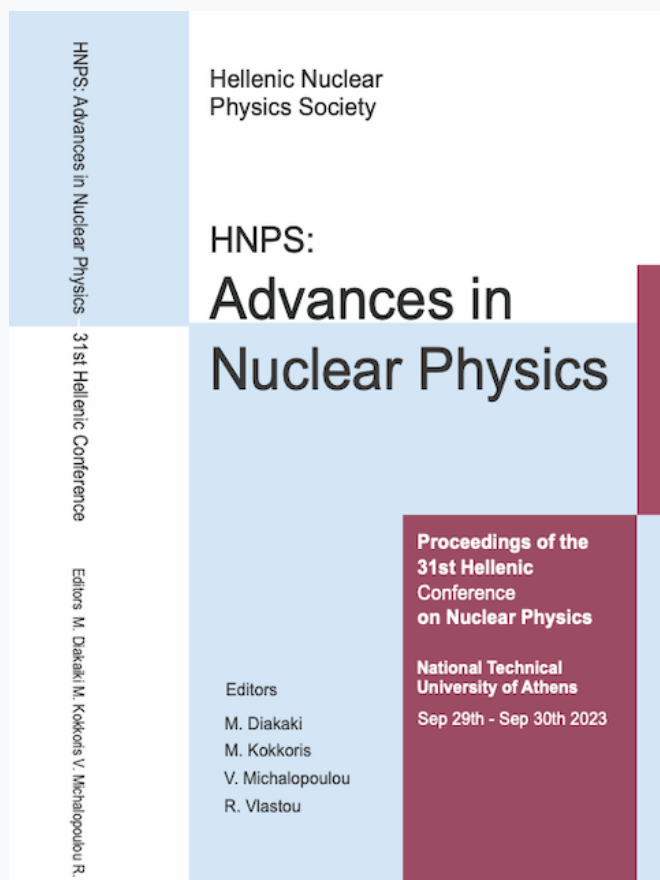


# HNPS Advances in Nuclear Physics

Vol 30 (2024)

HNPS2023



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doi: [10.12681/hnpsanp.6187](https://doi.org/10.12681/hnpsanp.6187)

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### To cite this article:

Peoviti, M., Axiotis, M., Patronis, N., Dimitriou, P., Foteinou, V., Harissopoulos, S., Maragkos, F., & Rogalla, D. (2024). TALYS calculations for  $\alpha$  capture reactions on Cu isotopes. *HNPS Advances in Nuclear Physics*, 30, 237–240. <https://doi.org/10.12681/hnpsanp.6187>

# TALYS calculations for $\alpha$ capture reactions on Cu isotopes

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**Abstract** Within the present work, previously measured experimental cross-sections of the  $^{63}\text{Cu}(\alpha,\gamma)^{67}\text{Ga}$  reaction at astrophysical energies are compared with a variety of different theoretical calculations. Utilizing the nuclear reaction code TALYS (v1.96), the research incorporates all available models for the  $\alpha$ -particle Optical Model Potential ( $\alpha$ -OMP), Nuclear Level Densities (NLD), and  $\gamma$ -ray Strength Functions ( $\gamma$ -SF), as well as, all the combinations of the aforementioned parameters, resulting in a large number of theoretical calculations. The primary goal is to optimize the parametrization of the HF calculations to best describe the experimental data. The same methodology is applied to the  $^{65}\text{Cu}(\alpha,\gamma)^{69}\text{Ga}$  reaction to comprehensively examine the impact of different models on cross-section calculations in this mass region. While this work is ongoing, preliminary results are presented within this contribution.

**Keywords** Talys, Hauser-Feshbach, p-process, ( $\alpha,\gamma$ ) cross-section

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## INTRODUCTION

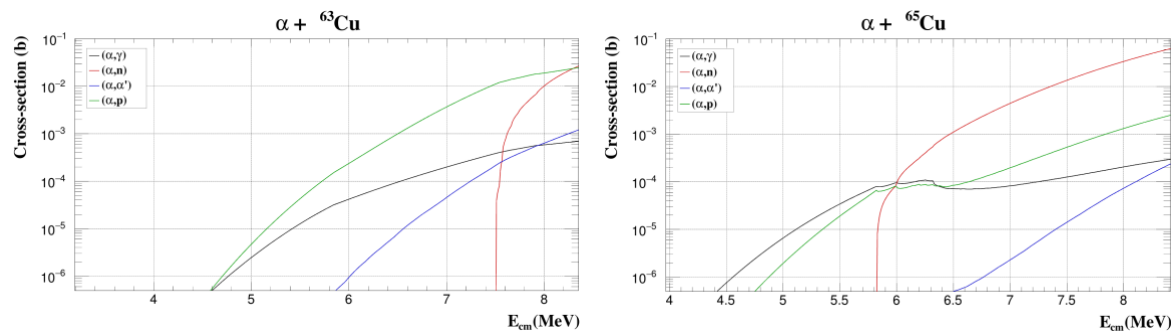
The abundances of the so-called p-nuclei observed in our solar system provide a direct signature of its creation mechanism. In addition, these abundances are a real challenge for all nucleosynthesis models, known as p-process models, aiming at reproducing them. Up to date, large discrepancies still exist between the observed solar system p-nuclei abundances and those calculated by p-process models. In order to understand the origin of these discrepancies, it is mandatory, on top of any uncertainties in the p-process models, to also investigate possible uncertainties in the nuclear physics quantities entering the abundances calculations, which rely almost entirely on the predictions of the Hauser-Feshbach theory. These quantities refer mainly to the Optical Model Potential (OMP) between the nucleons (proton or neutron) and the nucleus, the OMP between the  $\alpha$ -particle and the nucleus, the Nuclear Level Density (NLD) and the  $\gamma$ -ray strength function ( $\gamma$ SF). These investigations require comparing the HF calculations, performed with different OMP, NLD and  $\gamma$ SF models, with experimental data, notably cross sections of capture reactions at energies relevant to p-process, i.e, between 1 and 5 MeV for proton captures and 5 to  $\approx 10$  MeV for  $\alpha$ -particle induced capture reactions [1].

Following our recent cross section measurements of the  $^{63}\text{Cu}(\alpha,\gamma)^{67}\text{Ga}$  reaction at the University of Bochum [2], we report here on detailed theoretical calculations performed using the widely-used TALYS nuclear reaction code (version 1.96) [3]. In this study, we also included the cross section data of the  $^{65}\text{Cu}(\alpha,\gamma)^{69}\text{Ga}$  reaction measured previously [4].

## TALYS CALCULATIONS

Fig. 1 depicts the cross-sections of all open reaction channels at the energies covered by the aforementioned cross-section measurements. As shown in these figures, the cross section of the ( $\alpha,p$ ) channel is larger or comparable to that of the ( $\alpha,\gamma$ ) channel. Therefore the ( $\alpha,p$ ) channel cannot be neglected in the TALYS calculations and the choice of the proton-OMP for these calculations is of

special interest.



**Figure 1.** Cross-sections of  $\alpha$ -induced reactions on  $^{63}\text{Cu}$  and  $^{65}\text{Cu}$

**Table 1.** All available models of TALYS v1.96 used within this work [3]

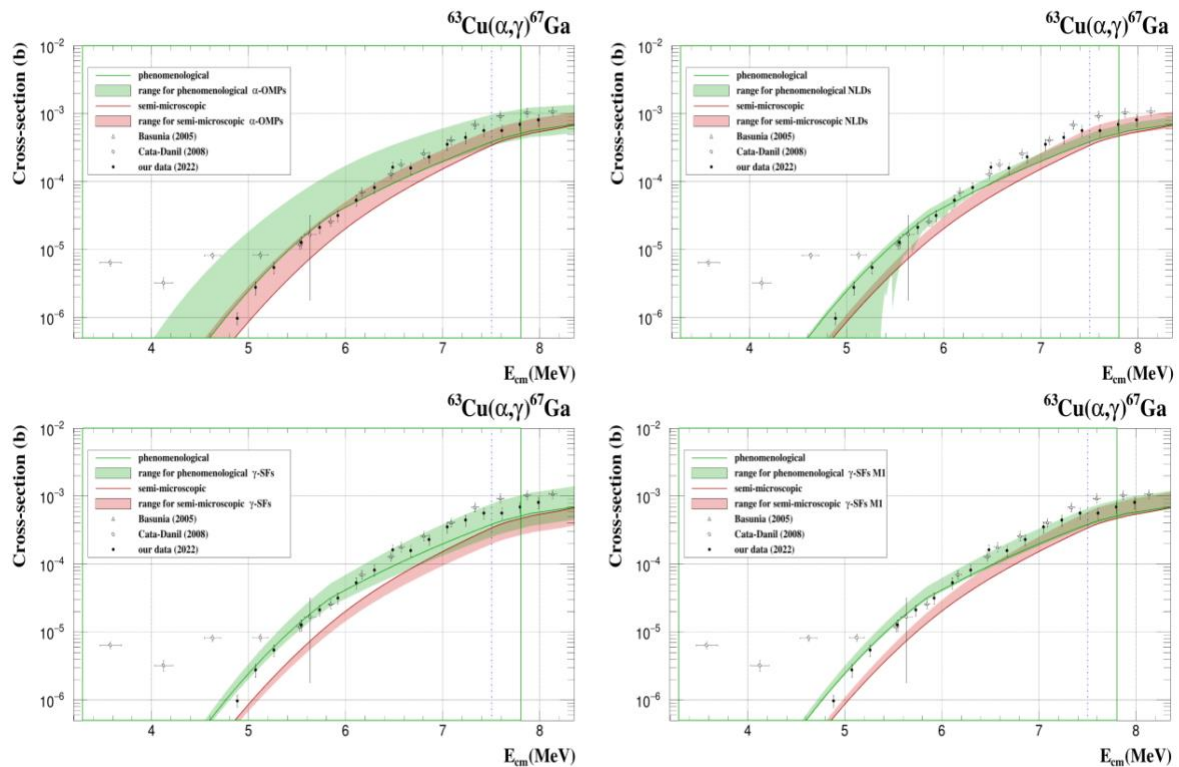
Parameter	Phenomenological	Semi-microscopic
p-OMP	KD: Global model of Koning and Delaroche	JLM: Semi-microscopic OMP of Bauge, Delaroche, and Girod at low energies
$\alpha$ -OMP	WKD: Talys-specific $\alpha$ -particle–nucleus OMP McFS: $\alpha$ -particle–nucleus OMP of McFadden and Satchler AV/I: $\alpha$ -particle–nucleus OMP of Avrigeanu et al. Nlt: $\alpha$ -particle–nucleus OMP of Nolte et al. AV/II: $\alpha$ -particle–nucleus OMP of Avrigeanu et al.	$\alpha$ -OMPI: Demetriou et al. $\alpha$ -OMPII: Demetriou et al. $\alpha$ -OMPIII: Demetriou et al.
NLD	CTFG: Constant temperature Fermi gas BSFG: Back-shifted Fermi gas GSM: Generalized superfluid model	HFBCS: Hartree-Fock-BCS HFB: Hartree-Fock-Bogolyubov HFB/T: Temperature-dependent Hartree-Fock-Bogolyubov
$\gamma$ -SF E1	KU: Generalized Lorentzian of Kopecky and Uhl BA: Generalized Lorentzian of Brink and Axel SMLO: Simplified Modified Lorentzian	HFBCS/QRPA: Hartree-Fock-BCS–quasiparticle random-phase approximation HFB/QRPA: Hartree-Fock-Bogolyubov–quasiparticle random-phase approximation HG: Hybrid model of Goriely HFB/T: Temperature-dependent Hartree-Fock-Bogolyubov RMF/T: Temperature-dependent RMF D1M/HFB/QRPA: Gogny D1M Hartree-Fock- Bogolyubov–quasiparticle random-phase approximation
$\gamma$ -SF M1	1 2	3 4 8

The options of TALYS v1.96 for the proton OMP (p-OMP), the  $\alpha$ -particle OMP ( $\alpha$ -OMP), the Nuclear Level Densities (NLD) and the  $\gamma$ -ray Strength Functions ( $\gamma$ -SF E1 and  $\gamma$ -SF M1) are listed in Table 1.

All available models, along with their various combinations, were employed, leading to a significant number of theoretical calculations. These calculations were categorized into two groups: fully phenomenological and fully semi-microscopic and were analyzed accordingly.

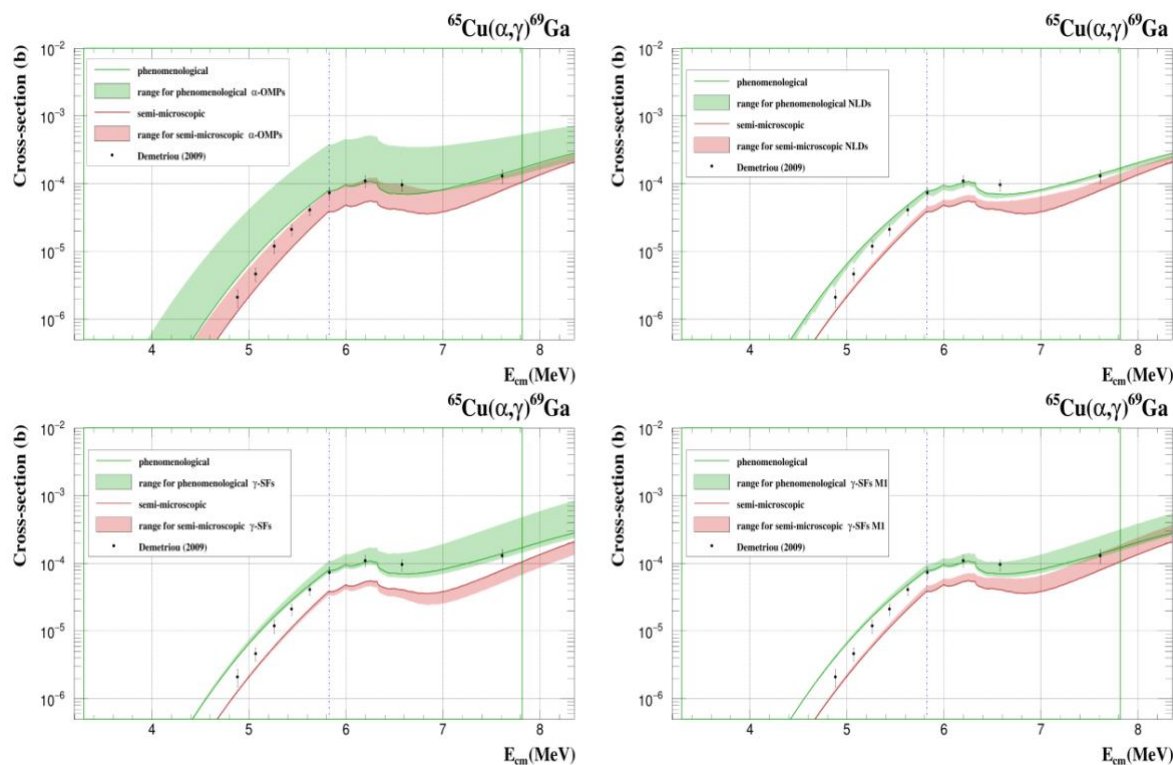
## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In each scenario, a standard combination was used, with phenomenological models represented by the green line (AV + KD + CTFG + SMLO +  $\gamma$ -SF M1 3) and semi-microscopic models ( $\alpha$ -OMPIII + JLM + HFB + D1M/HFB/QRPA +  $\gamma$ -SF M1 8) by the red line in the following Figures. Using these standard combinations as a reference, the range of minimum and maximum cross-section values were calculated, by changing one parameter while keeping the other three constant. These ranges are visually depicted as shaded areas in the corresponding Figures.



**Figure 2.** Cross-sections of the phenomenological and semi-microscopic combination for the  $^{63}\text{Cu}(\alpha,\gamma)^{67}\text{Ga}$  reaction along with the ranges for the four parameters under investigation [2]

The primary source of uncertainty is notably attributed to the  $\alpha$ -OMP. The phenomenological combination seems to exhibit a better fit to the data for both isotopes. However, it is worth noting that in the case of  $^{63}\text{Cu}$ , the difference between the semi-microscopic and the phenomenological combination is relatively smaller.



**Figure 3.** Cross-sections of the phenomenological and semi-microscopic combination for the  $^{65}\text{Cu}(\alpha,\gamma)^{69}\text{Ga}$  reaction along with the ranges for the four parameters under investigation [4]

## CONCLUSIONS

As the Figures indicate, the  $\alpha$ -OMP-III is underestimating the cross-section in both isotopes. A more in-depth investigation into the impact of the aforementioned parameters on the results is currently ongoing, along with an attempt to constrain and refine the semi-microscopic  $\alpha$ -OMP for an optimal fit of the data.

## Acknowledgments

This work was supported by the project “Dioni: Computing Infrastructure for Big-Data Processing and Analysis” (MIS No. 5047222), co-funded by European Union (ERDF) and Greece through the Operational Program “Competitiveness, Entrepreneurship and Innovation”, NSRF 2014-2020 and partially by the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (H.F.R.I.) under the “2<sup>nd</sup> Call for H.F.R.I. Research Projects to support Faculty Members and Researchers” (Project Number: 4650/ARENA).

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