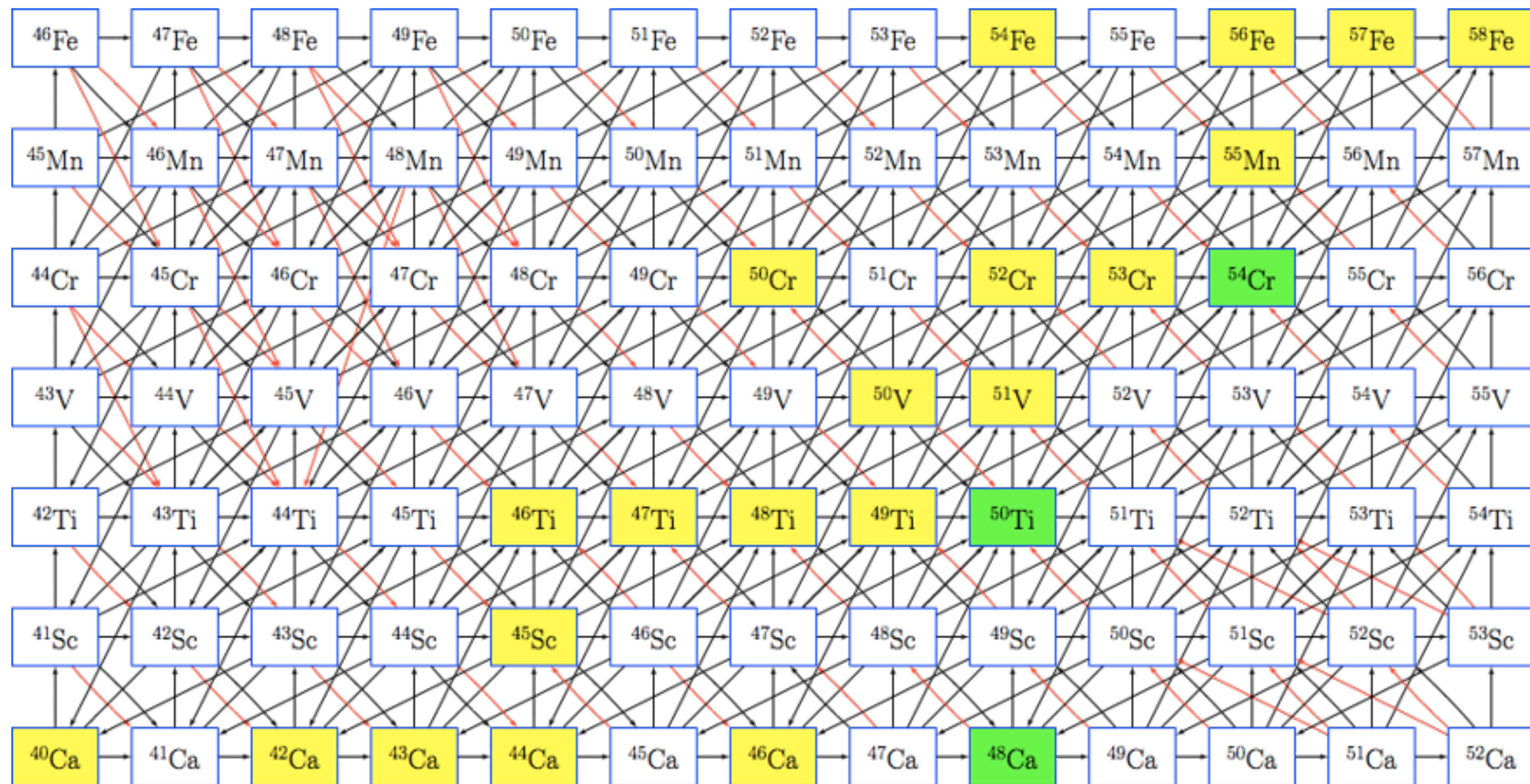


Nuclear Isomers in Nucleosynthesis

Brad Meyer
Clemson University

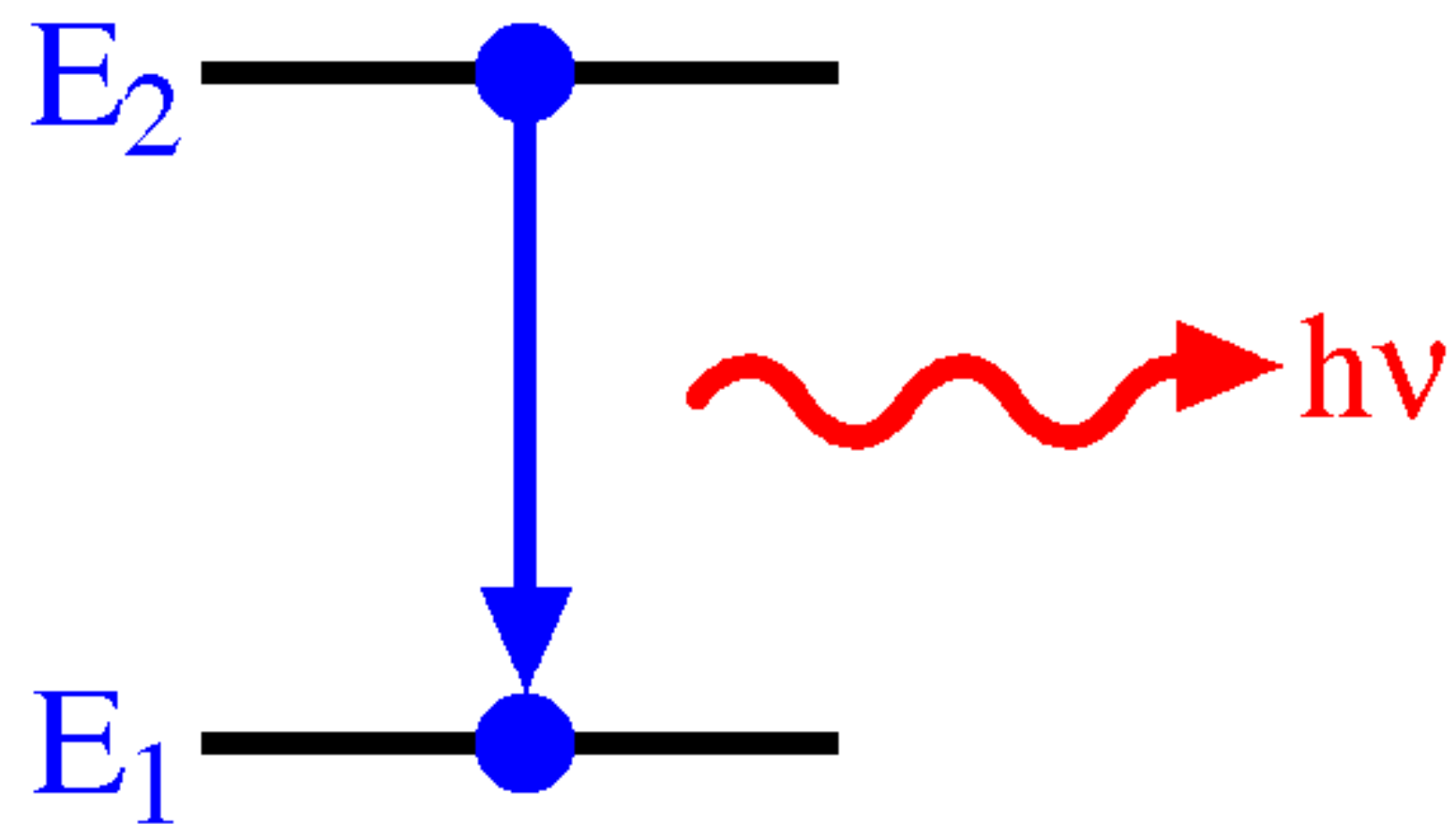


**Key assumption: all species internally equilibrated
(=assumption that transitions between levels
within a nuclear species occur more rapidly than
reactions of the species with other species)**

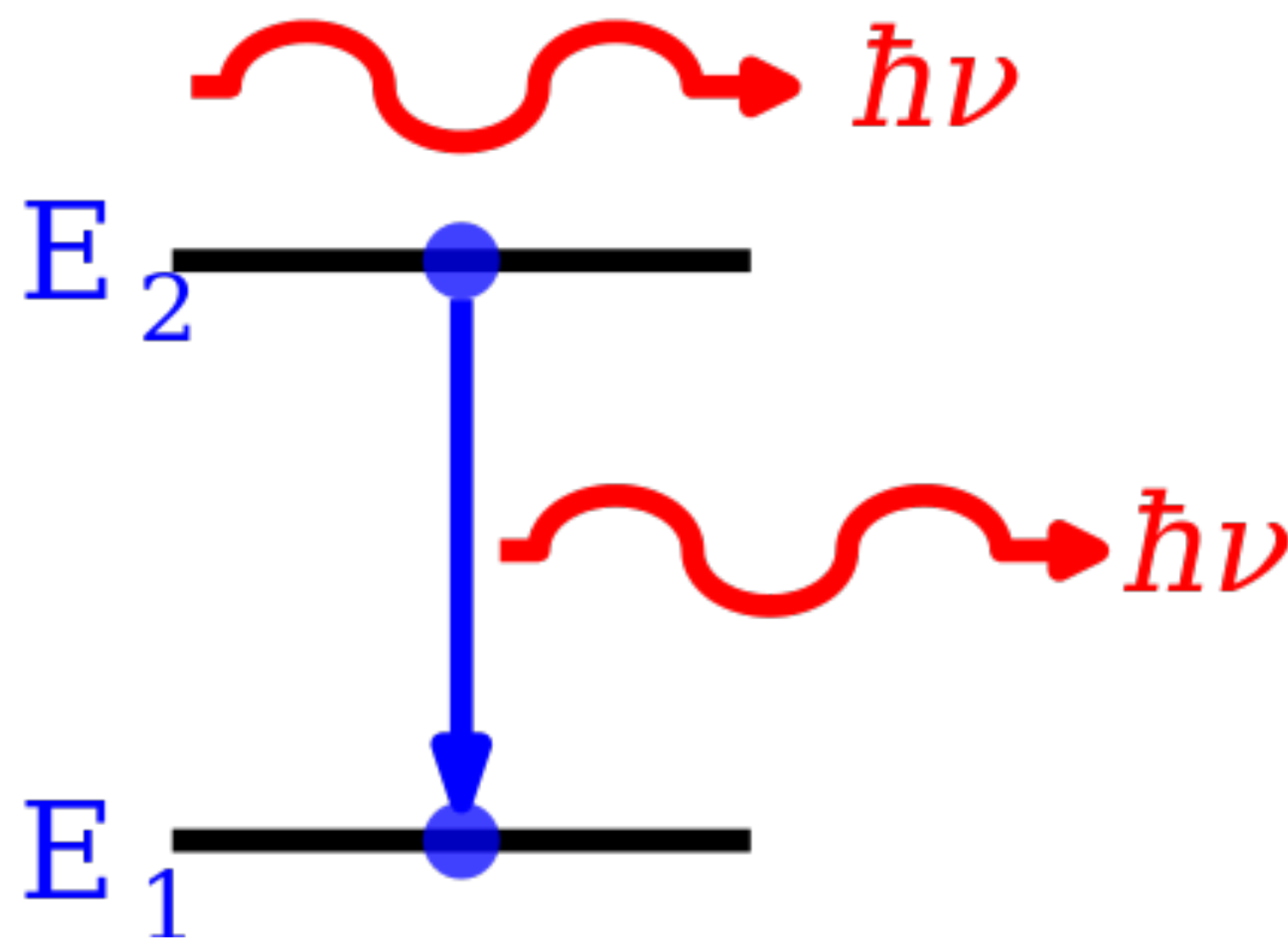
$$P_j \propto g_j \cdot e^{-E_j/kT}$$

**This assumption not always true (especially for
a species with a long-lived isomer)
=> must account for the transition rates among
levels**

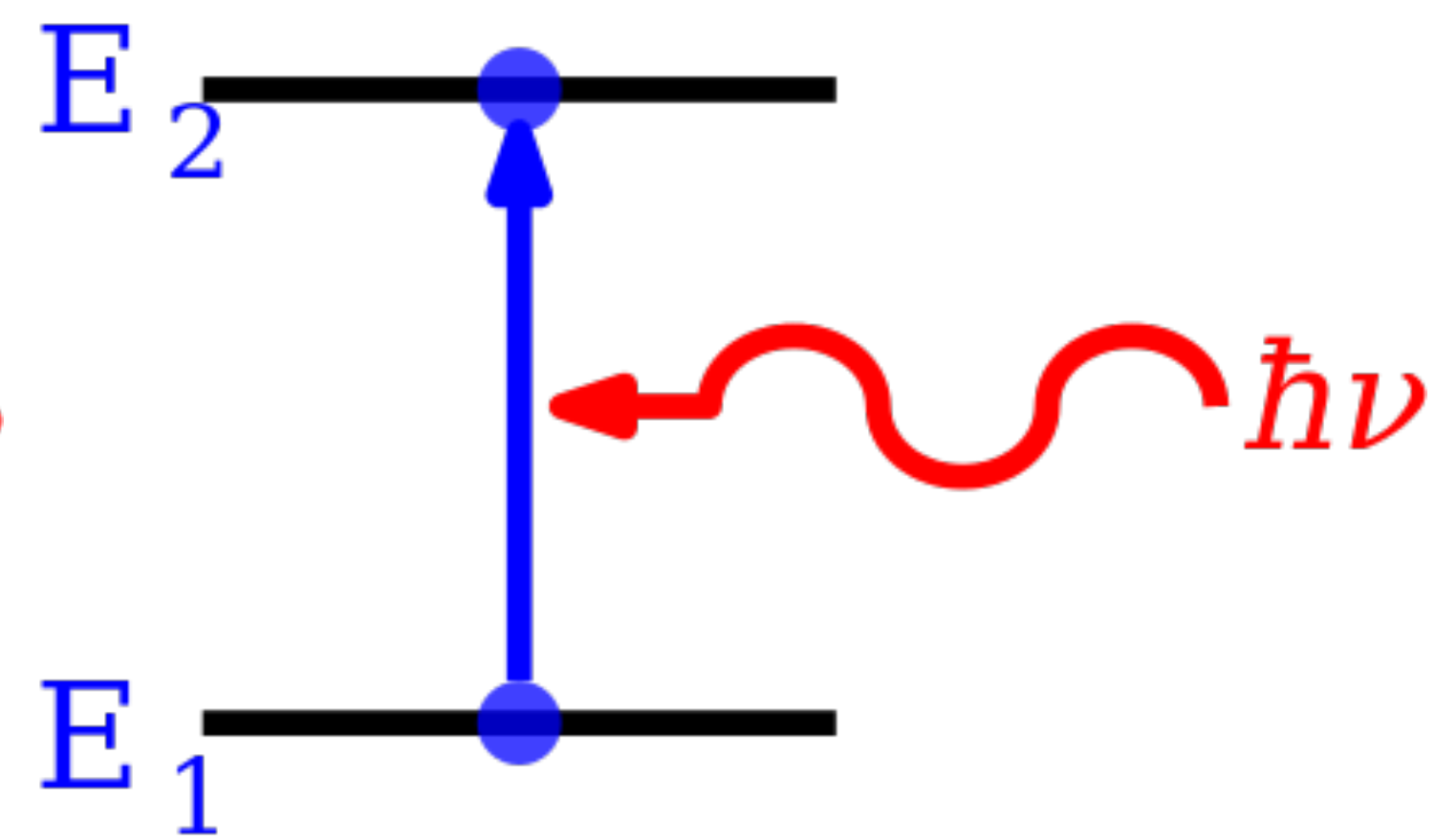
“Astromers”



$$A_{21}n_2$$



$$B_{21}n_2\rho(\nu)$$



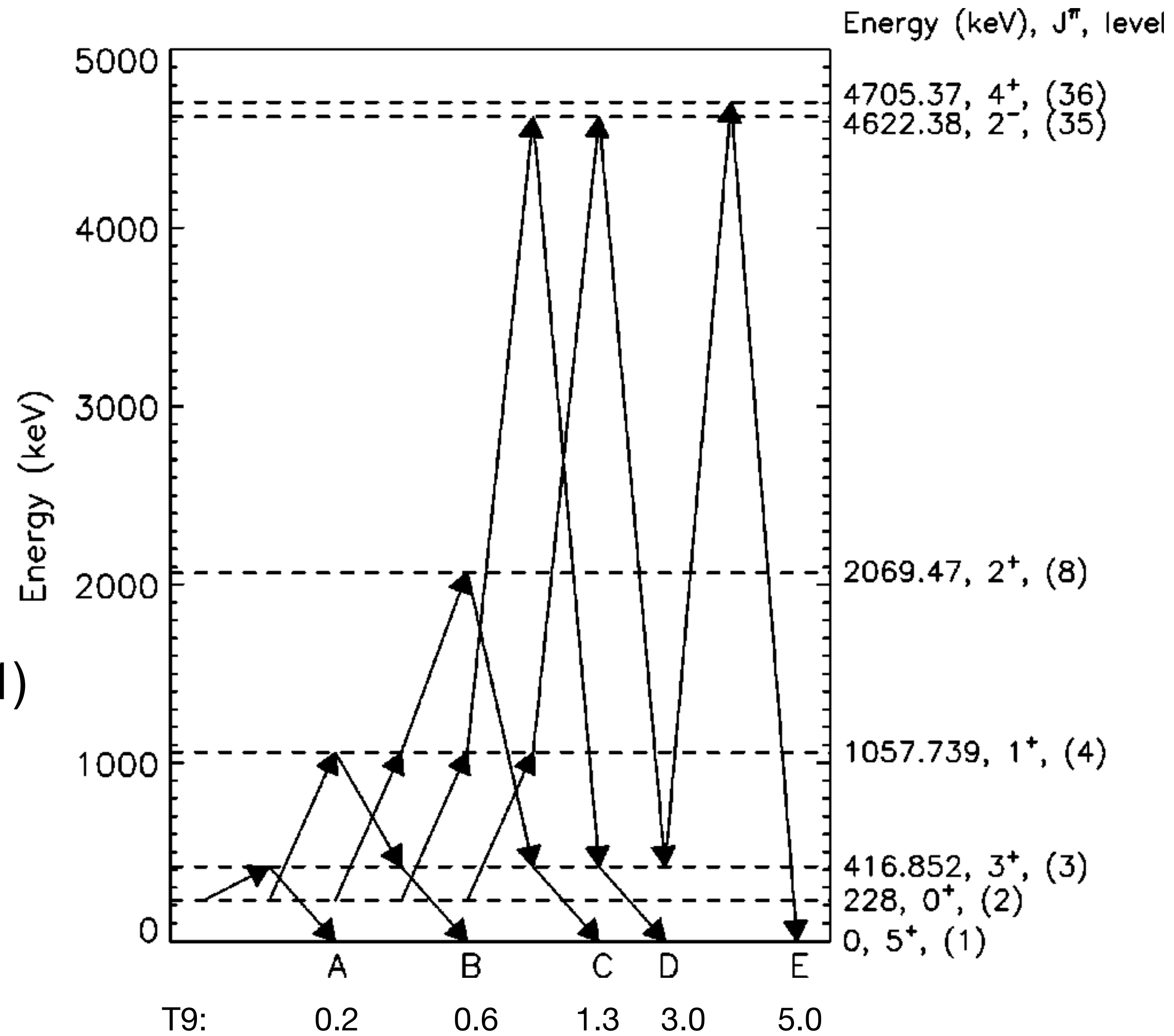
$$B_{12}n_1\rho(\nu)$$

$$\frac{B_{21}}{B_{12}} = \frac{g_1}{g_2}$$

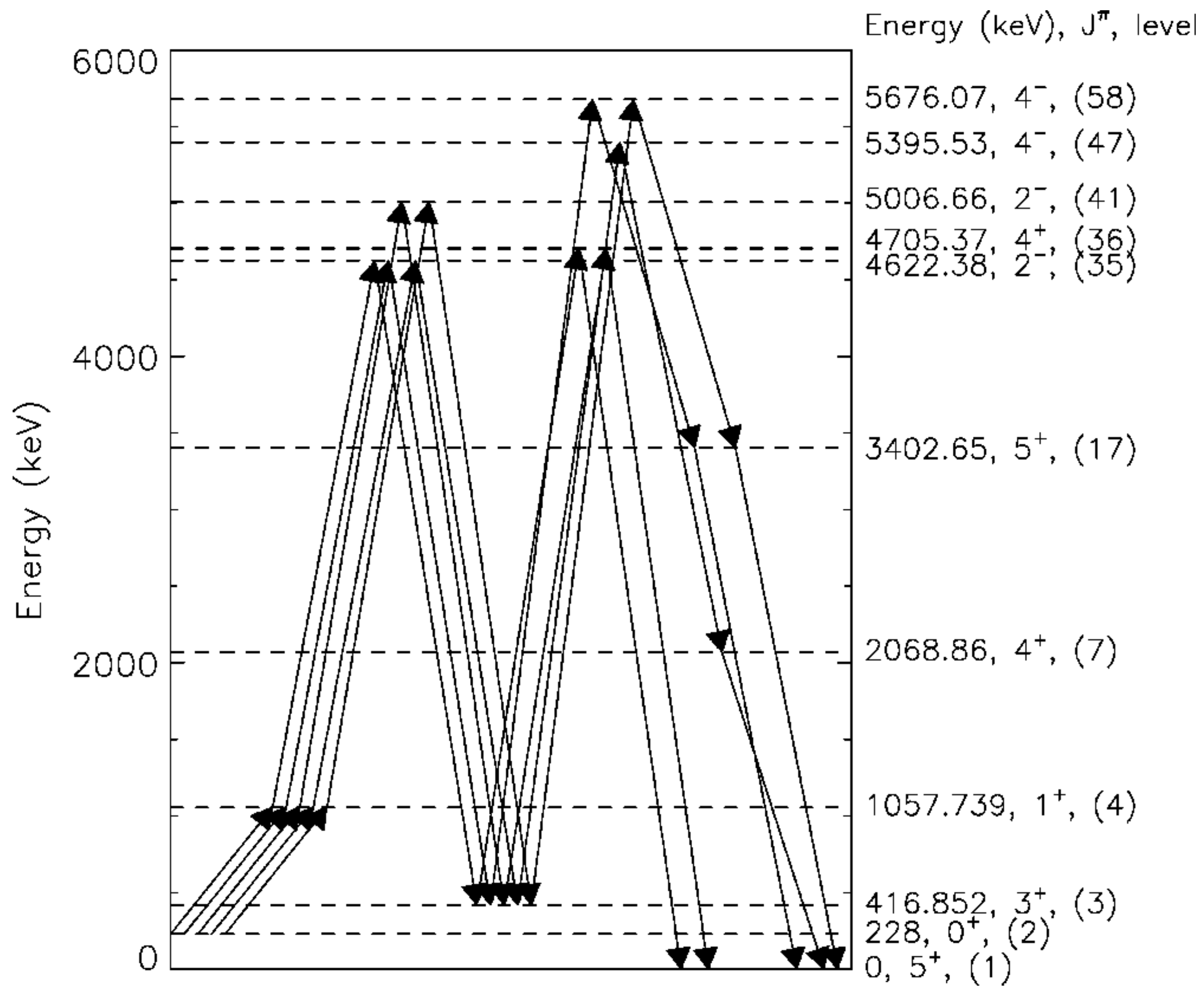
$$\frac{A_{21}}{B_{21}} = \frac{2h\nu^3}{c^2}$$

^{26}Al

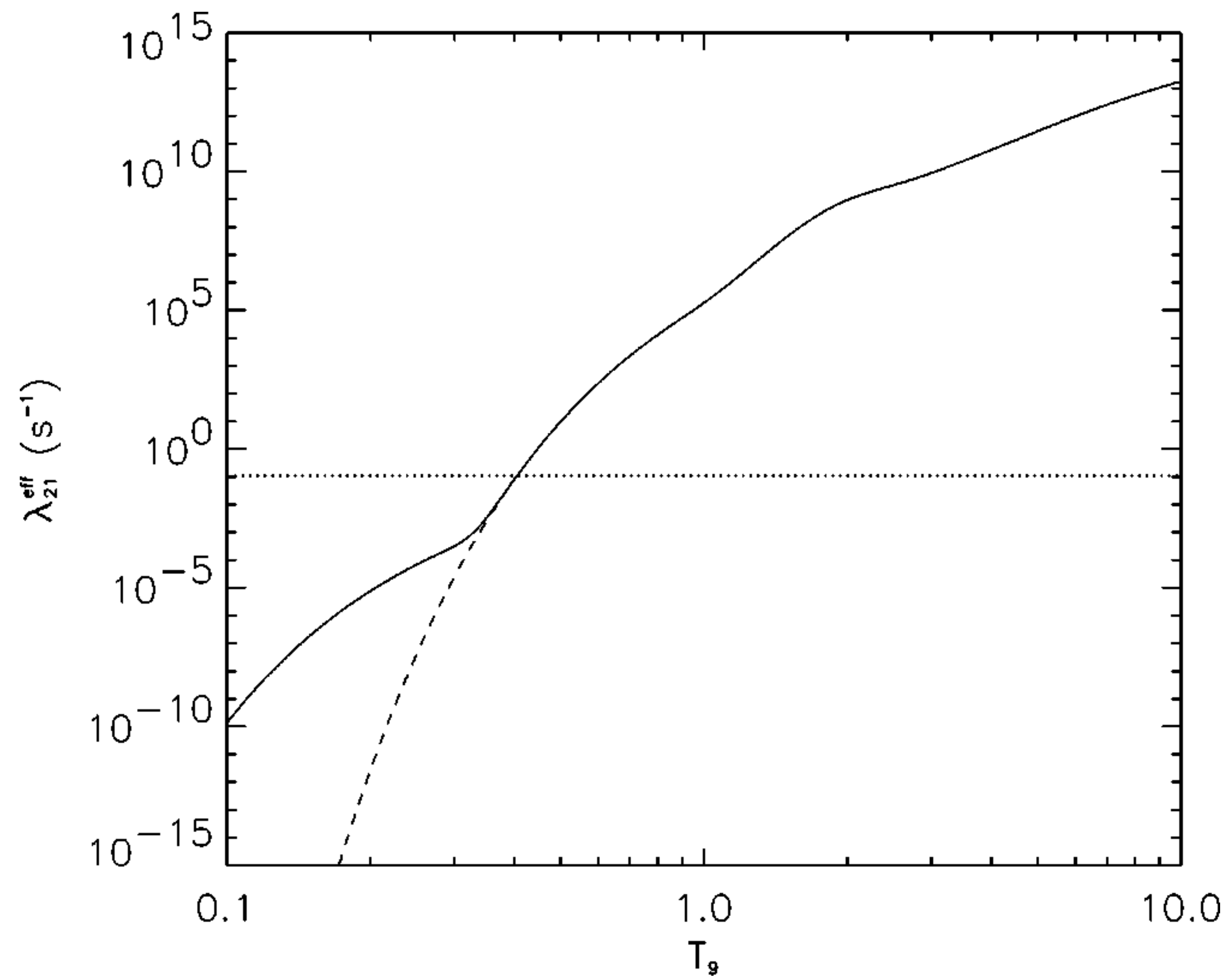
Gupta and Meyer (2001)



^{26}Al



^{26}Al



Effective isomerization rate

$$\lambda_{21}^{eff} = \sum_k \lambda_{2k} \Gamma_{k1}$$

$$\lambda_{21,3}^{eff} = \Lambda_2 \left\{ (f_{23}f_{24}) \begin{pmatrix} 1 + f_{34}f_{43} & f_{34} \\ f_{43} & 1 + f_{43}f_{34} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_{31} \\ f_{41} \end{pmatrix} \right\}$$

$$= \Lambda_2 \underbrace{(f_{23}f_{31} + f_{24}f_{41})}_{\text{all two-arc paths}} + \underbrace{f_{23}f_{34}f_{41} + f_{24}f_{43}f_{31}}_{\text{all three-arc paths}} + \underbrace{f_{23}f_{34}f_{43}f_{31} + f_{24}f_{43}f_{34}f_{41}}_{\text{all four-arc paths}}$$

effective branching ratio

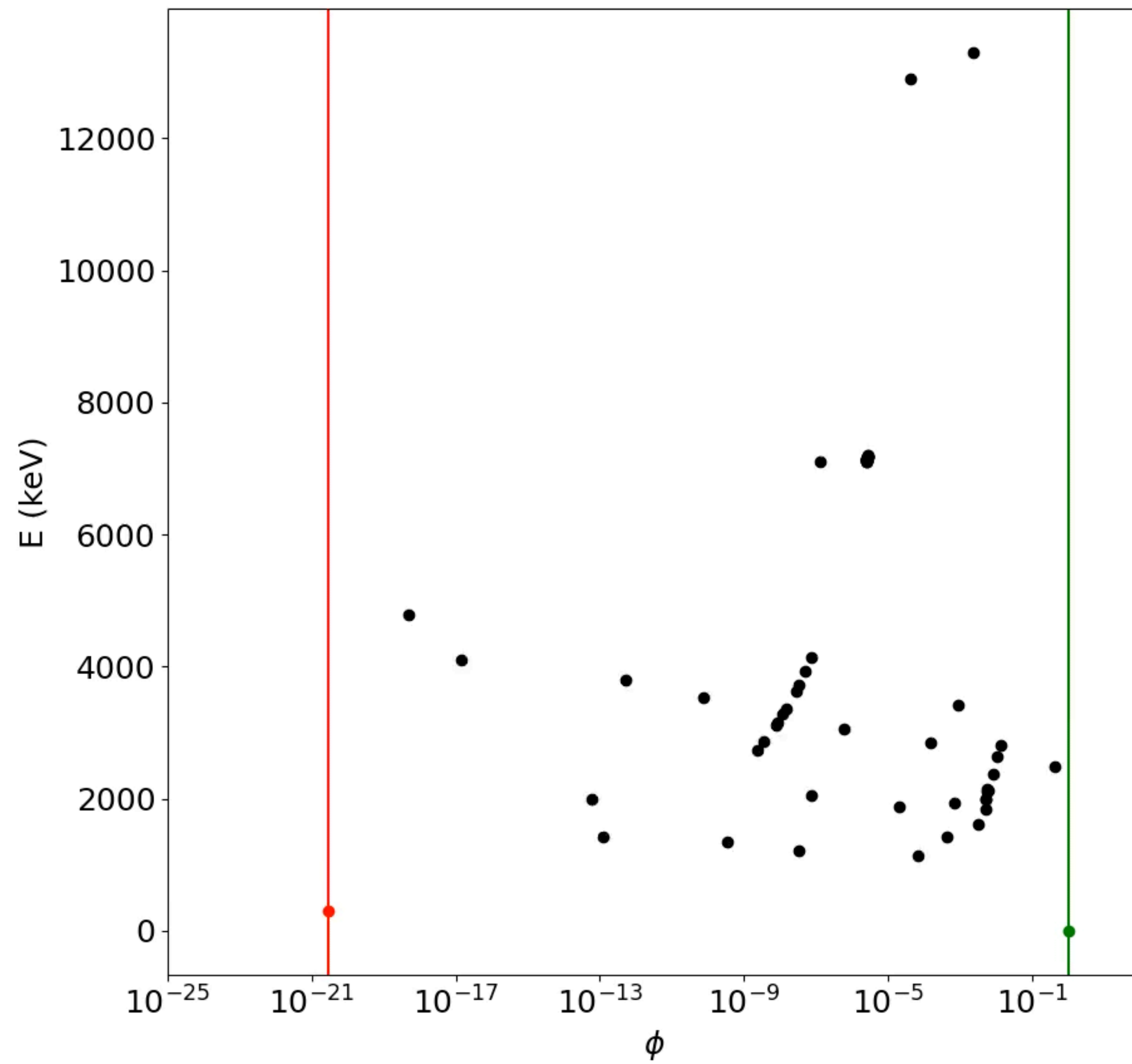
Fugacity

$$\phi_k = X_k / X_k^{eq}$$

In upper-level steady state

$$\phi_k = \Gamma_{k1}\phi_1 + \Gamma_{k2}\phi_2$$

time (s): 1.00e-15; $T_9 = 0.26$



In upper-level steady state

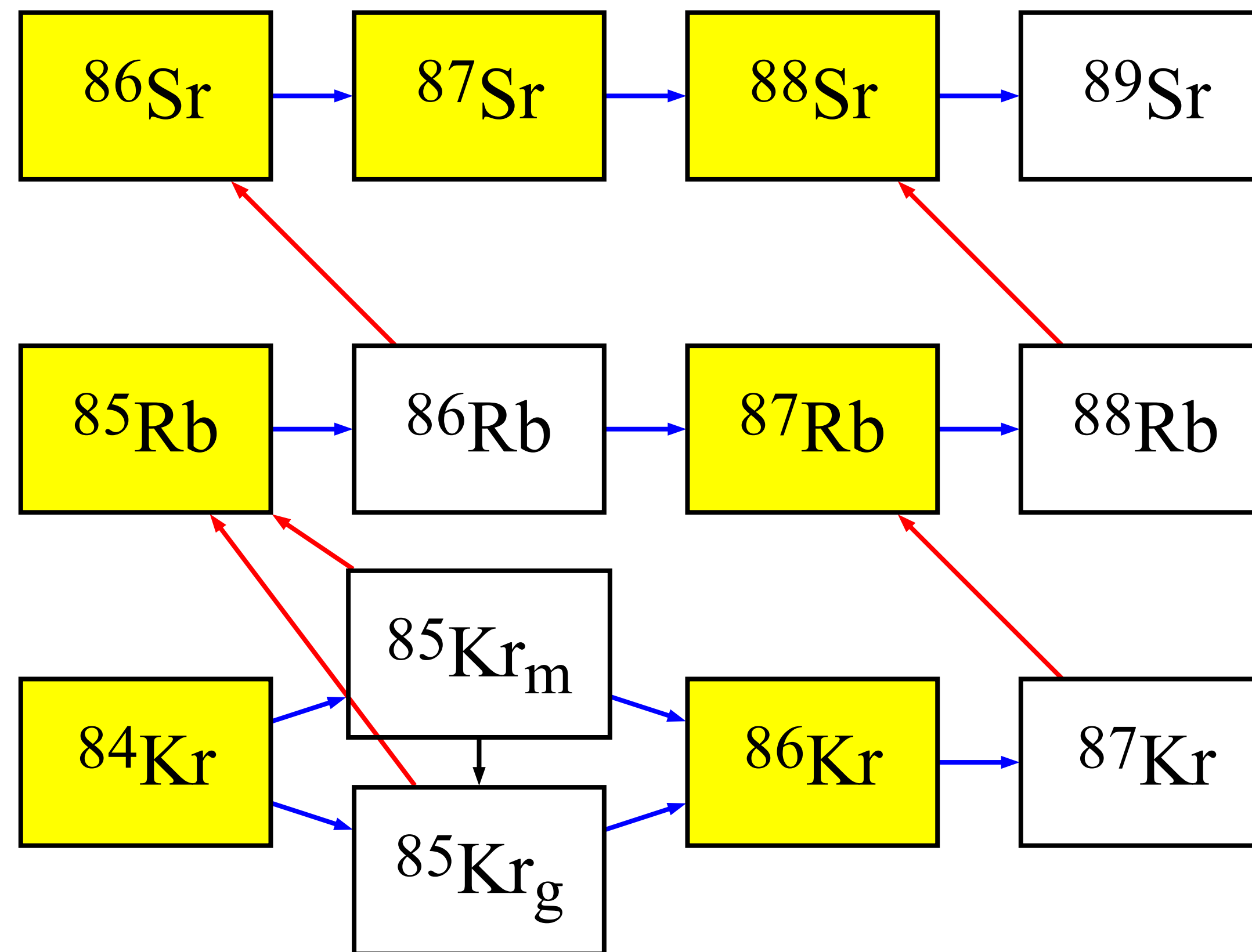
$$\phi_k = \Gamma_{k1}\phi_1 + \Gamma_{k2}\phi_2$$

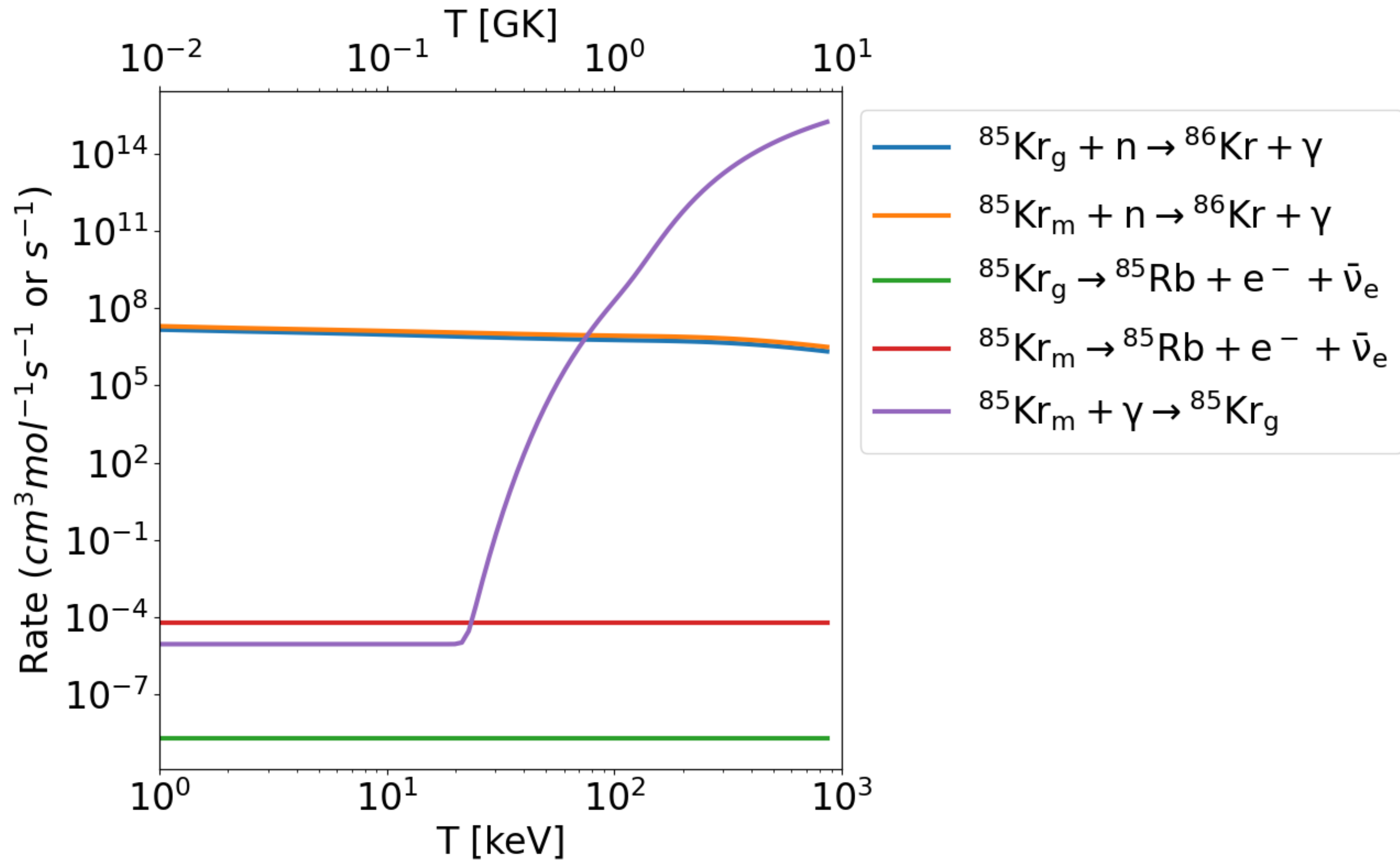
$$w_k^{(q)} = \begin{cases} \delta_{qk} & \text{if } k = 1, 2, \\ \Gamma_{kq}R_{qk} & \text{if } k > 2, \end{cases}$$

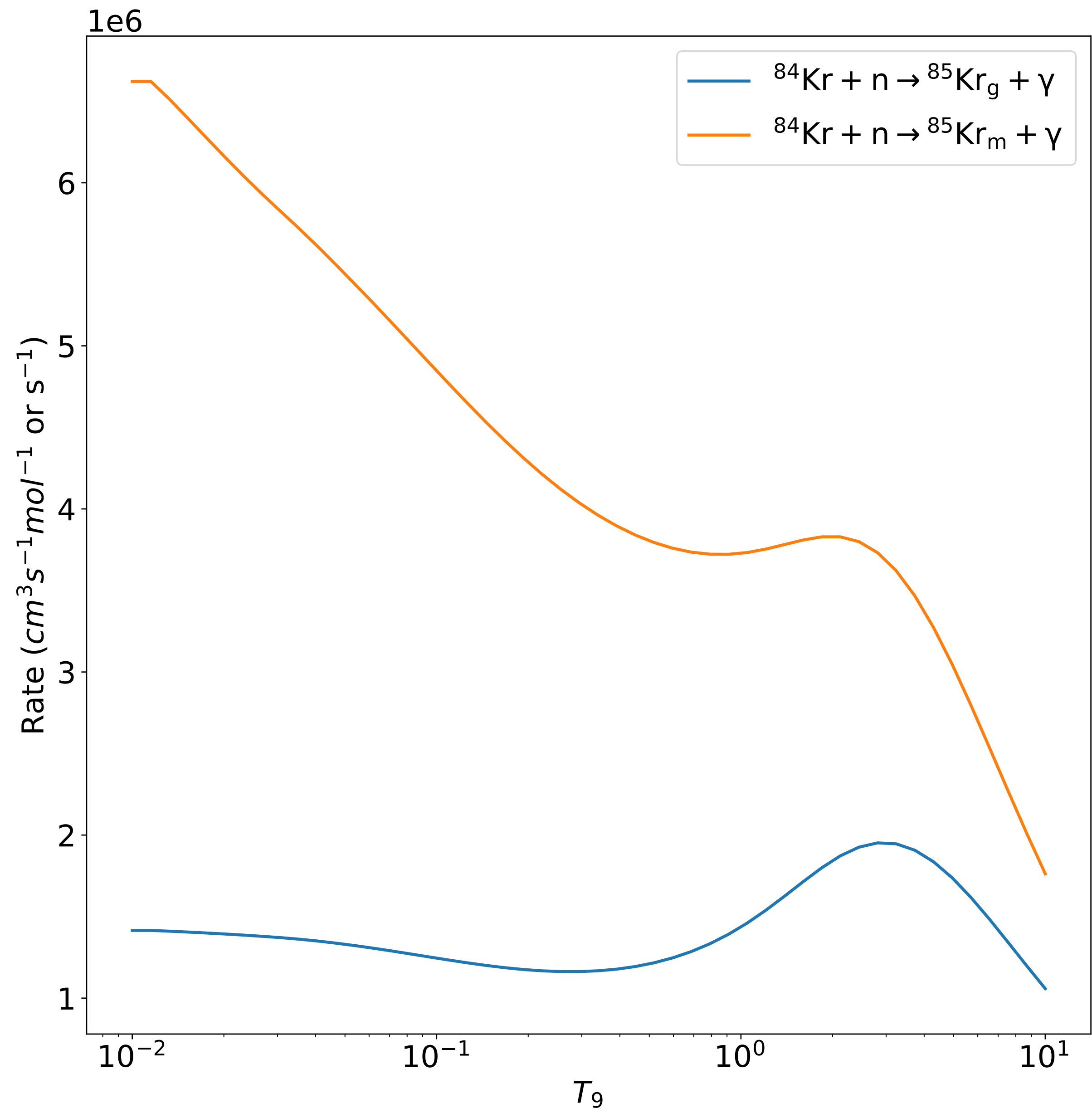
$$\lambda_{(p, \gamma), q}^{eff} = \left\{ \frac{(\lambda_{(p, \gamma)})^T w_q}{W_q} \right\}$$

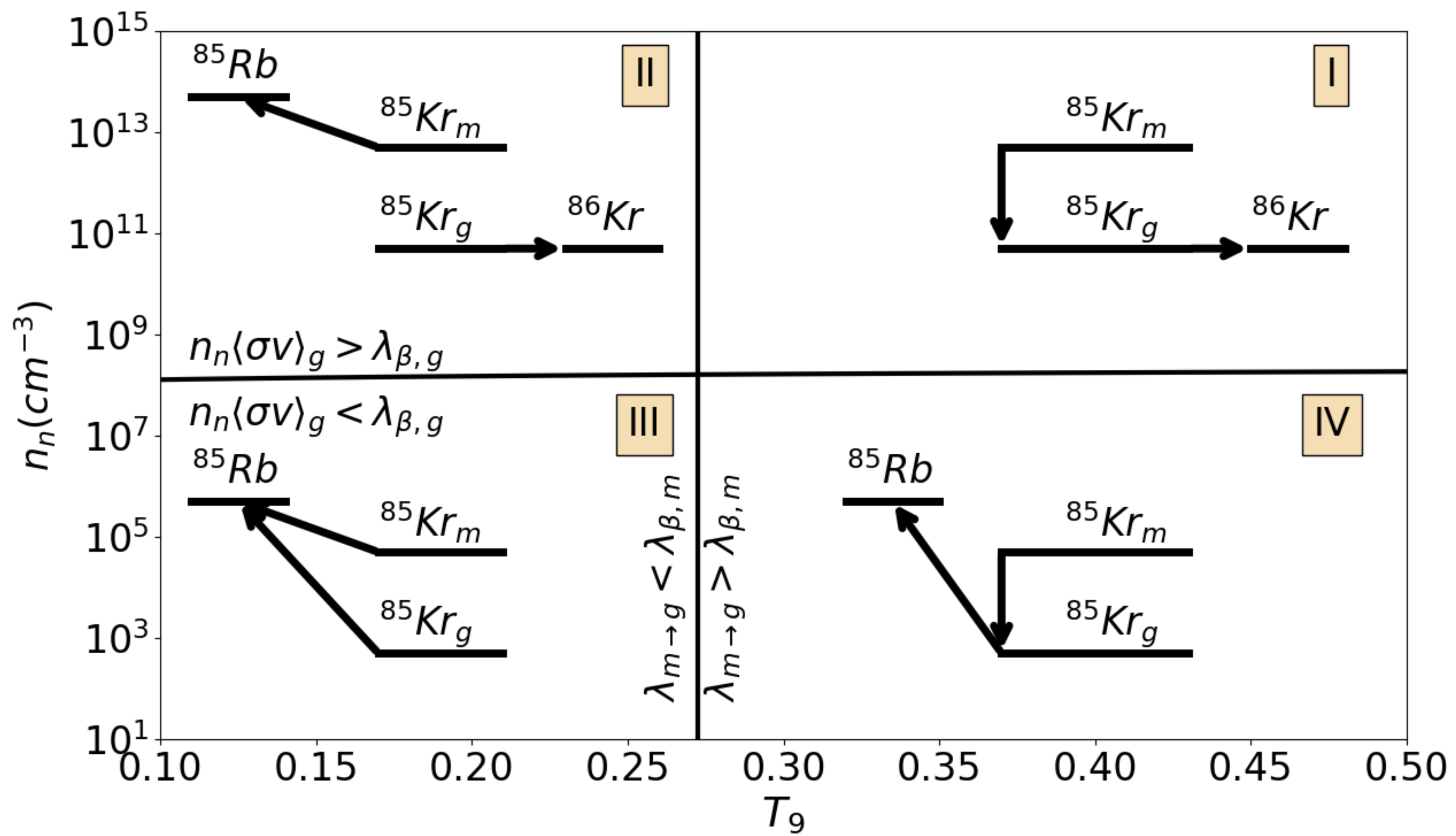
^{87}Rb

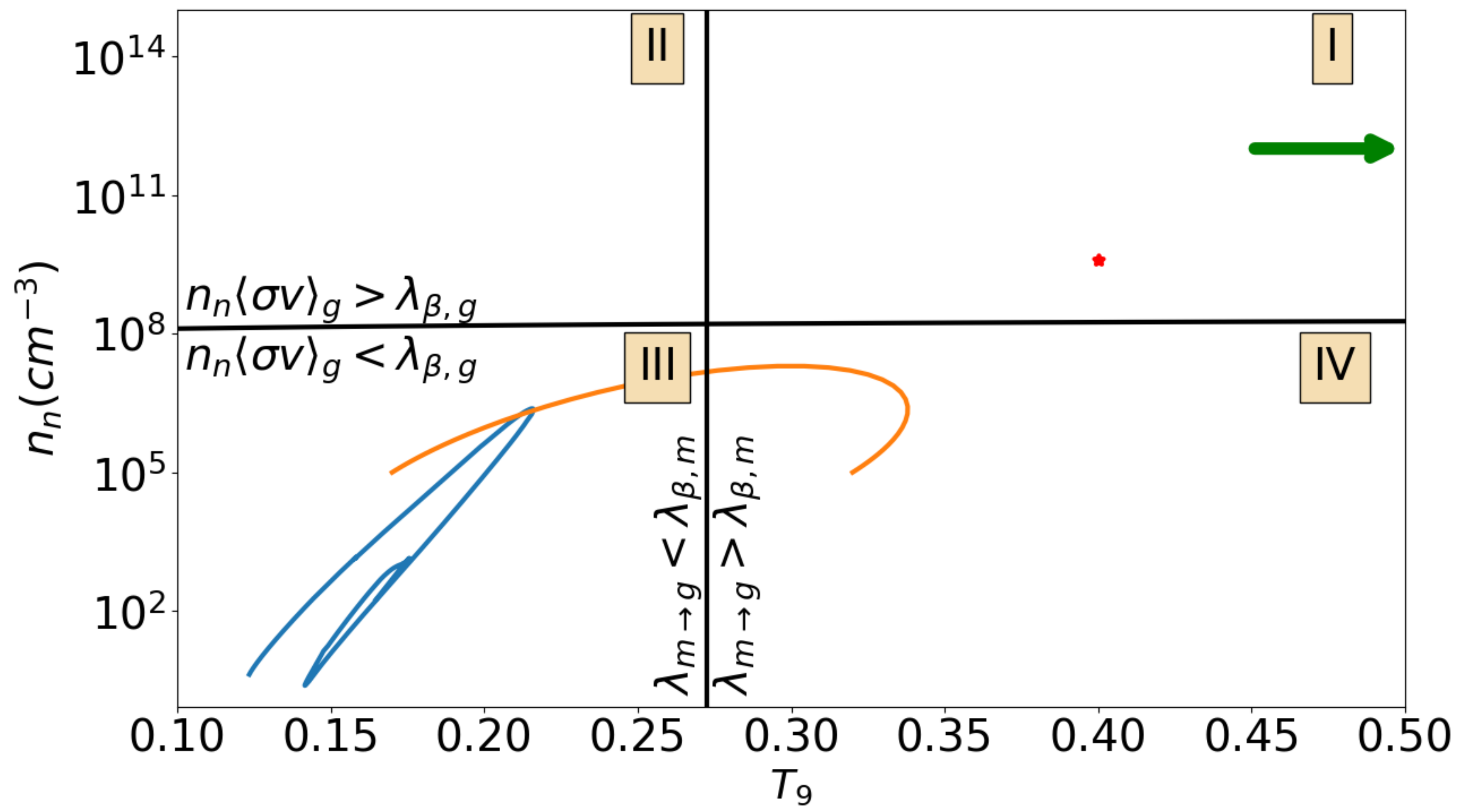
- 27.8% of naturally occurring rubidium
- Produced in the s (slow) process of nucleosynthesis
- 49.2 Gyr lifetime ($^{87}\text{Rb} \rightarrow ^{87}\text{Sr}$)
- During fractional crystallization, Sr tends to concentrate in plagioclase, so a residual magma may have an increased Rb/Sr ratio=>rock age can be determined from Rb and Sr concentrations and knowledge of the initial $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ratio

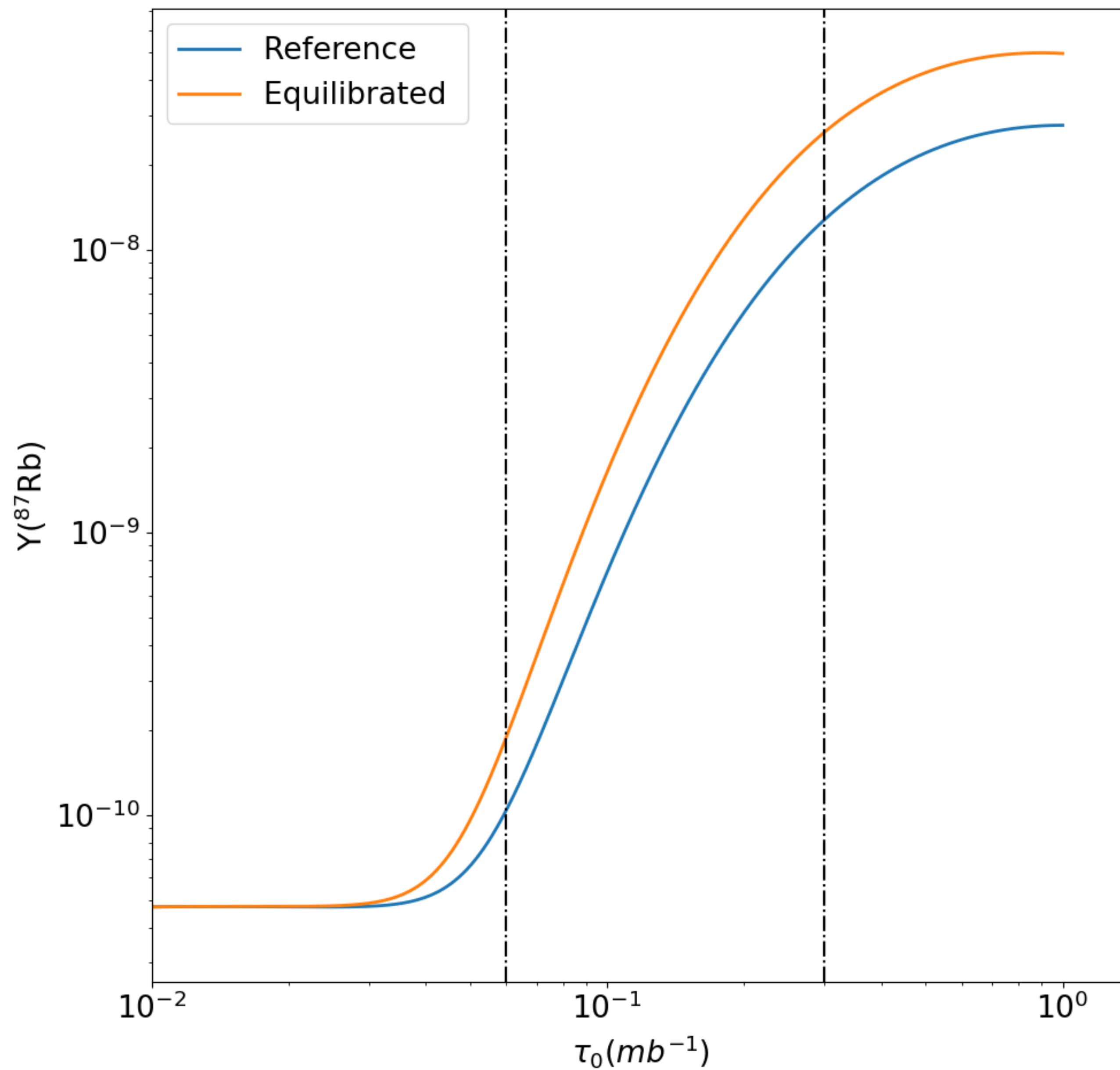




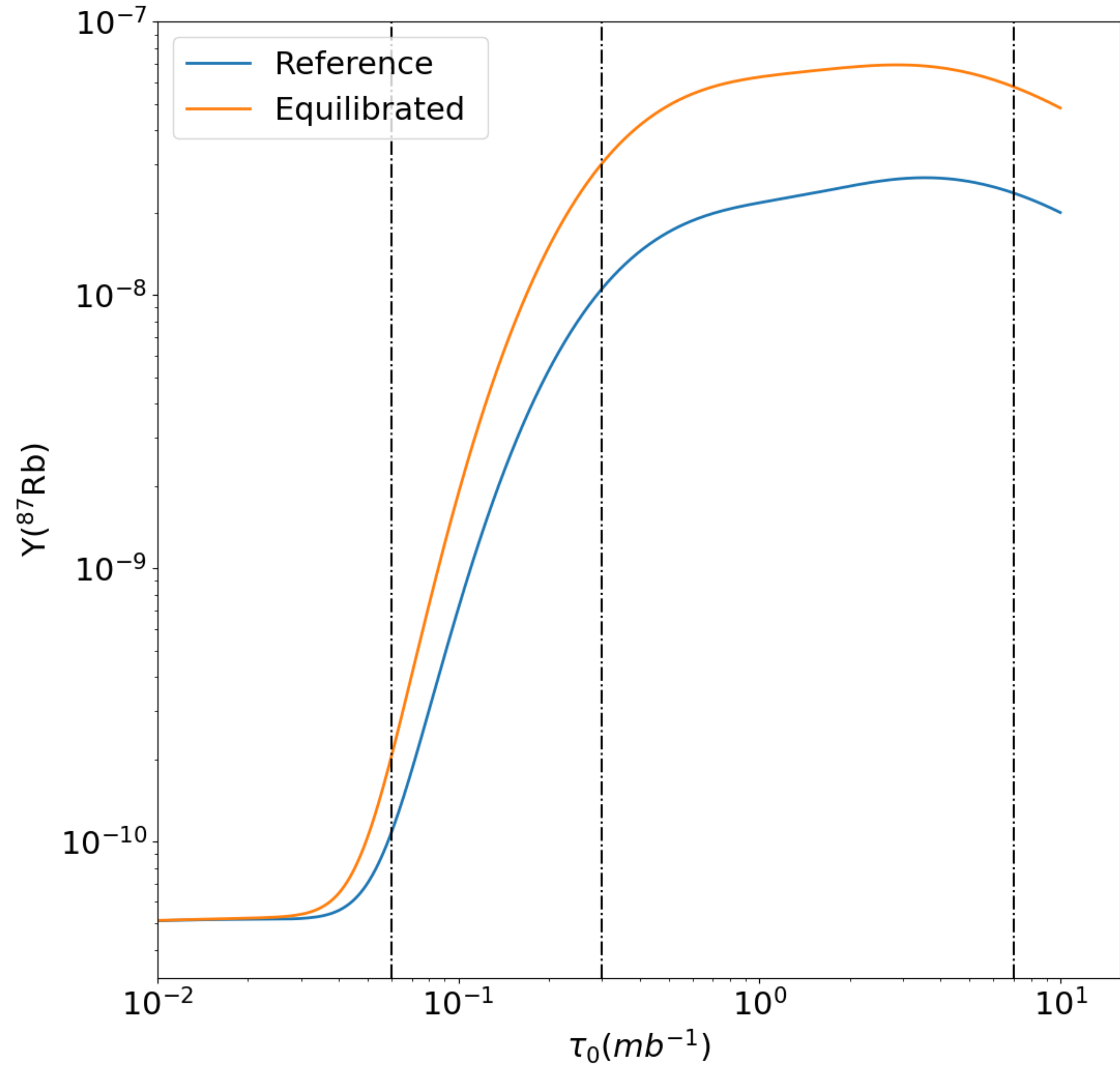






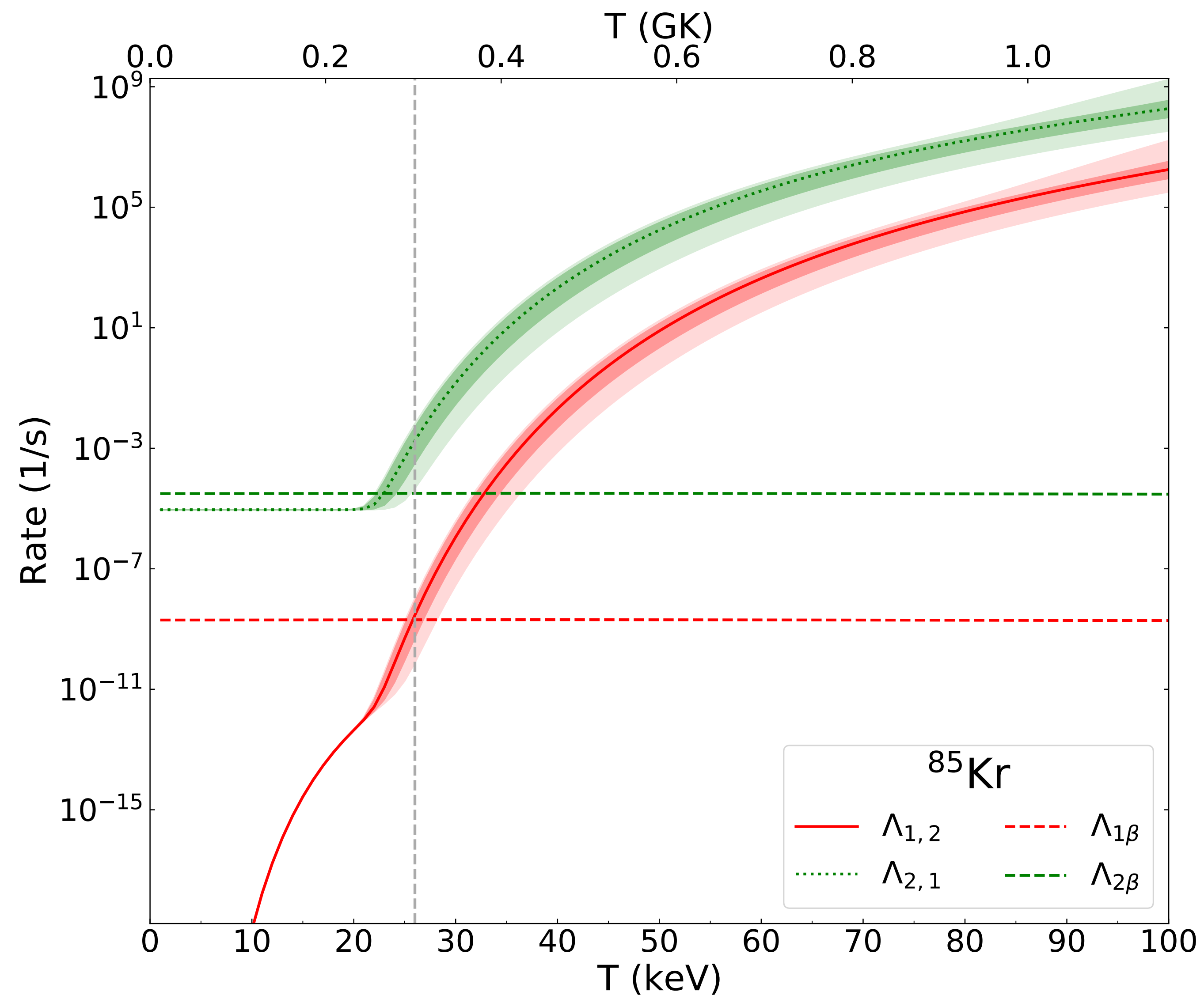


Massive Star

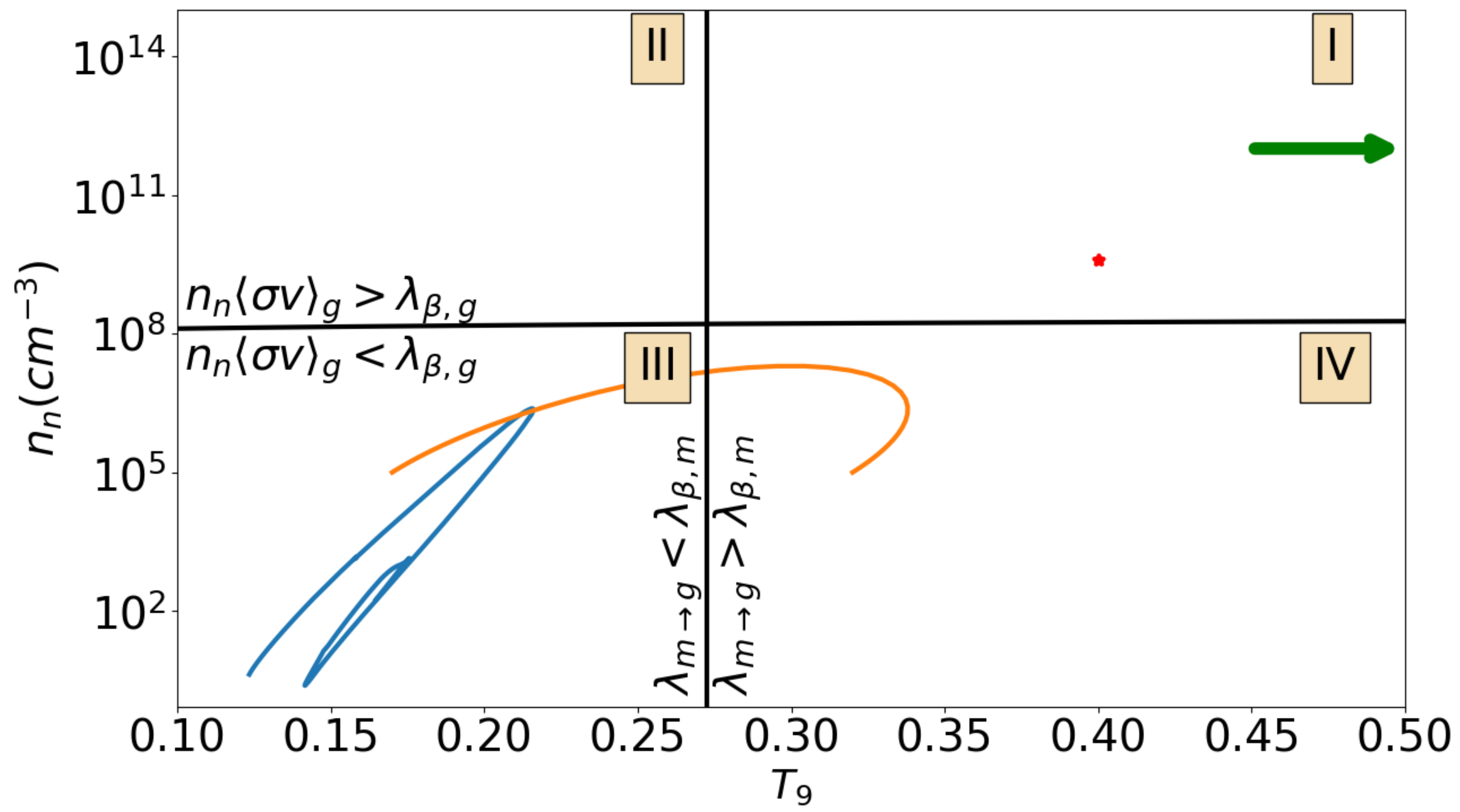


TP AGB Star

Outlook and Future Work



Misch et al. (2021)



Uncertainties dominated by unmeasured transition rates

1107.32 keV \rightarrow 304.871 keV

1140.73 keV \rightarrow 1107.32 keV

1166.69 keV \rightarrow 1140.73 keV

1166.69 keV \rightarrow 304.871 keV

1223.98 keV \rightarrow 1140.73 keV

1223.98 keV \rightarrow 1166.69 keV

1416.57 keV \rightarrow 1107.32 keV

Processes Affected

- S process
- I process
- R Process (especially decay back to stability)

Lvlspy

- Python package developed by Jaad Tannous and myself for handling general quantum level systems
- Computes necessary rates in an astrophysical plasma and the appropriate rate matrix
- Available from <https://lvlspy.readthedocs.io> or <https://webnucleo.readthedocs.io>

Formalism

- Graph-theory treatment (Sayani Ghosh)
- Compute generalized cascade parameters from ratios of branchings on directed graphs rather than sum over all paths.
- Conceptually clearer and potentially more convenient computationally.