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# Covariance in Ni-59 for JEFF 3.3 – A TMC based uncertainty approach

Henrik Sjöstrand\*, **Petter Helgesson**<sup>1,2</sup>, Dimitri Rochman<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden

<sup>2</sup>Nuclear Research and Consultancy Group NRG

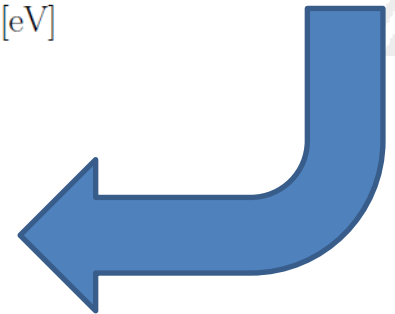
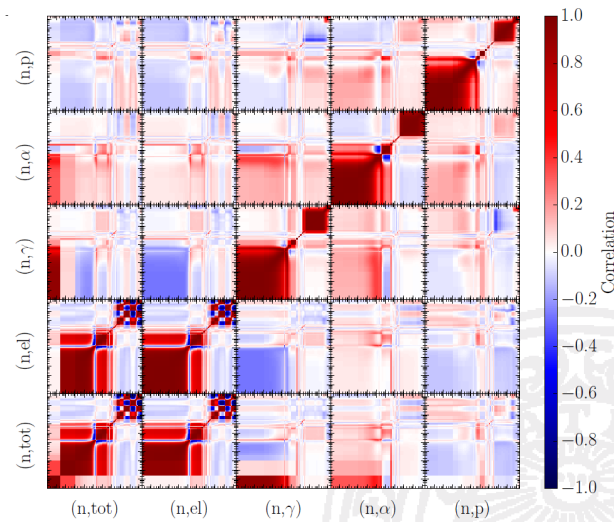
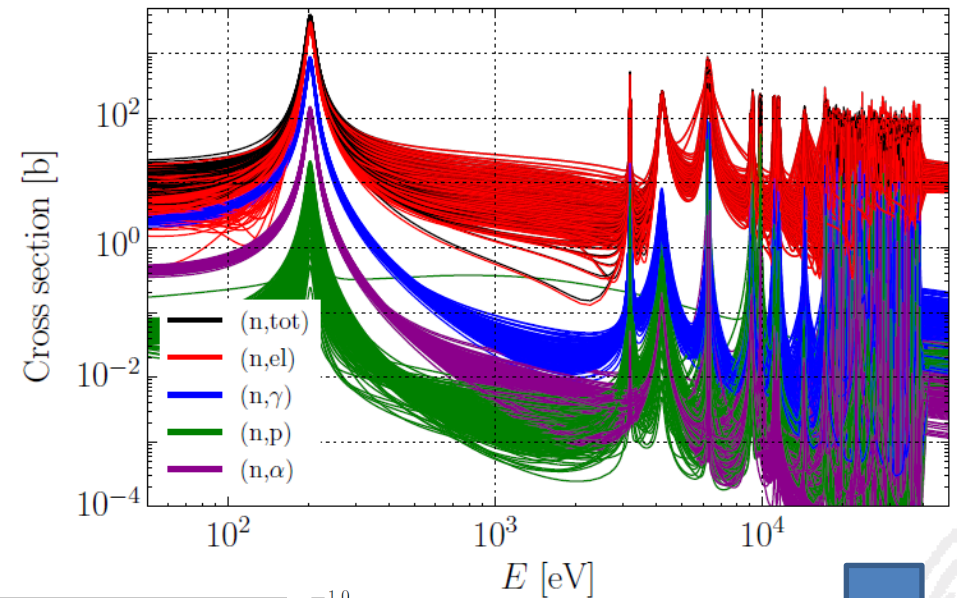
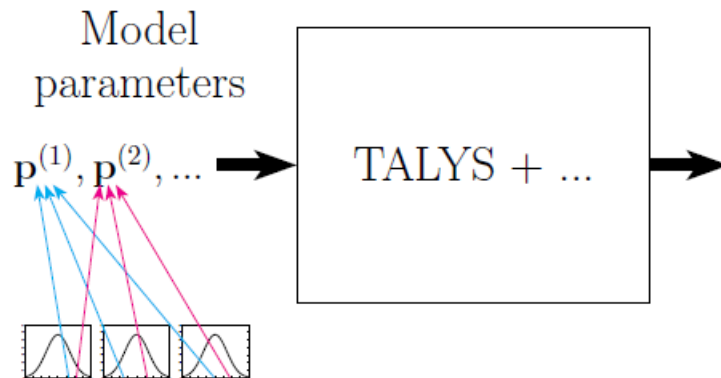
<sup>3</sup>Paul Scherrer Institute PSI, Villigen, Switzerland

\*[henrik.sjostrand@physics.uu.se](mailto:henrik.sjostrand@physics.uu.se)



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# Sampling based evaluation and uncertainty quantification: TMC

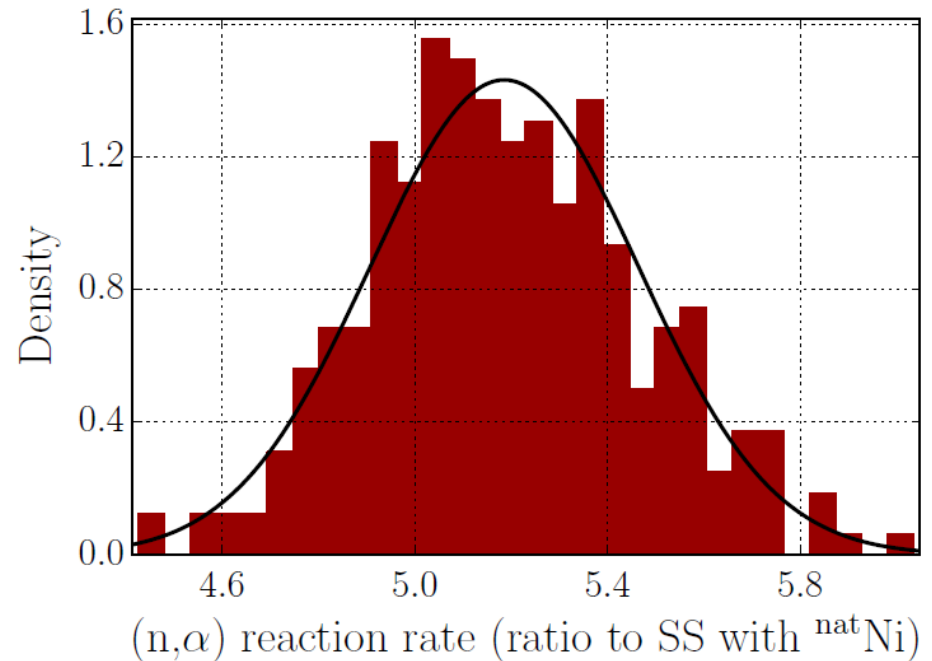




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# Total Monte Carlo U.Q.

- Straight forward and transparent treatment of the uncertainty propagation
- Bias free uncertainty propagation, e.g. no linearization.
- Non Gaussian behavior in input and output can be modelled.
  - ✓ Higher moments included.
- More complete U.Q.
  - ✓ More correlations included





# Creating Ni-59 random files

Consistency over the entire energy range

- For each file:

1. Run TALYS with random parameters [1]
2. Sample thermal xs
3. Sample Harvey's resonance parameters
  - with exp. unc. + additional component approximating systematic errors in experiments (correlated to thermal exp.)
4. Sample bound resonances and lower URR
  - Using URR parameters from *the same* TALYS run
5. Adjust bound resonances to match thermal cross sections
  - If thermal cross sections unreachable: combination "unphysical"  $\Rightarrow$  start over at item 2
  - Otherwise: file complete; continue

No experiments

Experiments

Experiments

[1] A. Koning and D. Rochman, "Modern Nuclear Data Evaluation With The TALYS Code System", Nuclear Data Sheets **113**, 2841 (2012)

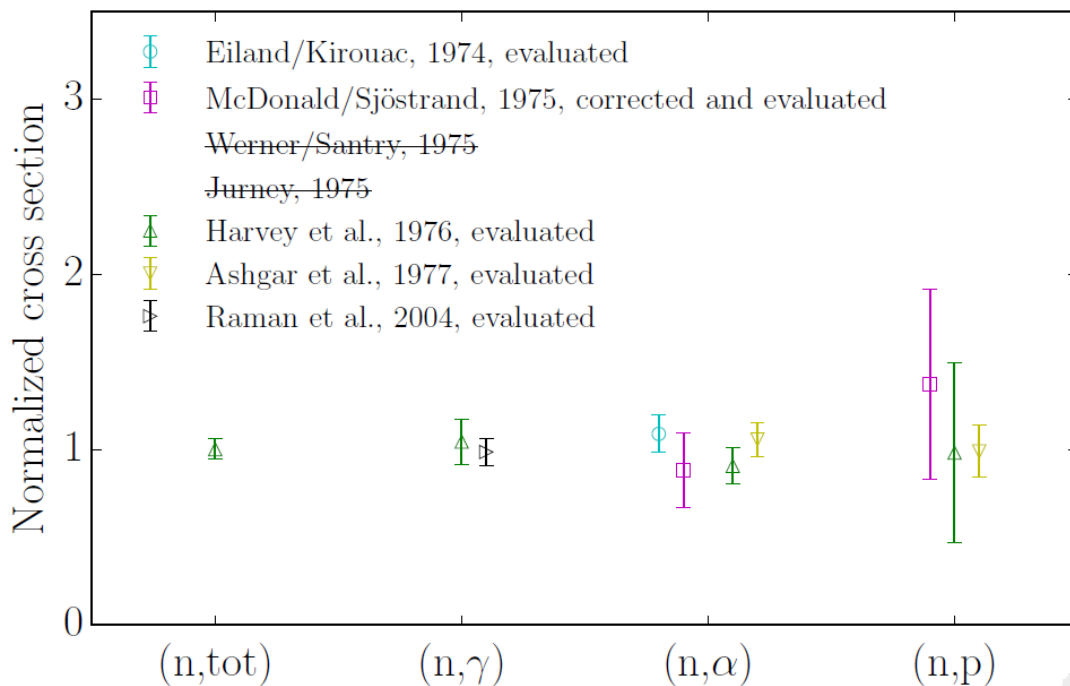


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- Taken from TENDL 2015 parameters distribution.
- TENDL2015 Ni<sup>59</sup> parameter distribution is extrapolated from investigating the predictive power of default TALYS for isotopes where experimental data is available.\*

\*A. Koning, "Bayesian Monte Carlo for nuclear data evaluation", *The European Physics Journal A* 51, 184 (2015)





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**Sample the individual error components provides experimental correlations.**

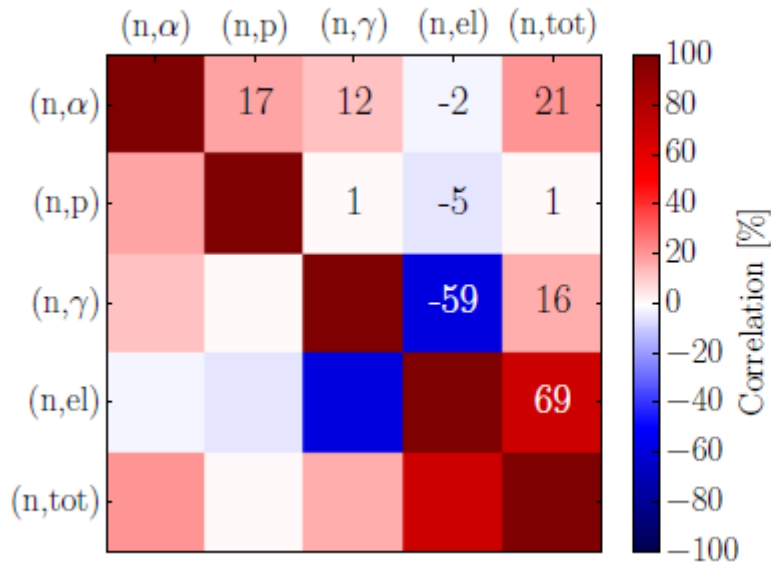
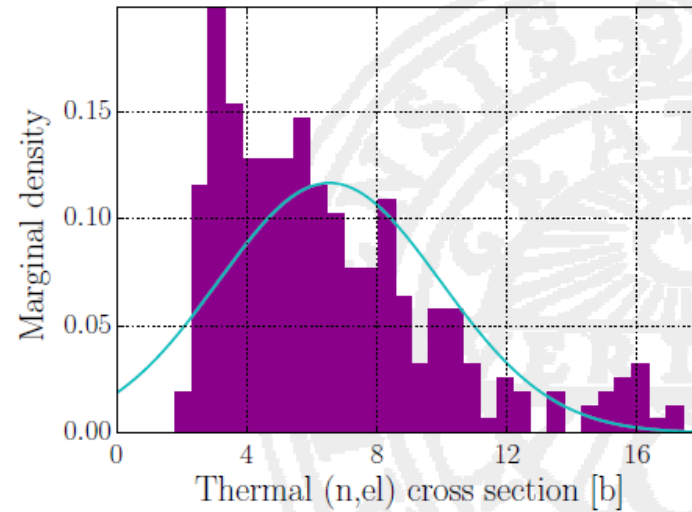
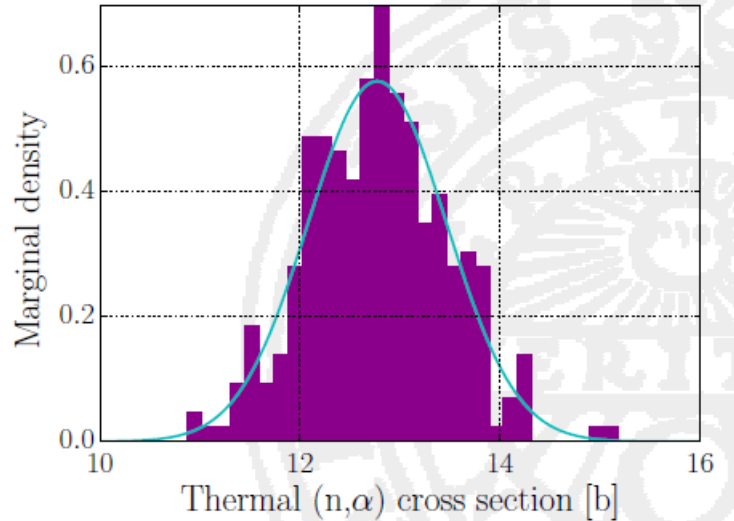
$$\sigma = \frac{C\mathcal{N}'}{C'\mathcal{N}} \frac{\epsilon'}{\epsilon} \frac{\Phi'}{\Phi} \sigma' \quad \text{or} \quad \sigma_{\text{tot}} = -\frac{\log\left(\frac{C\Phi'}{C'\Phi}\right)}{\mathcal{N}},$$

- $C$  = counts,  $\epsilon$  = det. eff.,  $\mathcal{N}$  = # nuclides/area,  $\Phi$  = fluence
- Prime (') indicates reference measurement

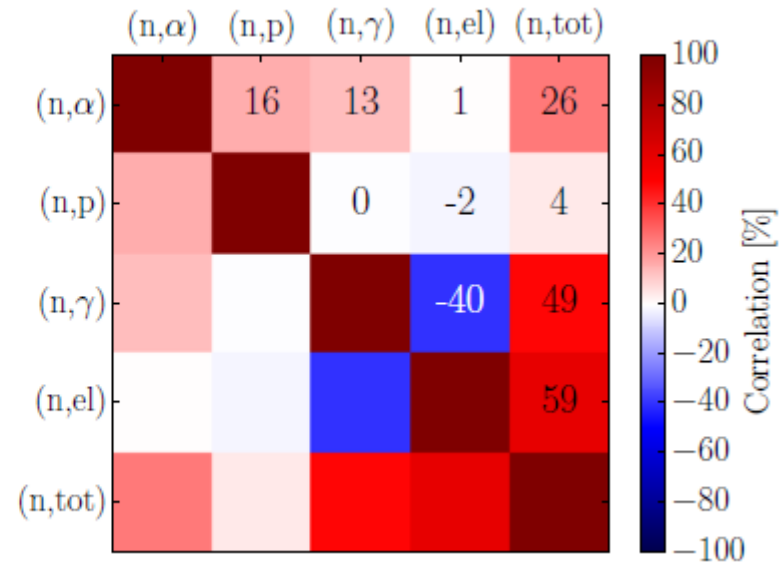


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# Physical constraints included



No constraints

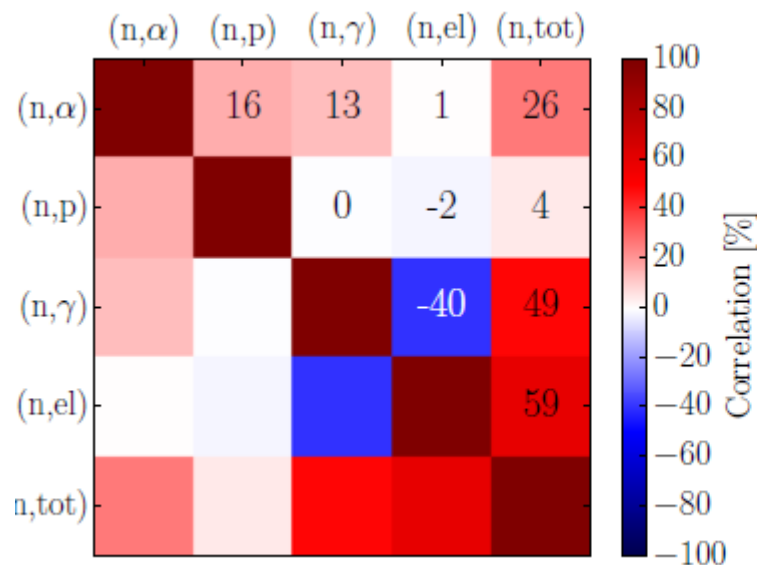


Positive (n,el)

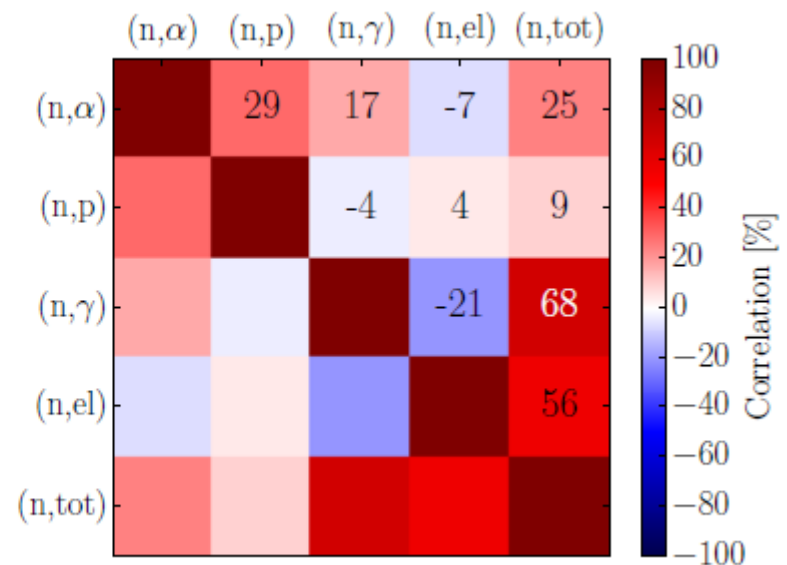


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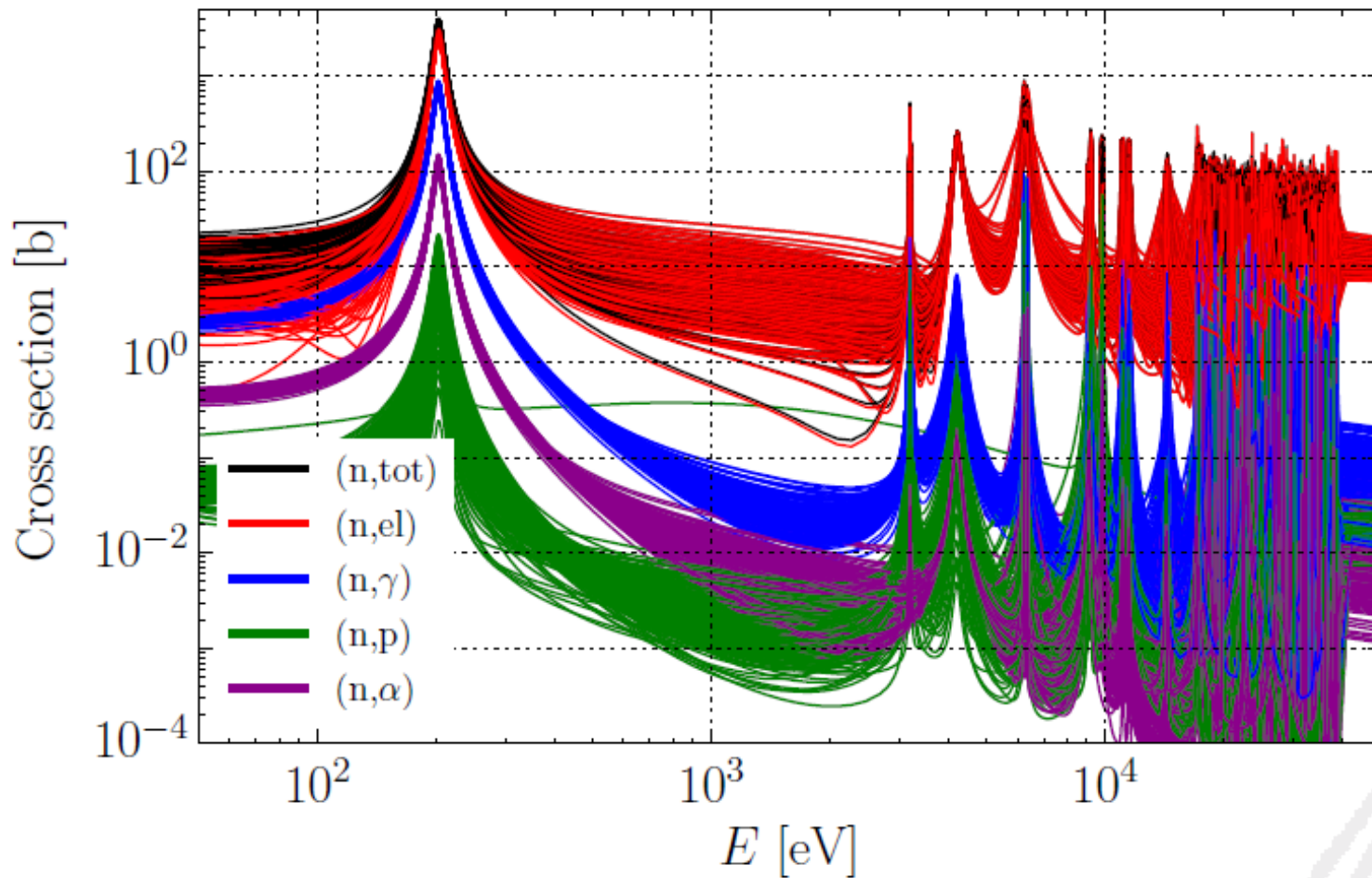


Final thermal correlations



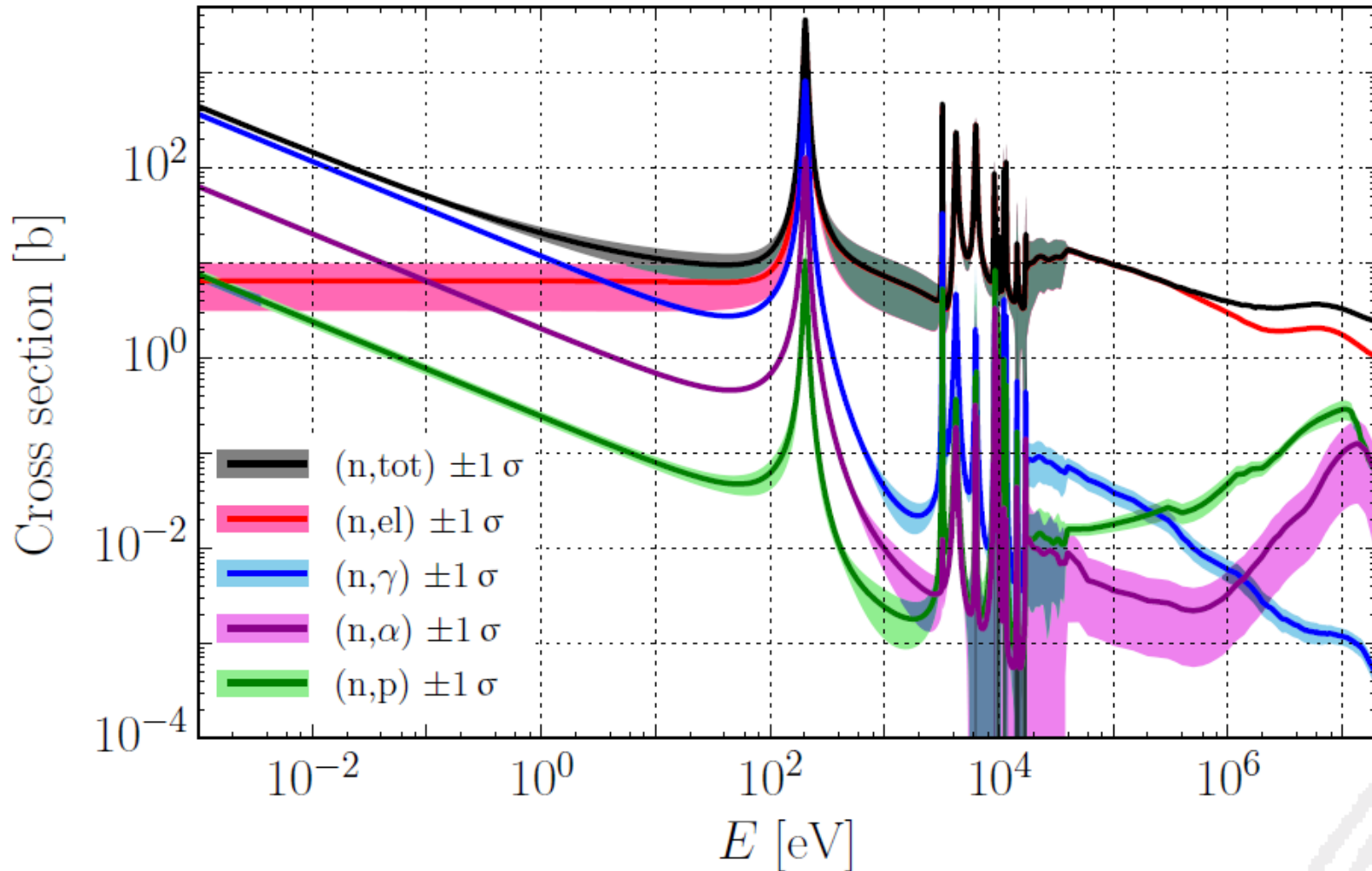


# Resulting cross sections



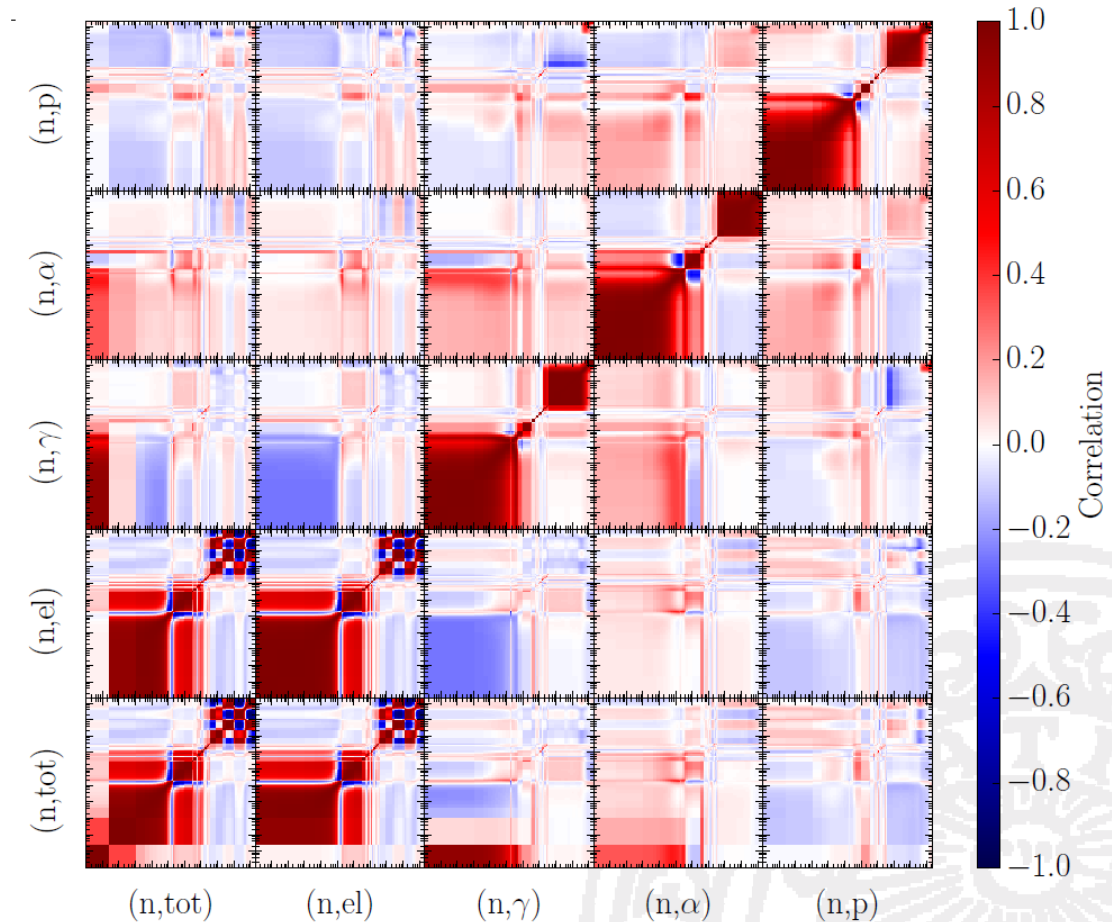


# Resulting cross sections





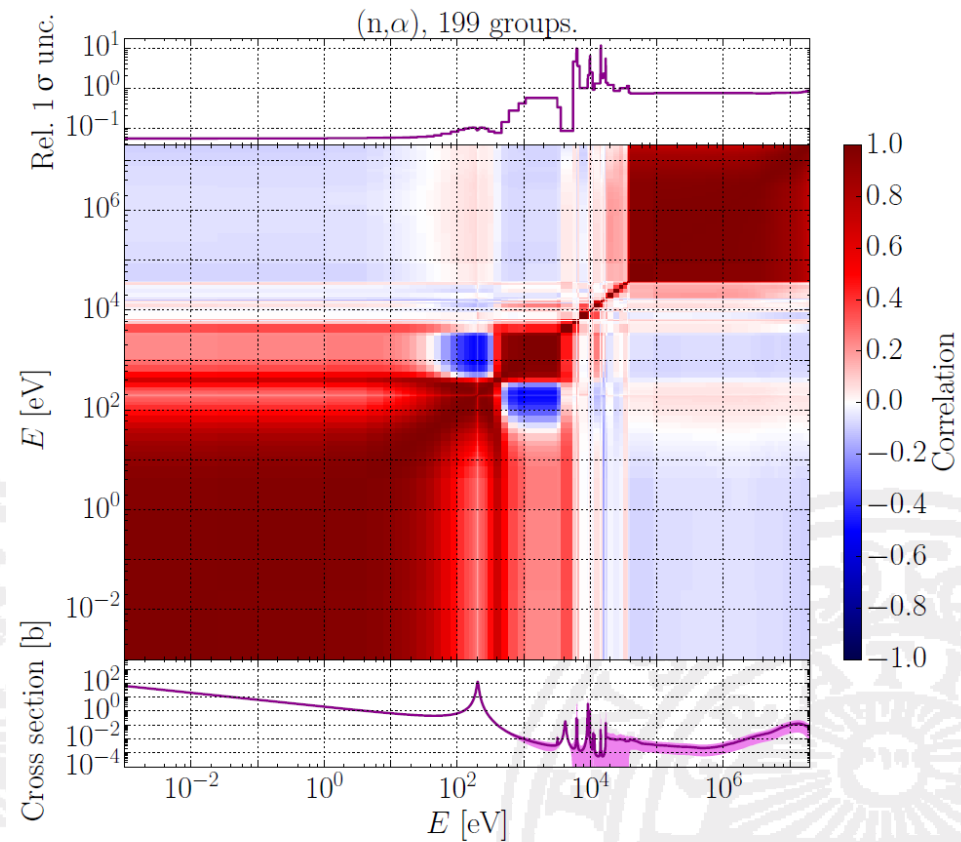
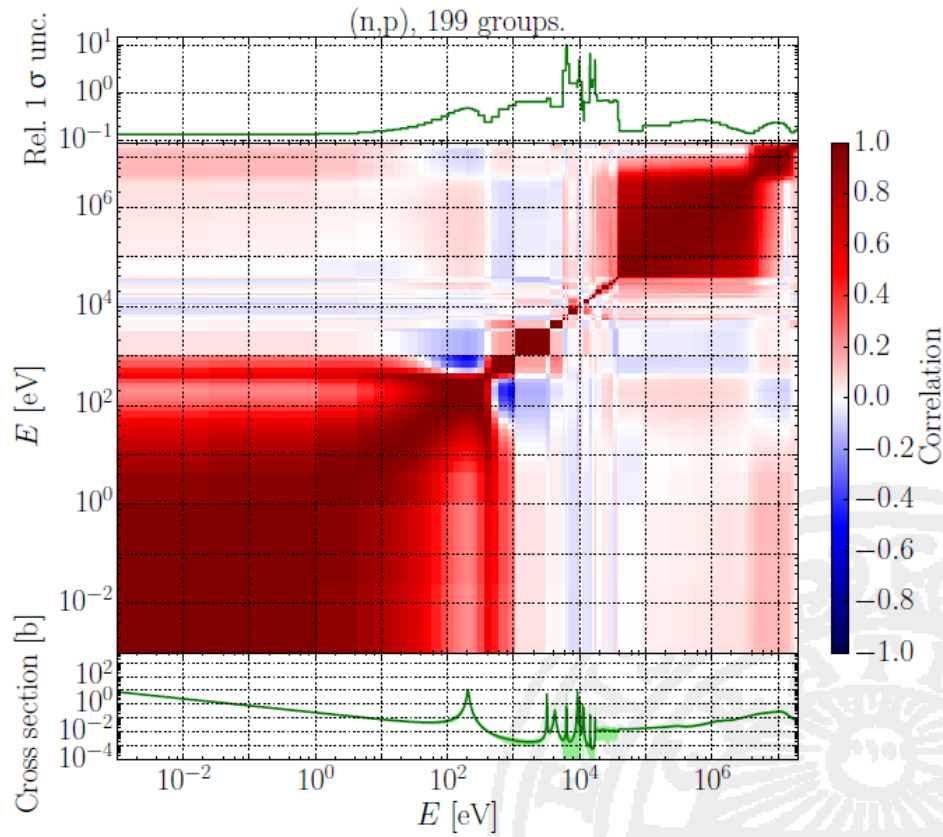
# Consistent co-variances



- Community is still asking for co-variances
  - Loss of information
- Computed from the random files



# Consistent co-variances





# Conclusion: New $^{59}\text{Ni}$ evaluation with covariances

- JEFF 2.2-3.2
  - No covariance information
- This file
  - Uncertainties propagated all the way from individual experimental error components
  - Combining resonances (exp), thermal data (exp), and TALYS (URR and fast range)
  - Uncertainties stored MF33
- Some information lost using co-variances
  - Use randomfiles





# Acknowledgement

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- Special thanks to Jean-Cristophe Sublet (UKAEA, Abingdon, UK) for discussions on the ENDF format, to
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- Arjan Koning (IAEA-NDS, Vienna, Austria) for general discussions on nuclear data uncertainties and TMC.