

# "HIGH ACCURACY RADIATIVE DATA FOR PLASMA OPACITIES"

Sultana N. Nahar

The Ohio State University  
Columbus, Ohio, USA

ASOS 10  
Berkeley 20

10th International Colloquium on  
*"Atomic Spectra and Oscillator Strengths for  
Astrophysical and Laboratory Plasmas"*

Berkeley, California, USA

August 3 - 7, 2010

Supports: DOE, NASA, Ohio Supercomput Center

## PLASMA OPACITY

- Opacity determines radiation transport in plasmas
- Opacity is the resultant effect of repeated absorption and emission of the propagating radiation by the constituent plasma elements.
- Radiation energy created in the core (gamma rays) of the sun takes over a million years to travel to the surface: **Reason - OPACITY**
- Microscopically opacity depends on two radiative processes: **i) photo-excitation (bound-bound transition) & ii) photoionization (bound-free transition)**
- These determine monochromatic opacity  $\kappa(\nu)$  at a single photon frequency  $\nu$ .
- The mean opacity, Rosseland mean opacity, depends also on the physical conditions, such as, temperature, density, elemental abundances and equation of state
- The total  $\kappa(\nu)$  is obtained from summed contributions of all possible transitions from all ionization stages of all elements in the source. Calculation of accurate parameters for such a large number of transitions has been the main problem for obtaining accurate opacities.

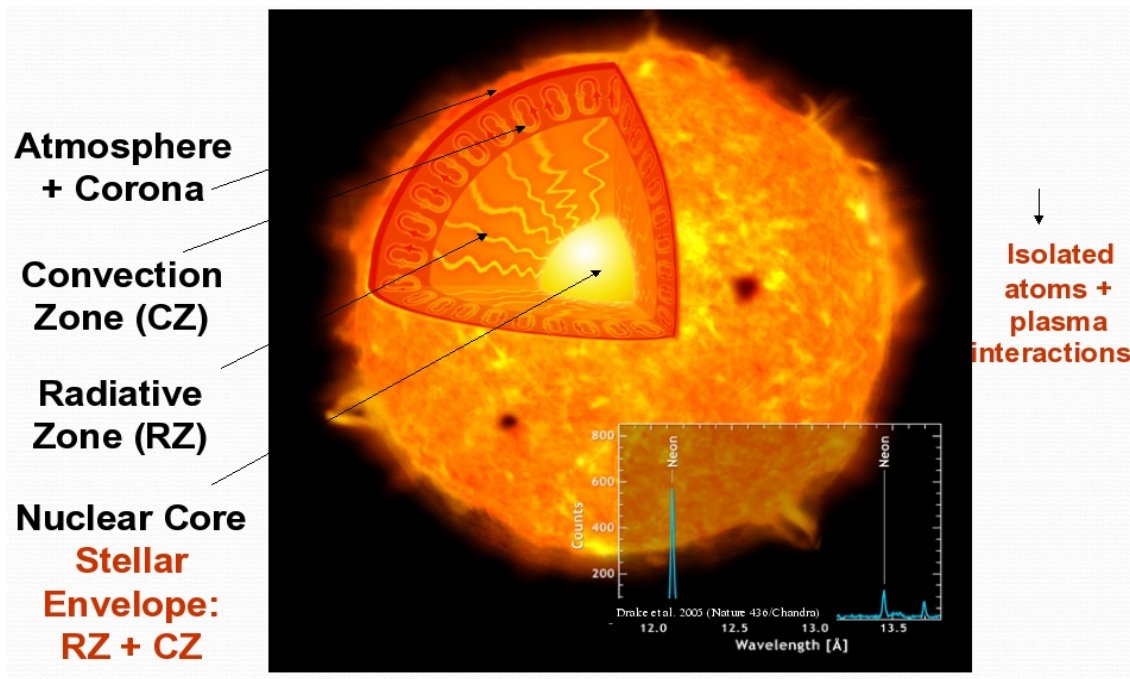
**THE OPACITY PROJECT and THE IRON PROJECT:**  
Accurate Study of Atoms & Ions, Applications to Astronomy

- International Collaborations: France, Germany, U.K., U.S., Venezuela, Canada, Belgium
- Earlier opacities were incorrect by factors of 2 to 5 resulting in inaccurate stellar models leading to - initiation of the Opacity Project in 1981
- **THE OPACITY PROJECT - OP** (1981 - 2006): study radiative atomic processes ( $E$ ,  $f$ ,  $\sigma_{PI}$ ) of all elements from H to Fe and calculate opacities in astrophysical plasmas
- **THE IRON PROJECT - IP** (1993 -): collisional & radiative processes of Fe & Fe peak elements
- **RMAX**: Under IP, study X-ray atomic astrophysics
- Atomic & Opacity Databases (from OP & IP)
- TOPbase (OP) at CDS:  
<http://vizier.u-strasbg.fr/topbase/topbase.html>
- TIPbase (IP) at CDS:  
<http://cdsweb.u-strasbg.fr/tipbase/home.html>
- OPserver for opacities at the Ohio Supercomputer Center:  
<http://opacities.osc.edu/>
- Latest radiative data at NORAD-Atomic-Data at OSU:  
[http://www.astronomy.ohio-state.edu/~nahar/nahar\\_radiativeatomicdata/index.html](http://www.astronomy.ohio-state.edu/~nahar/nahar_radiativeatomicdata/index.html)

## OUTCOME OF THE OP & THE IP

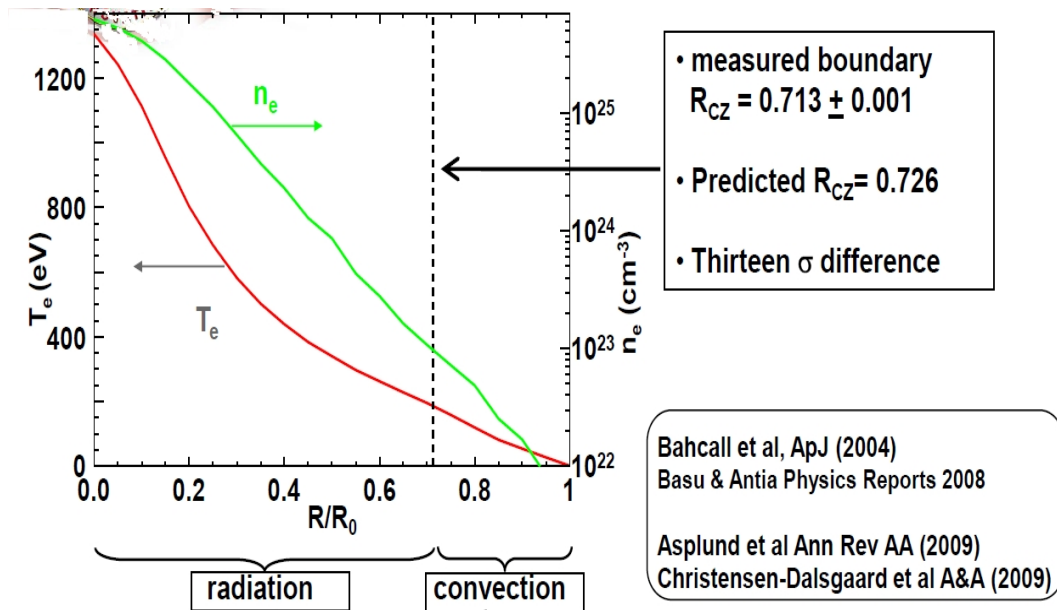
- Results from the OP and IP correspond to the first detailed study for most of the atoms and ions
- New features in photoionization cross sections are revealed
- OP opacities agreed with those computed under the OPAL, and both solved the outstanding problem on pulsations of cepheids
- Results from the OP and the IP continue to solve many outstanding problems, e.g., spectral analysis of blackhole environment, abundances of elements, opacities in astrophysical plasmas, dark matter
- HOWEVER, these are not complete and sufficiently accurate enough to solve all astrophysical problems
- **Recent developments under the IP:**
  - i) Able to calculate more accurate oscillator strengths for large number of transitions in relativistic Breit-Pauli R-matrix method
  - ii) finding existence of extensive and dominant resonant features in the high energy photoionization cross sections
  - iii) finding important fine structure effects in  $\sigma_{PI}$

# SOLAR OPACITY & ABUNDANCES



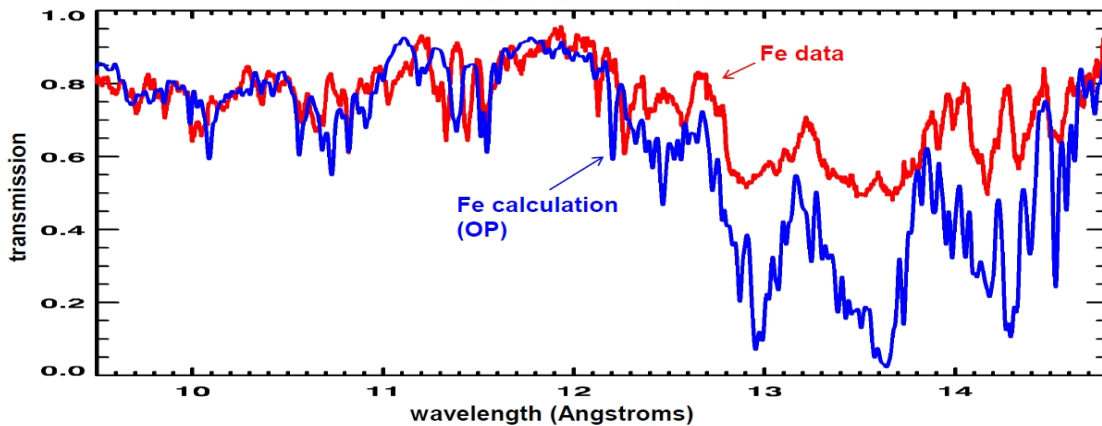
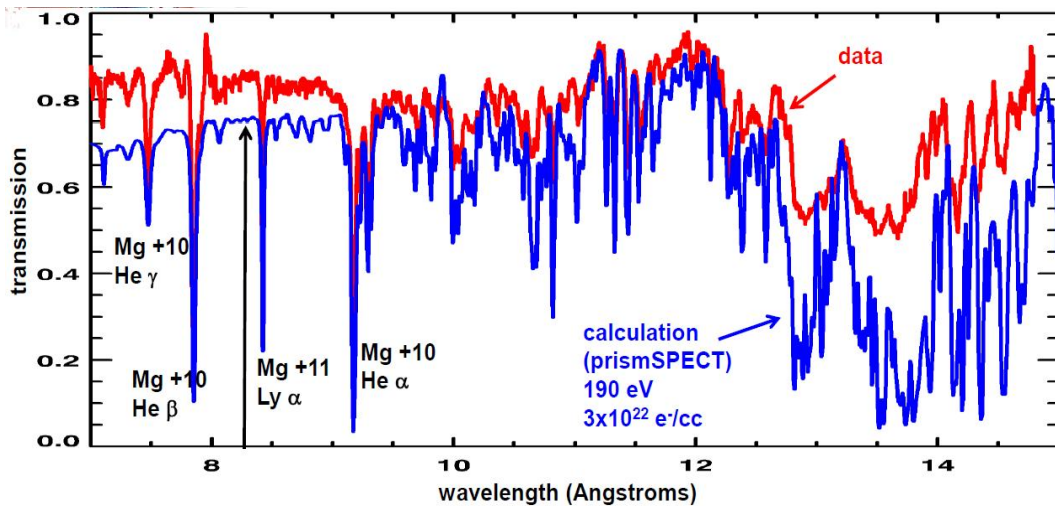
- Although the most studied star, we can not explain all observations.
- Sun's interior - nuclear core to the end of convection zone beyond which the radiation escapes
- At the convection zone boundary,  $R_{RZ}$ , the temperature  $T_e \sim 193$  eV, density  $n_e \sim 10^{23}/cm^3$  (HED condition - NIF, Z-pinch)
- HED condition  $\rightarrow$  important elements: O, Ne, especially Fe (Fe XVII-XIX)
- Radiation transport in the sun depends on the interior opacity ( $\kappa$ ) through elemental abundances
- The opacity can determine  $R_{RZ}$

## DISCREPANCY IN SOLAR RADIATIVE AND CONVECTION ZONES BOUNDARY ( $R_{CZ}$ )



- The measured boundary, from helioseismology, of  $R_{RZ}$  is 0.713
- The calculated  $R_{CZ}$  is 0.726 - large
- A 1% opacity change leads to observable  $R_{CZ}$  changes
- Recent determination of abundances of light elements in the sun, C, N and O, are up to 30-40% lower than the standard values, long supported by astrophysical models, helioseismology, and meteoritic measurements
- This is a challenge in accuracy

## DISCREPANCY BETWEEN EXPERIMENTAL & THEORETICAL OPACITIES (Bailey, Sandia lab)

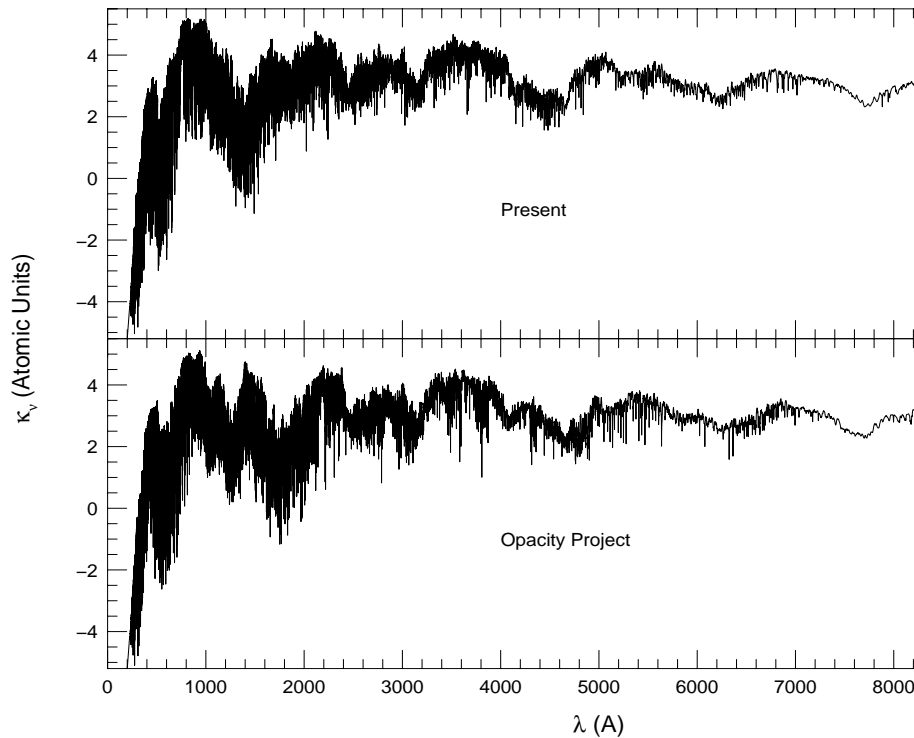


- Z PINCH spectra at Sandia lab: plasma temperature  $T_e \sim 193$  eV & density  $n_e \sim 10^{23}/cm^3$ , similar to those at solar  $R_{CZ}$
- Observed (red) and calculated (blue). Top: Diagnostic lines, Bottom: Iron - Large differences **Reason: OPACITY**
- Serious discrepancies for iron opacity using OP data (widely used) & observation
- Experimental  $n_e$  is wrong OR bound-free absorption (photoionization) is inaccurate

# Monochromatic Opacities $\kappa_\nu$ of Fe IV

---

(Nahar & Pradhan 2006)



- $\log T = 4.5$ ,  $\log N_e (\text{cm}^{-3}) = 17.0$ : condition when Fe IV dominates iron opacity
- $\kappa_\nu$  depends primarily on oscillator strengths (over 710,000 transitions)
- $\kappa_\nu$  (Fe IV) varies over orders of magnitude between 500 - 4000  $\text{\AA}$
- Comparison indicates systematic shift in groups of OP energies



# DETERMINATION OF OPACITY:

## 1. Photoexcitation - Photon absorption for a bound-bound transition



- Oscillator Strength ( $f_{ij}$ )

Monochromatic opacity ( $\kappa_\nu$ ) depends on  $f_{ij}$

$$\kappa_\nu(\mathbf{i} \rightarrow \mathbf{j}) = \frac{\pi e^2}{mc} N_i f_{ij} \phi_\nu \quad (1)$$

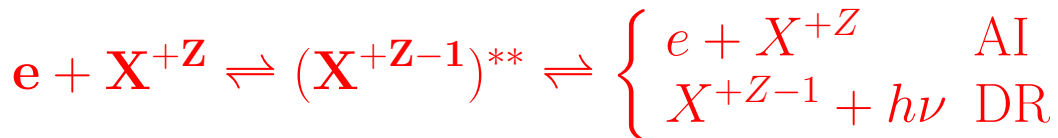
$N_i$  = ion density in state  $\mathbf{i}$ ,  $\phi_\nu$  = profile factor

- $\kappa$  includes  $\sim 100\text{M}$  transitions of mid-Z elements

## 2. Photoionization - Photon absorption for a bound-free transition: Direct -



## 3. Autoionization (AI) in photoionization process :



Doubly excited "autoionizing state"  $\rightarrow$  resonance

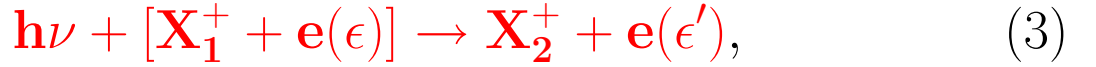
- Photoionization Cross Sections ( $\sigma_{PI}$ )

$\kappa_\nu$  depends on  $\sigma_{PI}$

$$\kappa_\nu = N_i \sigma_{PI}(\nu) \quad (2)$$

$\kappa_\nu$  depends also on processes

- Inverse Bremsstrahlung free-free Scattering:



Cross section - from the elastic scattering matrix elements for electron impact excitation. An approximate expression for the free-free opacity is

$$\kappa_\nu^{\text{ff}}(1, 2) = 3.7 \times 10^8 N_e N_i g_{\text{ff}} \frac{Z^2}{T^{1/2} \nu^3} \quad (4)$$

where  $g_{ff}$  is a Gaunt factor

- Photon-Electron scattering:

- a) Thomson scattering when the electron is free

$$\kappa(\text{sc}) = N_e \sigma_{\text{Th}} = N_e \frac{8\pi e^4}{3m^2 c^4} = 6.65 \times 10^{-25} \text{ cm}^2/\text{g} \quad (5)$$

- b) Rayleigh scattering when the electron is bound

$$\kappa_\nu^{\text{R}} = n_i \sigma_\nu^{\text{R}} \approx n_i f_t \sigma^{\text{Th}} \left( \frac{\nu}{\nu_I} \right)^4 \quad (6)$$

$h\nu_I =$  binding energy,  $f_t =$  total oscillator strength associated with the bound electron.

## The equation of state (EOS)

- Ionization fractions and level populations of each ion of an element in levels with non-negligible occupation probability.

Rosseland mean  $\kappa_R(T, \rho)$ :

Harmonic mean opacity averaged over the Planck function,  $\rho$  is the mass density (g/cc),

$$\frac{1}{\kappa_R} = \frac{\int_0^\infty \frac{1}{\kappa_\nu} g(u) du}{\int_0^\infty g(u) du},$$

where  $g(u)$  is the Planck weighting function

$$g(u) = \frac{15}{4\pi^4} \frac{u^4 e^{-u}}{(1 - e^{-u})^2}, \quad u = \frac{h\nu}{kT}$$

$g(u)$ , for an astrophysical state is calculated with different chemical compositions H (X), He (Y) and metals (Z), such that

$$X + Y + Z = 1$$

## THEORY: Relativistic Breit-Pauli Approximation

For a multi-electron system,

$$\mathbf{H}^{\text{BP}} \Psi_{\mathbf{E}} = \mathbf{E} \Psi_{\mathbf{E}} \quad (7)$$

the relativistic Breit-Pauli Hamiltonian is:

$$\mathbf{H}^{\text{BP}} = \mathbf{H}^{\text{NR}} + \mathbf{H}^{\text{mass}} + \mathbf{H}^{\text{Dar}} + \mathbf{H}^{\text{so}} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j}^{\text{N}} [\mathbf{g}_{ij}(\text{so} + \text{so}') + \mathbf{g}_{ij}(\text{ss}') + \mathbf{g}_{ij}(\text{css}') + \mathbf{g}_{ij}(\mathbf{d}) + \mathbf{g}_{ij}(\text{oo}')]. \quad (8)$$

where  $H_{\text{NR}}$  is the nonrelativistic Hamiltonian:

$$\mathbf{H}^{\text{NR}} = \sum_{i=1}^{\text{N}} \left\{ -\nabla_i^2 - \frac{2\mathbf{Z}}{\mathbf{r}_i} + \sum_{j>i}^{\text{N}} \frac{2}{\mathbf{r}_{ij}} \right\} \quad (9)$$

Relativistic Breit-Pauli R-matrix (BPRM) method  
includes the three one-body correction terms:

$$\mathbf{H}_{\text{N}+1}^{\text{BP}} = \mathbf{H}_{\text{N}+1}^{\text{NR}} + \mathbf{H}_{\text{N}+1}^{\text{mass}} + \mathbf{H}_{\text{N}+1}^{\text{Dar}} + \mathbf{H}_{\text{N}+1}^{\text{so}}, \quad (10)$$

$$\mathbf{H}^{\text{mass}} = -\frac{\alpha^2}{4} \sum_i \mathbf{p}_i^4, \quad \mathbf{H}^{\text{Dar}} = \frac{\alpha^2}{4} \sum_i \nabla^2 \left( \frac{\mathbf{Z}}{\mathbf{r}_i} \right), \quad \mathbf{H}^{\text{so}} = \left[ \frac{\mathbf{Z}e^2\hbar^2}{2m^2c^2r^3} \right] \mathbf{L.S}$$

$H^{\text{so}}$  splits LS energy in to fine structure levels.

The latest BPRM codes include the two-body Breit interaction term:

$$\mathbf{H}^{\text{B}} = \sum_{i>j} [\mathbf{g}_{ij}(\text{so} + \text{so}') + \mathbf{g}_{ij}(\text{ss}')] \quad (11)$$

## Close-coupling Approximation & R-matrix method

- In close coupling (CC) approximation, the ion is treated as a system of  $(N+1)$  electrons: a target or the ion core of  $N$  electrons with the additional interacting  $(N+1)$ th electron:
- Total wavefunction expansion is expressed as:

$$\Psi_{\mathbf{E}}(\mathbf{e} + \mathbf{ion}) = A \sum_i^N \chi_i(\mathbf{ion})\theta_i + \sum_j \mathbf{c}_j \Phi_j(\mathbf{e} + \mathbf{ion})$$

$\chi_i \rightarrow$  target ion or core wavefunction

$\theta_i \rightarrow$  interacting electron wavefunction (continuum or bound)

$\Phi_j \rightarrow$  correlation functions of  $(\mathbf{e}+\mathbf{ion})$

- The complex resonant structures in the atomic processes are included through channel couplings.
- Substitution of  $\Psi_{\mathbf{E}}(\mathbf{e} + \mathbf{ion})$  in  $\mathbf{H}\Psi_{\mathbf{E}} = \mathbf{E}\Psi_{\mathbf{E}}$  results in a set of coupled equations
- Coupled equations are solved by R-matrix method
- $\mathbf{E} < 0 \rightarrow$  Bound  $(\mathbf{e}+\mathbf{ion})$  states  $\Psi_B$
- $\mathbf{E} \geq 0 \rightarrow$  Continuum states  $\Psi_F$

## ATOMIC PROCESSES:

Quantity of Interest -  $S$  (Line Strength)

Transition Matrix elements:

$\langle \Psi_B || \mathbf{D} || \Psi_{B'} \rangle \rightarrow$  Radiative Excitation

$\langle \Psi_B || \mathbf{D} || \Psi_F \rangle \rightarrow$  Photoionization

$\mathbf{D} = \sum_i \mathbf{r}_i \rightarrow$  Dipole Operator

The matrix element reduces to generalized line strength,

$$S = \left| \left\langle \Psi_f \left| \sum_{j=1}^{N+1} \mathbf{r}_j \right| \Psi_i \right\rangle \right|^2 \quad (12)$$

## PHOTO-EXCITATION AND DE-EXCITATION:

The oscillator strength ( $f_{ij}$ ) and radiative decay rate ( $A_{ji}$ ) for the bound-bound transition are

$$f_{ij} = \left[ \frac{E_{ji}}{3g_i} \right] S, \quad A_{ji}(\text{sec}^{-1}) = \left[ 0.8032 \times 10^{10} \frac{E_{ji}^3}{3g_j} \right] S \quad (13)$$

## PHOTOIONIZATION:

The photoionization cross section,  $\sigma_{PI}$ ,

$$\sigma_{PI} = \left[ \frac{4\pi}{3c} \frac{1}{g_i} \right] \omega S, \quad (14)$$

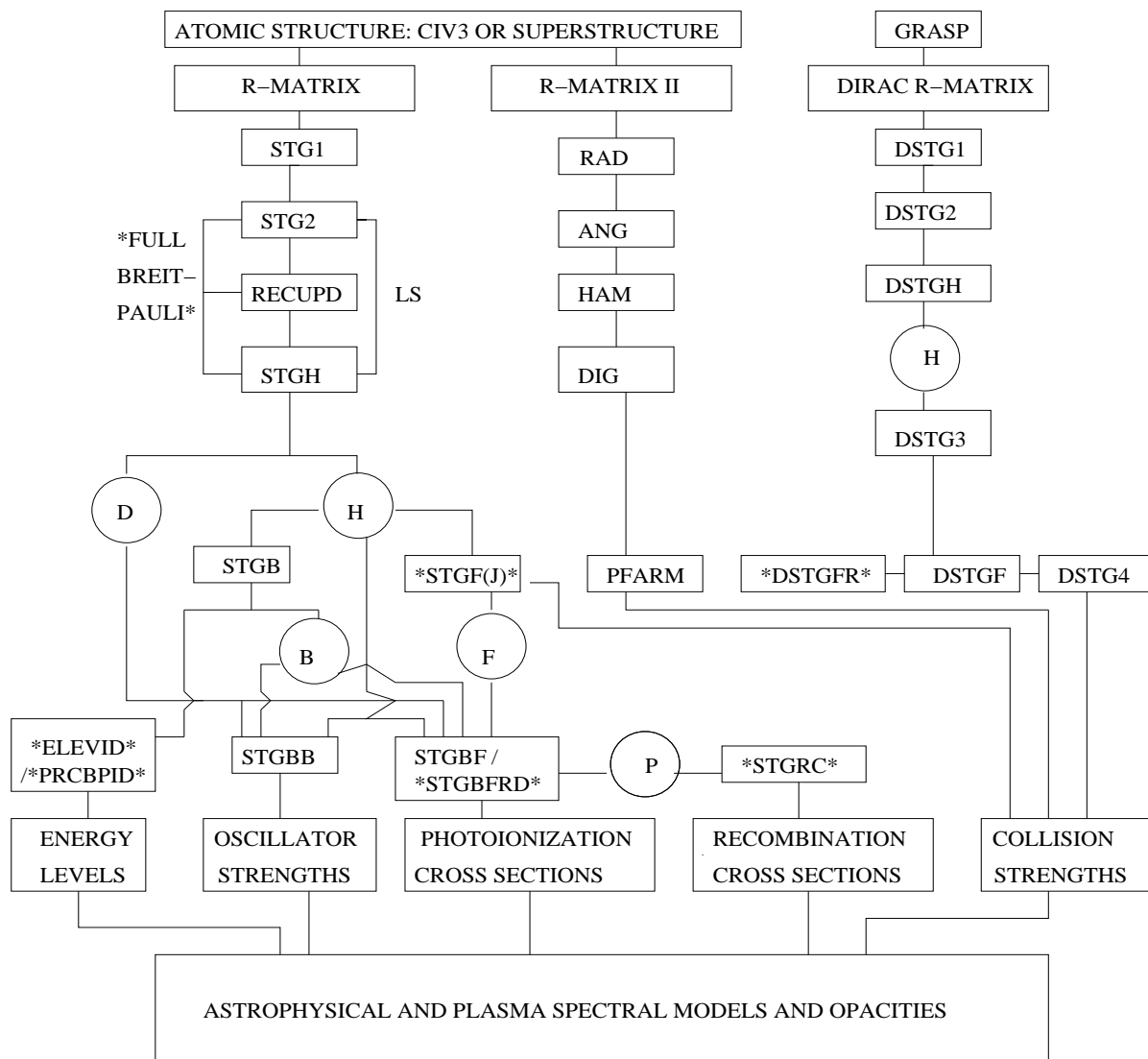
$\omega \rightarrow$  incident photon energy in Rydberg unit

# R-Matrix Codes For Large-Scale Atomic Calculations at the Ohio Supercomputer Center

## VARIOUS COMPUTATIONAL STAGES

- R-matrix calculations can proceed in 3 branches - 1) LS coupling & relativistic Breit-Pauli, 2) LS coupling R-matrix II for Large configuration interaction, 3) DARC for Full Dirac relativistic
- Results - 1) Energy Levels, 2) Oscillator Strengths, 3) Photoionization Cross sections, 4) Recombination Rate Coefficients, 5) Collision Strengths; - Astrophysical Models

THE R-MATRIX CODES AT OSU



## RADIATIVE EXCITATIONS & DECAY RATES (*f*-, *S*, *A*-values for various transitions)

### Allowed electric dipole (E1) transitions (BPRM)

- i) Same spin multiplicity dipole allowed ( $\Delta j=0, \pm 1$ ,  $\Delta L = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2$ ,  $\Delta S = 0$ , parity  $\pi$  changes)
- ii) Intercombination ( $\Delta j=0, \pm 1$ ,  $\Delta L = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2$ ,  $\Delta S \neq 0$ ,  $\pi$  changes)

$$A_{ji}(\text{sec}^{-1}) = 0.8032 \times 10^{10} \frac{E_{ji}^3}{3g_j} S^{E1}, \quad f_{ij} = \frac{E_{ji}}{3g_i} S^{E1}(ij) \quad (15)$$

- Relativistic BPRM calculations include both types in contrast to LS coupling which includes same spin multiplicity dipole allowed only

### Forbidden transitions (Atomic Structure)

- i) Electric quadrupole (E2) transitions ( $\Delta J = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2$ , parity does not change)

$$A_{ji}^{E2} = 2.6733 \times 10^3 \frac{E_{ij}^5}{g_j} S^{E2}(i, j) \text{ s}^{-1}, \quad (16)$$

- ii) Magnetic dipole (M1) transitions ( $\Delta J = 0, \pm 1$ , parity does not change)

$$A_{ji}^{M1} = 3.5644 \times 10^4 \frac{E_{ij}^3}{g_j} S^{M1}(i, j) \text{ s}^{-1}, \quad (17)$$



iii) Electric octupole (E3) transitions ( $\Delta J = \pm 2, \pm 3$ , parity changes)

$$A_{ji}^{E3} = 1.2050 \times 10^{-3} \frac{E_{ij}^7}{g_j} S^{E3}(i, j) s^{-1}, \quad (18)$$

iv) Magnetic quadrupole (M2) transitions ( $\Delta J = \pm 2$ , parity changes)

$$A_{ji}^{M2} = 2.3727 \times 10^{-2} s^{-1} \frac{E_{ij}^5}{g_j} S^{M2}(i, j). \quad (19)$$

• Under the Iron Project, the above transitions are being calculated in the relativistic Breit-Pauli approximation

### LIEFTIME:

The lifetime of a level can be obtained from the A-values,

$$\tau_k(s) = \frac{1}{\sum_i A_{ki}(s^{-1})}. \quad (20)$$

”All new calculations are resulting in larger number of accurate transitions for more accurate opacities”

# ENERGIES & OSCILLATOR STRENGTHS:

$$\text{h}\nu + \text{Fe XIX} \leftrightarrow \text{Fe XIX}^*$$

## Fe XIX Energies (Nahar 2010):

- **Calculated: (BPRM) 1626, Observed (NIST): 63 Agreement < 4%**

Level	$J : I_J$	$E_o(\text{Ry,NIST})$	$E_c(\text{Ry,BPRM})$
2s22p4	$^3P^e$ 2.0 : 1	107.90000	107.24300
2s22p4	$^3P^e$ 1.0 : 1	107.08500	106.43000
2s22p4	$^3P^e$ 0.0 : 1	107.21400	106.56300
2s22p4	$^1D^e$ 2.0 : 2	106.36100	105.66900
2s22p4	$^1S^e$ 0.0 : 2	104.93700	104.21700
2s2p5	$^3P^o$ 2.0 : 1	99.49000	98.77570
2s2p5	$^3P^o$ 1.0 : 1	98.92640	98.20250
2s2p5	$^3P^o$ 0.0 : 1	98.51380	97.78800
2s2p5	$^1P^o$ 1.0 : 2	96.34880	95.59100
2p6	$^1S^e$ 0.0 : 3	88.45190	87.65300
2s22p34So3s	$^3S^o$ 1.0 : 3	47.02740	46.32100
2s22p32Do3s	$^3D^o$ 3.0 : 1	45.76980	45.00950
2s22p32Do3s	$^3D^o$ 2.0 : 3	46.05230	45.34050
2s22p32Do3s	$^3D^o$ 1.0 : 4	46.04320	45.32430
2s22p32Do3s	$^1D^o$ 2.0 : 4	45.62400	44.83330
2s22p32Po3s	$^3P^o$ 2.0 : 5	44.38470	43.65750
2s22p32Po3s	$^3P^o$ 1.0 : 5	44.81300	44.19400
2s22p32Po3s	$^3P^o$ 0.0 : 2	44.95880	44.26550
2s22p32Po3s	$^1P^o$ 1.0 : 6	44.24800	43.51780
2s22p34So3d	$^3D^o$ 3.0*: 3	41.84220	41.10710
2s22p32Do3d3/2	$^3P^o$ 2.0*: 8	40.73960	40.48040
2s22p32Do3d5/2	$^3D^o$ 3.0*: 7	40.50270	39.23750
2s22p32Do3d5/2	$^3D^o$ 2.0*: 9	40.42070	39.90600
2s22p32Do3d5/2	$^1F^o$ 3.0 : 6	40.01970	39.71650
2s22p32Po3d1/2	$^3F^o$ 3.0*: 8	40.01060	39.05150
2s22p32Po3d1/2	$^3F^o$ 2.0*:11	39.84660	39.53240
2s22p32Po3d3/2	$^3D^o$ 3.0 : 9	38.96260	38.34430
2s22p32Po3d3/2	$^3D^o$ 2.0 :13	39.06290	38.91690

# Fe XIX: $f$ , $S$ , $A$ for allowed & forbidden transitions

- 289,291 E1 transitions among 1626 levels
- 66,619 forbidden (E2,E3,M1,M2) transitions
- Good agreement for most transitions

E1 Transition Comparison: a-Shirai et al (2000), b- Fawcett (1986), c- Cheng et al (1979), d- Loulergue et al (1985), e- Jonauskas et al (2004), f- Buchet et al (1980), g- Safronova et al (1975), h- Feldman et al. (1975), i- Smith et al (1971)

$\lambda(\text{\AA})$	$A(\text{s}^{-1})(\text{NIST})$	$A(\text{s}^{-1})$ (Present)	$C_i - C_j$	$SL\pi : i - j$	$g : i - j$
108.355	3.9e+10 <sup>a</sup> : C,3.57e+10 <sup>e</sup>	3.35e+10,3.54+10	$2s^22p^4 - 2s2p^5$	$^3P - ^3P^o$	5-5
109.952	1.6e+10 <sup>c</sup> : C	1.40e+10,1.46+10	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^2p^5$	$^3P - ^3P^o$	1-3
111.695	1.26e+10 <sup>c</sup> : C	1.09e+10,1.15+10	$2s^22p^4 - 2s2p^5$	$^3P - ^3P^o$	3- 3
119.983	1.04e+10 <sup>a</sup> : C	9.02e+9,8.54+9	$2s^22p^4 - 2s2p^5$	$^3P - ^3P^o$	3- 5
101.55	3.17+10 <sup>c</sup> :E,2.91e+10 <sup>e</sup>	2.77e+10	$2s22p4 - 2s2p5$	$3P - 3P$	5-3
78.888	1.3e+10 <sup>c</sup> :E	1.12+10 ,1.14+10	$2s22p4 - 2s2p5$	$3P - 1P$	5-3
83.87	1.6e+09 <sup>c</sup> :E	1.19E+09,1.26+9	$2s22p4 - 2s2p5$	$3P - 1P$	1-3
84.874	9.3e+08 <sup>c</sup> :E	8.75e+08,8.32+8,	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^2p^5$	$^3P - ^1P^o$	3-3
132.63	2.2e+09 <sup>a</sup> : E	1.96e+9,2.01+9	$2s^22p^4 - 2s2p^5$	$^1D - ^3P^o$	5-5
91.012	1.49e+11 <sup>c</sup> :C	1.32e+11,1.38e+11	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^2p^5$	$^1D - ^1P^o$	5-3
151.607	7.9e+08 <sup>c</sup> :E	5.86e+8,6,65+8s	$2s^22p^4 - 2s2p^5$	$^1S - ^3P^o$	1-3
14.966	2.5e+12 <sup>a</sup> :C	2.24e+12,2.09e+12	$2s22p4 - 2s22p3(4S)3s$	$3P - 3S$	5-3
14.929	2.5e+11 <sup>b</sup> :D	2.45e+11,2.77e+11	$2s22p4 - 2s22p3(2D)3s$	$3P - 3D$	3-5
14.668	1.1e+12 <sup>b</sup> :C	1.06e+12,1.12+12	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^22p^3(^2P^o)3s$	$^3P - ^3P^o$	3-1
14.735	9.8e+11 <sup>b</sup> :D,9.53e+11 <sup>e</sup>	9.29e+11 ,8.52+11	$2s22p4 - 2s22p3(2D)3s$	$3P - 3D$	5-5
14.929	1.2e+12 <sup>b</sup> :D	1.16e+12 ,1.04e+12	$2s22p4 - 2s22p3(2D)3s$	$3P - 3D$	3-3
14.633	1.4e+11 <sup>b</sup> :E,1.27e+11 <sup>e</sup>	1.18E+11	$2s22p4 - 2s22p3(2D)3s$	$3P - 1D$	5-5
14.995	2.2e+12 <sup>b</sup> :D	2.05e+12,2.0e+12	$2s22p4 - 2s22p3(2D)3s$	$1D - 1D$	5-5
14.534	6.8e+11 <sup>b</sup> :D	6.36e+11,6.05+11	$2s22p4 - 2s22p3(2P)3s$	$3P - 3P$	3-5
14.603	7.5e+11 <sup>b</sup> :D	6.94e+11,6,53+11	$2s22p4 - 2s22p3(2P)3s$	$3P - 3P$	1- 3
14.668	1.1e+12 <sup>b</sup> :C	1.07e+12,9.74+11	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^22p^3(^2D^o)3s$	$^3P - ^3D^o$	5-7
14.70	6.8e+11 <sup>a</sup> :E,6.49e+11 <sup>e</sup>	5.05e+11,5.22+11	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^22p^3(^2P^o)3s$	$^1D - ^3P^o$	5-5
14.806	5.6e+11 <sup>b</sup> : E	5.05e+11 ,4.88+11	$2s22p4 - 2s22p3(2P)3s$	$1D - 3P$	5-3
14.671	1.1e+12 <sup>b</sup> :D,1.11e+12e	9.36e+11,1.03+12	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^22p^3(^2P^o)3s$	$^1D - ^1P^o$	5-3
13.424	4.8e+12 <sup>a</sup> :E	4.02e+12	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^22p^3(^2P_{5/2}^o)3d$	$^3P - ^3F^o$	5-7
13.52	2.0e+13 <sup>b</sup> : D	1.90e+13	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^22p^3(^2D_{5/2}^o)3d$	$^3P - ^3D^o$	5-7
13.735	1.0e+13 <sup>a</sup> :D,2.06e+12 <sup>e</sup>	8.10e+12	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^22p^3(^2P_{5/2}^o)3d$	$^1D - ^3F^o$	5-7
86.999	1.2e+10 <sup>c</sup> : E	1.09e+10,1.05e+10	$2s2p^5 - 2p^6$	$^3P^o - ^1S$	3-1
115.396	1.61e+11 <sup>c</sup> : C	1.35e+11,1.51e+11	$2s2p^5 - 2p^6$	$^1P^o - ^1S$	3-1
Lifetime ( $10^{-12}\text{s}$ )					
$\lambda$	Expt	Present	Others	Conf	Level
108.4	23.5±2. <sup>f</sup>	22.48	22.5 <sup>g</sup> ,22.1 <sup>h</sup> ,17.6 <sup>i</sup>	2s2p <sup>5</sup>	$^3P_2^o$

## Fe XIX: Comparison of forbidden transitions

### • Good agreement with existing results

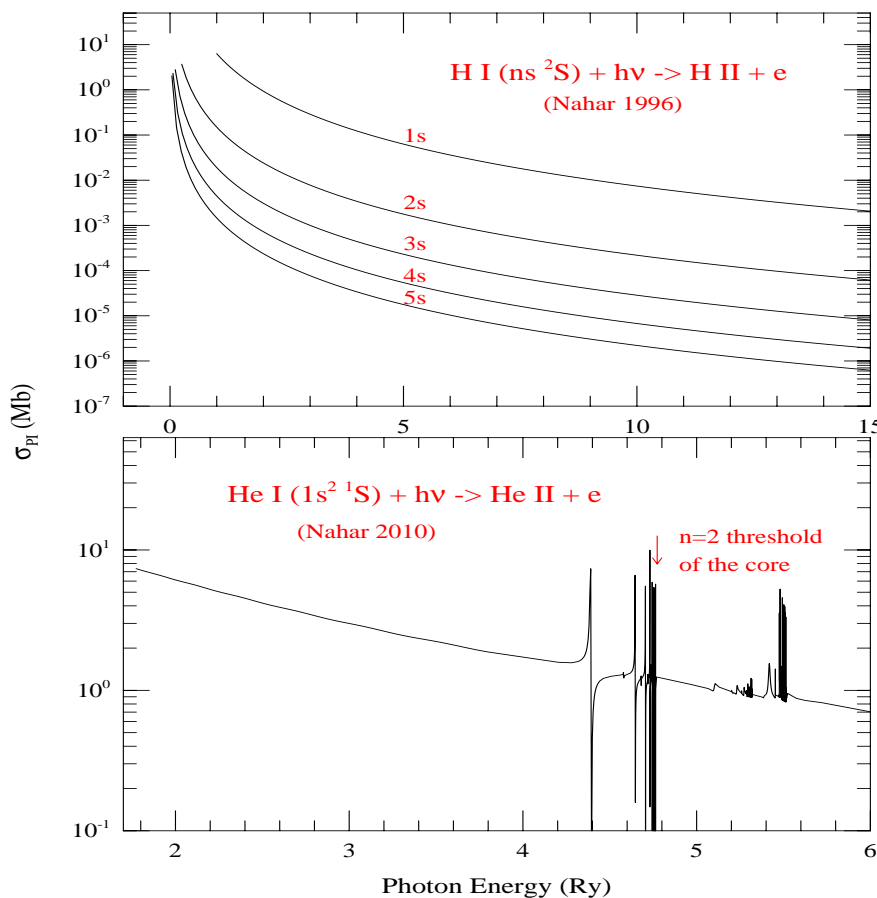
E2, E3, M1, M2 transitions: a- Cheng et al (1979),  
b- Loulergue et al (1985), c- Jonauskas et al (2004).

$\lambda$ (Å)	$A(\text{s}^{-1})$ (Others)	$A(\text{s}^{-1})$ (present)	$C_i - C_j$	$SL\pi$ i-j	$g$ i-j
424.26	1.50e+05 <sup>a</sup> :C,1.39e+05 <sup>c</sup>	1.41e+5	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^22p^4 : M1$	$^3P - ^1S$	3- 1
592.234	6.00 <sup>a</sup> :E,6.18 <sup>c</sup>	6.0	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^22p^4 : E2$	$^3P - ^1D$	5- 5
592.234	1.73e+04 <sup>a</sup> :C,1.69e+04 <sup>c</sup>	1.67e+4	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^22p^4 : M1$	$^3P - ^1D$	5-5
639.84	4.9e+01 <sup>a</sup> :E,4.83e+01 <sup>c</sup>	4.92e+1	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^22p^4 : E2$	$^1D - ^1S$	5-1
1118.06	0.611 <sup>a</sup> :E,0.614 <sup>c</sup>	0.635	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^22p^4 : E2$	$^3P - ^3P$	5-3
1118.06	1.45e+04 <sup>a</sup> :C,1.42e+04 <sup>c</sup>	1.46e+4	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^22p^4 : M1$	$^3P - ^3P$	5-3
1259.27	6.70e+02 <sup>a</sup> :D,6.99e+02 <sup>c</sup>	6.51e+2	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^22p^4 : M1$	$^3P - ^1D$	3- 5
1328.90	0.491 <sup>a</sup> :E,0.509 <sup>c</sup>	0.502	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^22p^4 : E2$	$^3P - ^3P$	5- 1
2207.8	4.820e+03 <sup>b</sup> :C	4.96e+03	$2s2p^5 - 2s2p^5 : M1$	$^3P^o - ^3P^o$	3- 1
7045	4.0e+01 <sup>a</sup> : C	41.0	$2s^22p^4 - 2s^22p^4 : M1$	$^3P - ^3P$	1- 3
353.532	9.4e+03 <sup>b</sup> : D	8.79e+03	$2s2p^5 - 2s2p^5 : M1$	$^3P^o - ^1P^o$	3-3
420.911	7.7e+03 <sup>b</sup> :D,8.06e+03 <sup>c</sup>	7.31e+03	$2s2p^5 - 2s2p^5 : M1$	$^3P^o - ^1P^o$	1-3



# PHOTOIONIZATION

- Atomic system with more than 1 electron - resonances in photoionization
- Earlier calculations for  $\sigma_{PI}$  under the OP considered low-lying resonances
- Core excitations to higher states - assumed weaker and hydrogenic
- Fine structure introduce new features
- New calculations under the IP  $\rightarrow$  new and dominating features not studied before - these should change the current calculated opacities and resolve the gap



# PHOTOIONIZATION OF Fe XVII (Nahar et al. 2010):

- Bound levels ( $n \leq 10, l \leq 9, J \leq 8$ ):  $N_b = 454$
- Photoionization Cross Sections  $\sigma_{PI}$  for all levels
- Wavefunction expansion includes 60 core levels
- Note: Large energy gap  $\sim 47$  Ry (n=2 & 3 levels)

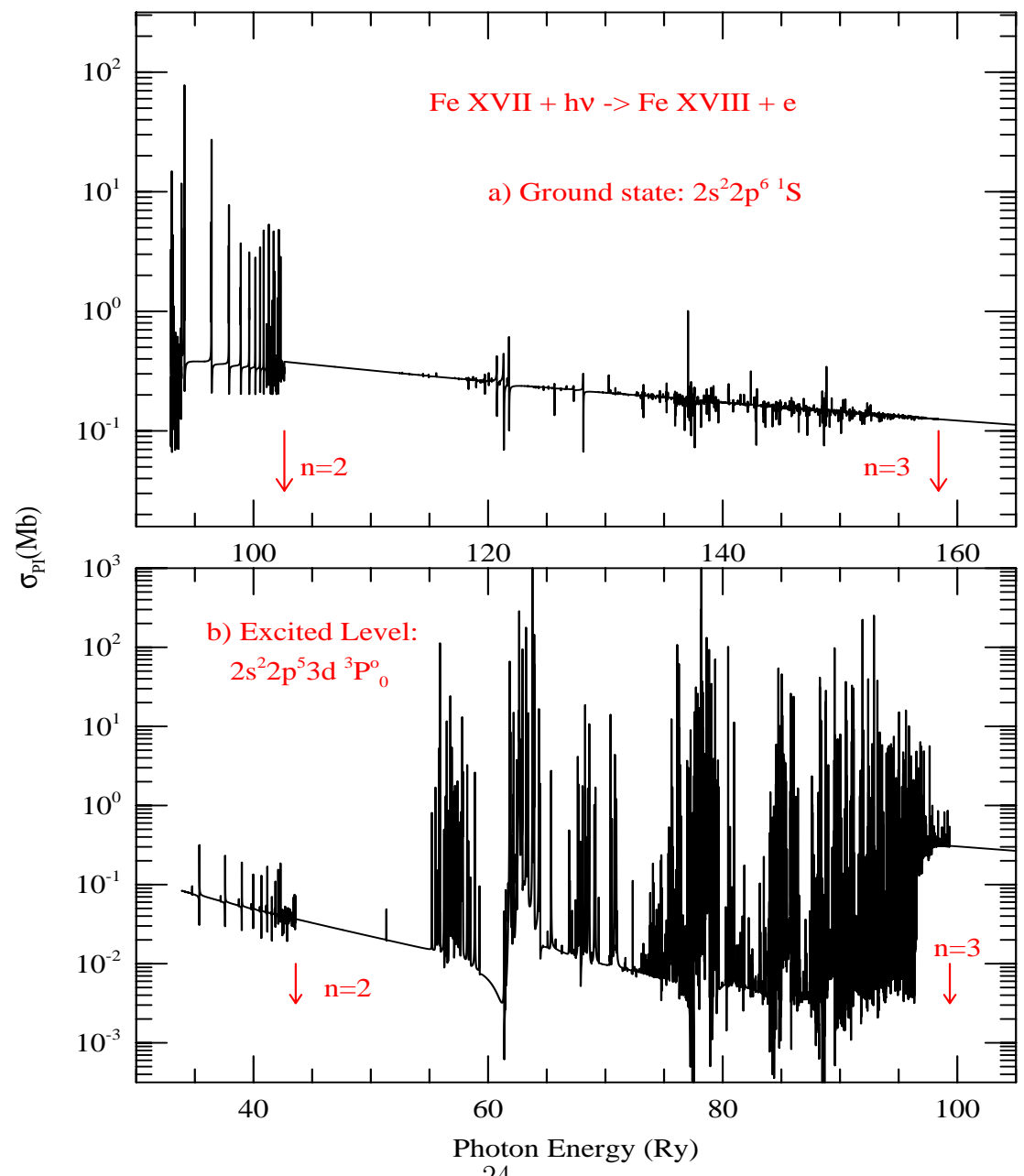
i	Configuration	Term	2J	E(Ry) Present	i	Configuration	Term	2J	E(Ry) Present
<b>n=2 states</b>					30	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^2P^o$	1	61.899
1	$2s^2 2p^5$	$^2P^o$	3	0.00000	31	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^4D$	5	62.299
2	$2s^2 2p^5$	$^2P^o$	1	0.93477	32	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^4D$	7	62.311
3	$2s 2p^6$	$^2S$	1	9.70228	33	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^4D$	1	62.906
<b>n=3 states</b>					34	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^4D$	3	63.050
4	$2s^2 2p^4 3s$	$^4P$	5	56.690	35	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^2P^o$	3	62.461
5	$2s^2 2p^4 3s$	$^2P$	3	56.936	36	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^4F$	9	62.535
6	$2s^2 2p^4 3s$	$^4P$	1	57.502	37	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2F$	7	62.629
7	$2s^2 2p^4 3s$	$^4P$	3	57.572	38	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^2P^o$	1	62.686
8	$2s^2 2p^4 3s$	$^2P$	1	57.798	39	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^4P$	1	62.496
9	$2s^2 2p^4 3s$	$^2D$	5	58.000	40	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^4P$	3	62.625
10	$2s^2 2p^4 3s$	$^2D$	3	58.355	41	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^4F$	5	62.985
11	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^4P^o$	3	59.209	42	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2P$	1	63.123
12	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^4P^o$	5	59.238	43	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^4F$	3	63.156
13	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^4P^o$	1	59.478	44	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2F$	5	62.698
14	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^4D^o$	7	59.525	45	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^4F$	7	63.271
15	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^2D^o$	5	59.542	46	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2D$	3	63.302
16	$2s^2 2p^4 3s$	$^2S$	1	59.916	47	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^4P$	5	62.911
17	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^2P^o$	1	59.982	48	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2P$	3	63.308
18	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^4D^o$	3	60.005	49	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2D$	5	63.390
19	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^4D^o$	1	60.012	50	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2G$	7	63.945
20	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^2D^o$	3	60.147	51	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2G$	9	63.981
21	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^4D^o$	5	60.281	52	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2S$	1	63.919
22	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^2P^o$	3	60.320	53	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2F$	5	64.200
23	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^2S^o$	1	60.465	54	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2F$	7	64.301
24	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^4S^o$	3	60.510	55	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2P$	3	64.138
25	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^2F^o$	5	60.851	56	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2D$	5	64.160
26	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^2F^o$	7	61.028	57	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2D$	3	64.391
27	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^2D^o$	3	61.165	58	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2P$	1	64.464
28	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^2D^o$	5	61.272 <sup>23</sup>	59	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2D$	5	65.305
29	$2s^2 2p^4 3p$	$^2P^o$	3	61.761	60	$2s^2 2p^4 3d$	$^2D$	3	65.468

# PHOTOIONIZATION CROSS SECTION: Fe XVII

- Top: Ground level: n=2 resonances are important
- Bottom: Excited levels: n=3 resonances are important

Arrows point energy limits of n=2 & 3 core states

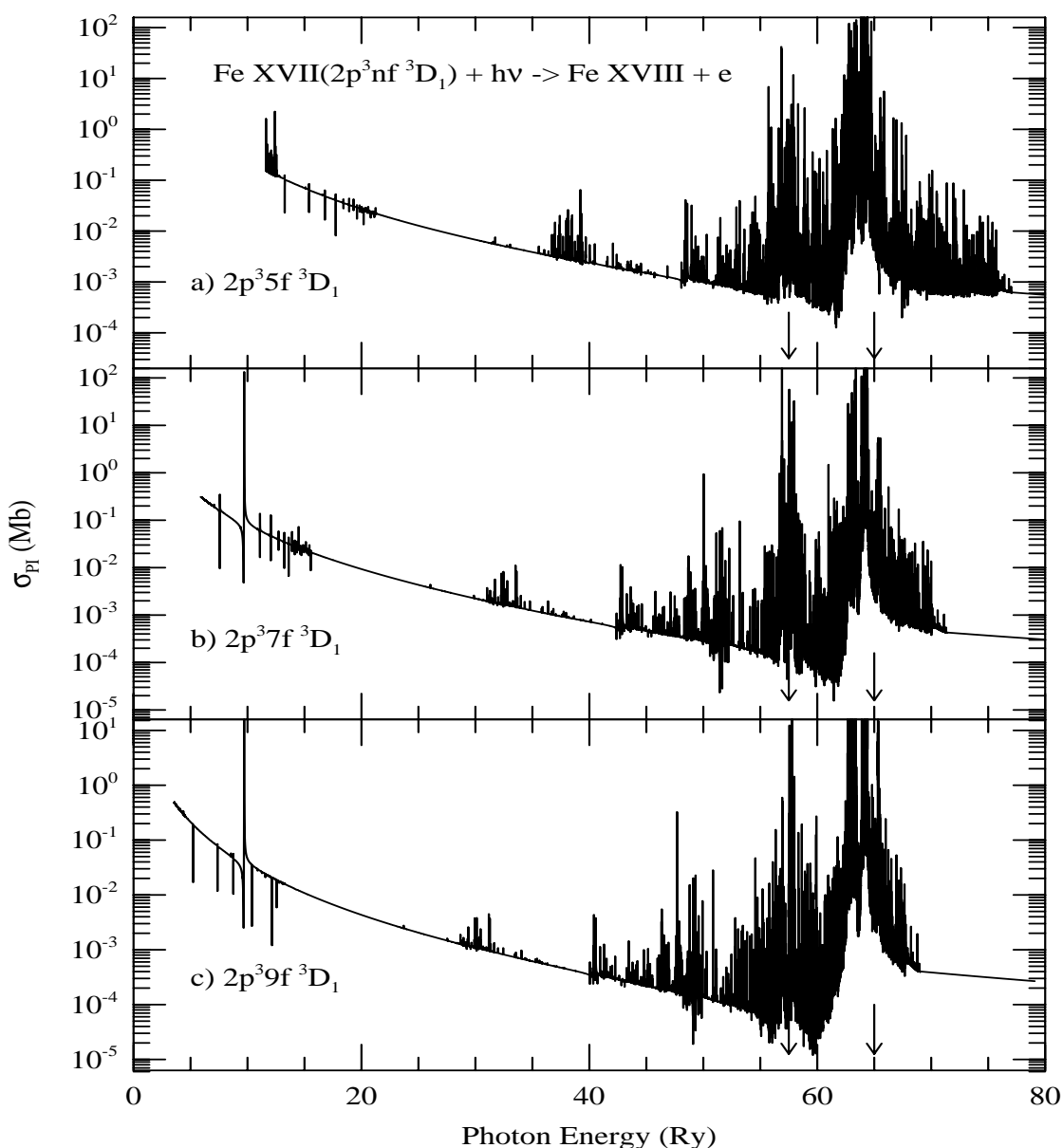
Photoionization Cross sections of Fe XVII





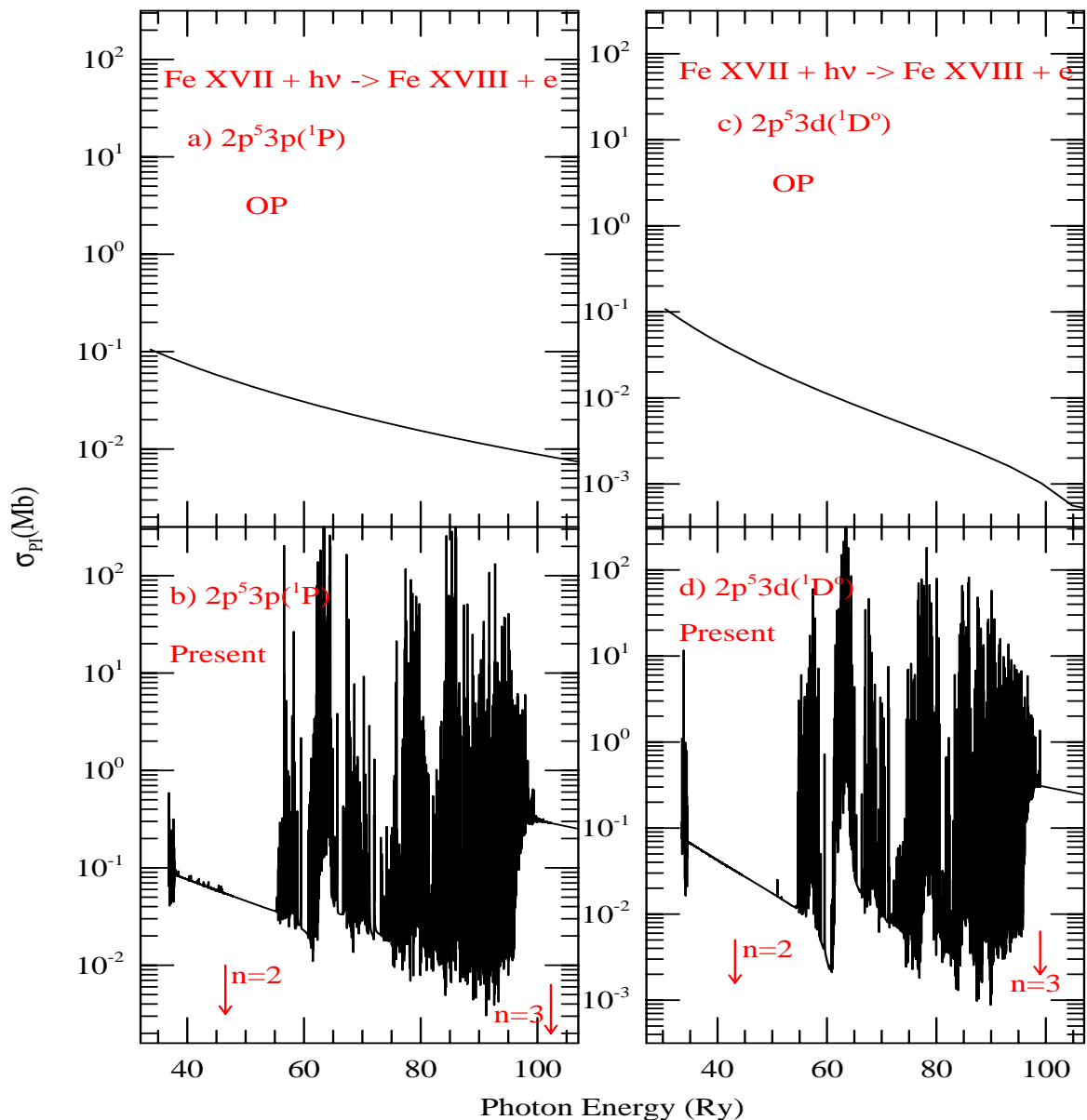
## Fe XVII: PEC (Seaton) RESONANCES IN $\sigma_{PI}$ :

- PEC (Photo-Excitation-of-Core) resonances appear for single valence-electron excited levels
- Appear at energies for core dipole transitions
- PEC resonances are strong and enhance the background cross sections by orders of magnitude
- PEC resonances will affect photoionization and recombination rates of high temperature plasmas



## COMPARISON OF $\sigma_{PI}$ : Fe XVII

- (a,b) level  $2p^53p^1P$  & (c,d) level  $2p^53d(^1D^o)$
- Present  $\sigma_{PI}$  (Nahar et al 2010) show importance of resonant effects compared to those from the Opacity Project (OP)
- Without  $n=3$  core states,  $\sigma_{PI}$  is considerably underestimated

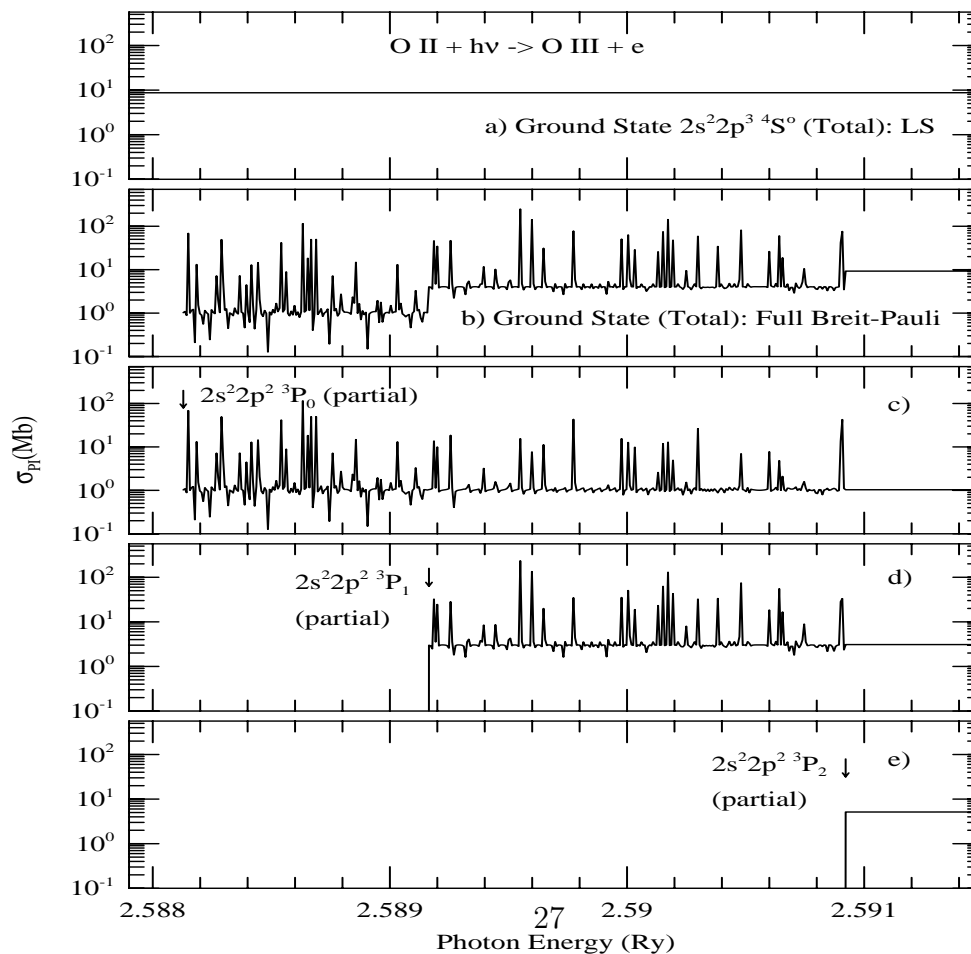


# Relativistic Fine Structure Effects on Low Energy Photoionization

- More important in low energy region
- Introduce features not allowed in LS coupling; Ex. O II (Nahar et al. 2010)
- **Figure:  $\sigma_{PI}$  of ground state  $2s^22p^3(^4S^o_{3/2})$**

---

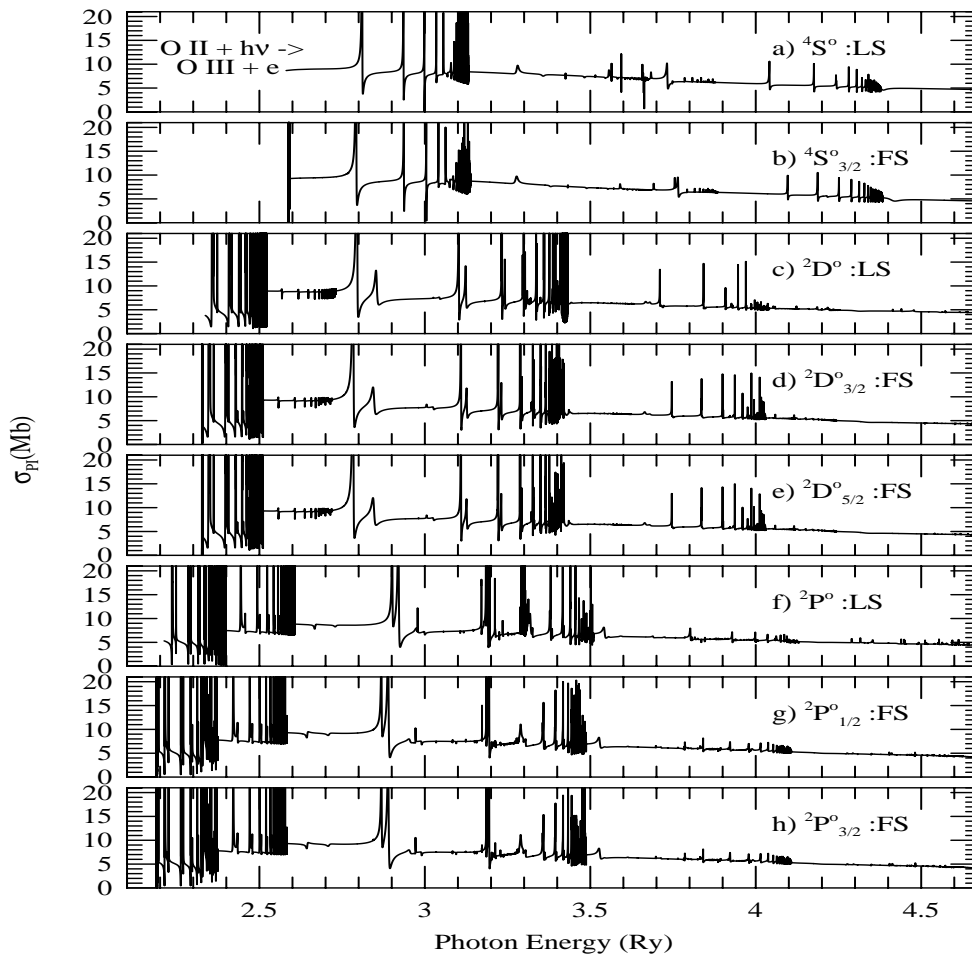
- a)  $\sigma_{PI}$ (LS)- a smooth line (Nahar 1998)
- b) total  $\sigma_{PI}$  in full Breit-Pauli - background jump at each core ionization threshold  $^3P_0$ ,  $^3P_1$ , &  $^3P_2$  (latest BPRM)
- Resonances at  $^3P_{0,1}$  ionization - due to couplings of fine structure channels



# Fine Structure Effects on Low Z ion: O II

Nahar et al. 2010

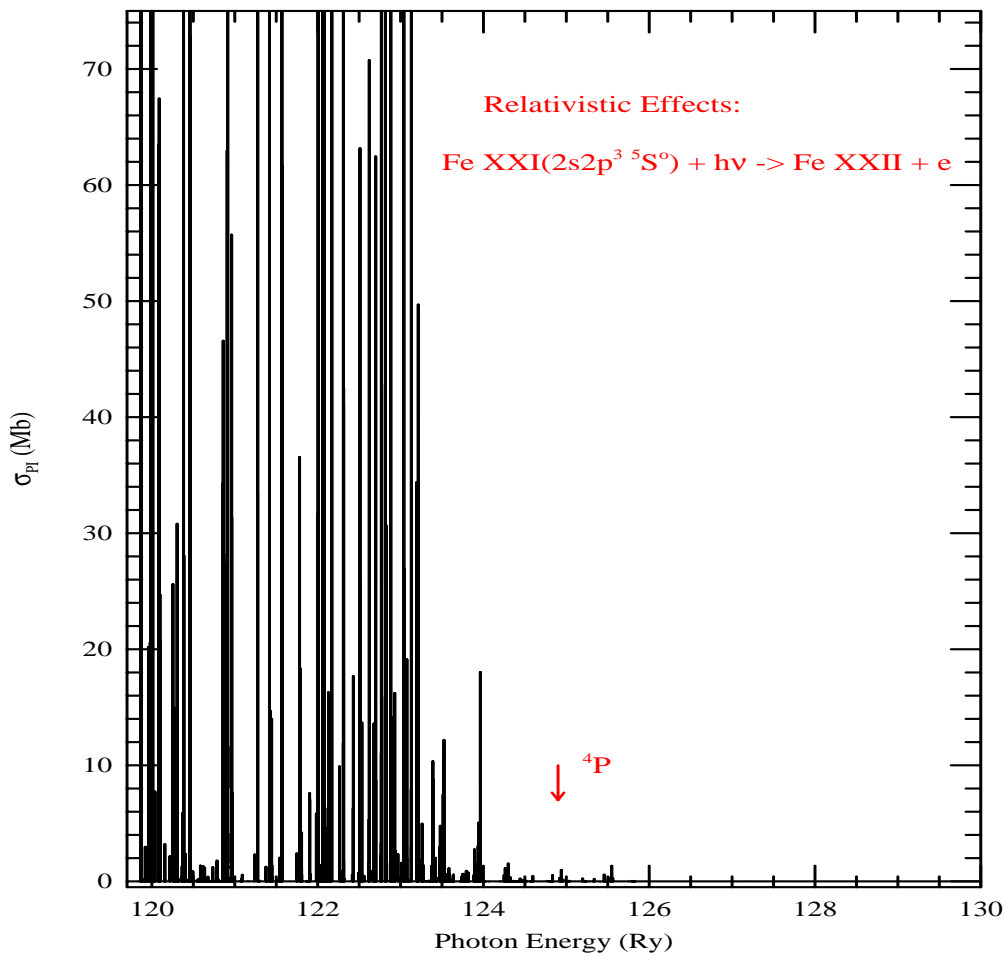
- $\sigma_{PI}(\text{LS})$  of O II states: LS coupling similar to fine structure except at thresholds
- $\sigma_{PI}(\text{LS})$  showed good agreement with experiment (ALS: Covington et al. 2001)
- However, problem with O II abundance at low T astrophysical plasmas remains
- Low energy structure in  $\sigma_{PI}(\text{FS})$  is expected to narrow the difference gap



## Observed Fine Structure Resonances in $\sigma_{PI}$ of Fe XXI

- $\sigma_{PI}$  of excited  $2s2p^3(^5S_2^o)$  state (Nahar 2008)
- Strong resonant structures below the arrow - from relativistic fine structure couplings, not allowed in LS coupling
- Observed in recombination spectrum
- These will increase the elemental opacities, and decrease the abundances agreeing with the new findings

Total Photoionization Cross Sections of Fe XXI



## CONCLUSION

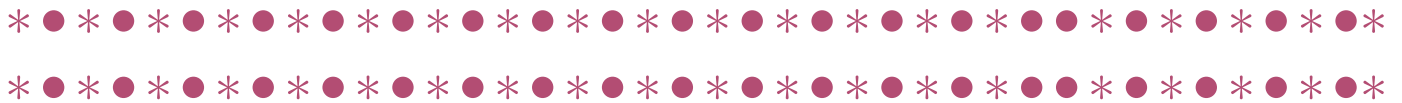
1. There is a lack of large amount of highly accurate atomic data
2. Solar elemental abundances are widely discordant
3. Z-pinch experiments reveal problems in existing models
4. High precision opacity is crucial to understand astrophysical conditions
5. Consideration of accurate radiative transitions and photoionization resonances due to highly excited core states are essential for more accurate opacity



New TEXTBOOK - Bridging Physics & Astronomy:

**”ATOMIC ASTROPHYSICS AND SPECTROSCOPY”**

**Anil K. Pradhan, Sultana N. Nahar**  
(Cambridge University Press, 2010)



**Contents**

- 1 Introduction**
- 2 Atomic Structure**
- 3 Atomic Processes**
- 4 Radiative Transitions**
- 5 Electron-Ion Collisions**
- 6 Photoionization**
- 7 Electron-Ion Recombination**
- 8 Multi-Wavelength Emission Spectra**
- 9 Absorption Lines and Radiative Transfer**
- 10 Stellar Properties and Spectra**
- 11 Opacity and Radiative Forces**
- 12 Gaseous Nebulae and H II Regions**
- 13 Active Galactic Nuclei & Quasars**
- 14 Cosmology**

**Physics**

**Astronomy**

