From: **Kirk McDonald** <kirktmcdonald@gmail.com>

Date: Wed, Jan 2, 2019 at 10:55 PM  
Subject: Re: Happy New Year  
To: David A. Reis <dreis@stanford.edu>  
Cc: Adrian Melissinos <meliss@pas.rochester.edu>

David,

Happy New Year!

Thanks for pointing out that ​Tom ​Erber used the symbol U​ = *B* / *B*crit​, in eq. 1.1 of

​Rev. Mod. Phys. *​***38**, 626 (1966)

<http://physics.princeton.edu/~mcdonald/examples/QED/erber_rmp_38_626_66.pdf>

See also eq. 7.14b of

​Erber, White and Latal, Acta Phys. Austri​aca **45**, 29 (1976)

<http://physics.princeton.edu/~mcdonald/examples/QED/erber_apa_45_29_76.pdf>

As ​Erber​ was one of the few who responded to my emails of early 1985, I became quite influenced by him for a while.   It is probable that this biased me to use the symbol U​ for the ratio *E* / *E*crit​ -- tho I still don't recall this explicitly.

--Kirk