$${}^{15}N + p \rightarrow {}^{16}O + \gamma$$

$${}^{16}O + p \rightarrow {}^{17}F + \gamma$$

$${}^{17}F \rightarrow {}^{17}O + e^+ + \nu_e$$

$${}^{17}O + p \rightarrow {}^{14}N + \alpha$$

NeNaMg cycles

• . . .

#### Reaction rate

We consider the radiative-capture reaction :  $b + c \rightarrow a + \gamma$ The reaction rate is the number of reactions occurring per unit time and volume

$$r = N_b N_c \sigma v$$

The velocity v is distributed according to Maxwell-Boltzmann

$$\phi(\mathbf{v}) \propto e^{-E/kT}$$
  

$$\Rightarrow \langle \sigma v \rangle = 4\pi \int \phi(\mathbf{v}) \sigma(v) v^3 dv$$
  

$$\propto \int e^{-E/kT} \sigma(E) E dE$$

## $\sigma(E)$ at low energy

Due to Coulomb barrier  $\sigma$  plummets at low *E* because reaction takes place only through tunneling

 ${}^{3}\text{He} + \alpha \rightarrow {}^{7}\text{Be} + \gamma \text{ also noted } {}^{3}\text{He}(\alpha, \gamma) {}^{7}\text{Be}$ 



# Astrophysical S factor

The rapid drop explained by the Gamow factor  $e^{-2\pi\eta}$ ,

$$\eta = \frac{Z_b Z_c e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 \hbar v}$$

is Sommerfeld parameter

$$\Rightarrow \sigma(E) = \frac{S(E)}{E} e^{-2\pi\eta}$$

The astrophysical S factor varies smoothly with E



# Gamow peak

$$\langle \sigma v \rangle \propto \int e^{-E/kT} \sigma(E) E dE$$
  
=  $\int e^{-E/kT} e^{-2\pi\eta} S(E) dE$ 

 $\Rightarrow$  *S* must be known only in the Gamow peak

$$g(E) = e^{-E/kT} e^{-2\pi\eta}$$



## Example

For the reaction  ${}^{3}\text{He}(\alpha, \gamma) {}^{7}\text{Be}$  in the sun

 $Z_b = 2, A_b = 3$   $Z_c = 2, A_c = 4$   $T = 0.015 T_9$ Gamow peak at  $E_0 \simeq 20$  keV



 $\Rightarrow$  difficult to measure due to background

Solutions

- Rely on theory to extrapolate down to astrophysical energies
- Go to an underground laboratory to reduce background e.g. LUNA collaboration
- Use indirect techniques, e.g. Coulomb breakup

## **Coulomb Breakup Method**

Coulomb breakup : projectile breaks up colliding with a heavy target

$$a + T \rightarrow b + c + T$$

Coulomb dominated  $\Rightarrow$  due to exchange of virtual photons



Baur and Rebel Ann. Rev. Nucl. Part. Sc. 46, 321 (1996)

⇒ seen as the time-reversed reaction of the radiative capture
 ⇒ use Coulomb breakup to infer radiative-capture cross section
 [Baur, Bertulani and Rebel NPA458, 188 (1986)]

#### Radiative Capture Cross Section Radiative capture :

electromagnetic transition *b*-*c* continuum  $\rightarrow a \equiv b + c$  bound state

At low energy, dominated by E1 transitions

$$\sigma_{\rm cap}^{\rm (E1)}(E) = \frac{2\pi^3}{3} \frac{E}{\hbar c} \frac{dB(E1)}{dE}$$
$$\propto \frac{d\sigma_{\rm bu}^{(1)}(E1)}{dE}$$

 $\Rightarrow$  Infer  $\sigma_{\rm cap}$  from  $d\sigma_{\rm bu}/dE~$  [Baur, Bertulani and Rebel NPA458, 188 (1986)]

- easier to measure (above Coulomb barrier)
- higher cross sections

But :

- Nuclear interaction must be negligible
- Coulomb breakup must take place at first order
- and be dominated by E1 transitions

#### <sup>8</sup>B

<sup>8</sup>B has only one  $2^+$  loosely-bound state with  $S_p = 137$  keV Often considered as a one-proton halo nucleus

Described as

$$|^{8}\mathbf{B}(2^{+})\rangle = |^{7}\mathbf{Be}(3/2^{-})\otimes \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{p}3/2)\rangle$$

Model of Esbensen & Bertsch [NPA 600, 37 (1996)] :

- <sup>7</sup>Be assumed spherical, its spin is neglected
- <sup>7</sup>Be-p potential has Woods-Saxon form factor (plus spin-orbit)

## Parallel-momentum distribution

Parallel-momentum distribution is best to test this

See [Esbensen, Bertsch NPA 600, 37 (1996)]

Exp : [Davids et al. PRL 81, 2209 (2001)]

<sup>8</sup>B + Pb @ 44*A*MeV



Th : DEA [Goldstein, P.C., Baye, PRC 76, 064608 (2007)]

Excellent agreement with exp. (no fitting parameter)

#### **Reaction Dynamics**



# Analysis of the Dynamics of <sup>8</sup>B Breakup on Pb



- Both E1 and E2 are significant
- Higher-order effects :
  - presence of g components from a p ground state
  - ▶ p + f > first-order E2
- Exact solution < first-order</li>
   ⇒ destructive interferences
   e.g. E1-E1 vs E2

⇒ be careful with first-order : interesting qualitative tool but inaccurate quantitative results

#### Interpretation

These results suggest the following mechanism

- at forward angle, reaction dominated by Coulomb
   ⇒ removes sensitivity to nuclear interaction
- not only one-step E1 to continuum
- also one-step E2
- and two-step E1-E1 which interfere with E2

 $\Rightarrow$  direct extraction of  $\sigma_{\rm capt}$  from  $\sigma_{\rm bu}$  not that simple

#### $S_{17}$ Using this <sup>8</sup>B description, the <sup>7</sup>Be(p, $\gamma$ )<sup>8</sup>B $S_{17}$ is



We obtain  $S_{17} = 19.2$  b eV at E = 0Good agreement with Hammache [PRL 86, 3985 (2001)] Too low but good shape compared to Junghans [PRC 68, 065803 (03)]

Summers and Nunes suggest another idea ...

[Summers, Nunes PRC 78, 011601 (2008)]

#### Analysis by Summers & Nunes Summers and Nunes have calculated ${}^{15}C + Pb \rightarrow {}^{14}C + n + Pb$ at 68AMeV

within CDCC using different  $V_{^{14}C-n}$ 

[PRC 78, 011601 (2008)]



Exp. : Nakamura *et al.* Th. : Summers, Nunes Exp. : Reifarth *et al.* Th. : Summers, Nunes

Significant dynamical effects  $\Rightarrow$  requires an accurate reaction model From a  $\chi^2$  fit to the data, they extract an ANC they use to get  $\sigma_{n,\gamma}$ 

# Astrophysical Application of Coulomb Breakup

Initial idea : [Baur, Bertulani and Rebel NPA458, 188 (1986)] See Coulomb breakup as time-reverse of radiative capture :

$$\sigma_{\rm cap}(E) \propto \frac{dB({\rm E1})}{dE} \propto \frac{d\sigma_{\rm bu}^{(1)}({\rm E1})}{dE}$$

But :

- Nuclear interaction (negligible at forward angles)
- E2 transitions
- higher orders
- $\Rightarrow$  requires accurate reaction model
- Nevertheless both reactions
  - sensitive to same input (projectile description : ANC and  $\delta_l$ )
  - dominated by same interaction (Coulomb)
- $\Rightarrow$  use breakup to constrain projectile model

from which to calculate capture