Lecture 15

Explosive Nucleosynthesis and the r-Process

As the shock wave passes through the star, matter is briefly heated to temperatures far above what it would have experienced in hydrostatic equilibrium. This material expands, then cools nearly adiabatically (if the energy input from shock heating exceeds that from nuclear burning). The time scale for the cooling is approximately the *hydrodynamic time scale*, though a little shorter.

For (post-helium) burning in *hydrostatic equilibrium*, recall

$$\langle \varepsilon_{nuc} \rangle \approx \langle \varepsilon_{\nu} \rangle$$

hydrostatic nucleosynthesis
advanced stages of stellar evolution

For exp*losive nucleosynthesis*:

$$\tau_{nuc}(T_{shock}) \leq \tau_{HD}$$

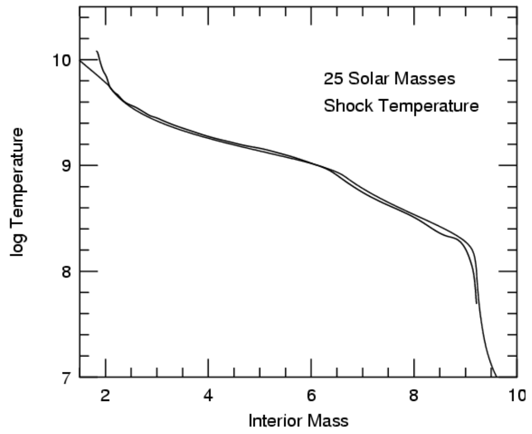
$$\rho(t) = \rho_{shock} \exp(-t/\tau_{HD}) \qquad \rho \propto T^3$$

$$T(t) = T_{shock} \exp(-t/3\tau_{HD}) \qquad T_{shock} \approx 2.4 \times 10^9 \, R_9^{-3/4}$$

$$\tau_{HD} = \frac{446 \text{ sec}}{\sqrt{\rho_{shock}}} \qquad \rho_{shock} \approx 2\, \rho_o$$

Except near the "mass cut", the shock temperature to which the explosive nucleosynthesis is most sensitive is given very well by

$$\frac{4}{3}\pi R^3 a T^4 \approx \text{Explosion energy}$$
$$\approx 10^{51} \text{ erg}$$



Example:

Any carbon present inside of 10^9 cm will burn explosively if:

At $T_9 = 2$ $\qquad \lambda_{12,12} \approx 4.3 \times 10^{-4} \left(\frac{T_9}{2}\right)^{20}$

$$\frac{dY_{12}}{dt} = -2\, Y_{12}^2\, \rho\, \lambda_{12,12}/2$$

$$\tau_{12,12} = (\rho Y_{12} \lambda_{12,12})^{-1} = \frac{12}{\rho X_{12} \lambda_{12,12}} \qquad X_{12} \approx 0.15$$

$$= 1.9 \left(\frac{2}{T_9}\right)^{20} = 45/\sqrt{10^5} = 0.14 \text{ s} \qquad \rho \sim 10^5$$

($45/\sqrt{10^5}$: $0.1\, \tau_{HD}$)

$$\Rightarrow \underline{T_9 = 2.3}$$

Where in the star does this occur?

$$10^{51} = \frac{4}{3}\pi R^3 a (2.3 \times 10^9)^4 \Rightarrow \underline{R = 1.0 \times 10^9 \text{ cm}}$$

nb. $T_p \propto R^{-3/4}$

about 3.2 $M_\odot$ in the 25 $M_\odot$ preSN star

Conditions for explosive burning (E_0 = 1.2 B):

To nse	$T_9 > 5$	$R_9 < 0.38$	*yes*
Silicon	4 – 5	0.38 – 0.51	*yes*
Oxygen	3 – 4	0.51 – 0.74	*yes*
Neon	2.5 – 3	0.74 – 1.0	*a little*
Carbon	2.0 – 2.5	1.0 – 1.3	*no*
Helium	>0.5	< 8	*no*
Hydrogen	>0.2	< 27	*no*

$$R_9 = \left(\frac{T_9}{2.4}\right)^{-4/3}$$

Roughly speaking, everything that is ejected from inside 3800 km in the presupernova star will come out as iron-group elements.

Produced pre-explosively and just ejected in the supernova:

- Helium
- Carbon, nitrogen, oxygen
- The s-process
- Most species lighter than silicon

Produced in the explosion:

- Iron and most of the iron group elements – Ti, V, Cr, Mn, Fe Co, Ni
- The r-process (?)
- The neutrino process – F, B

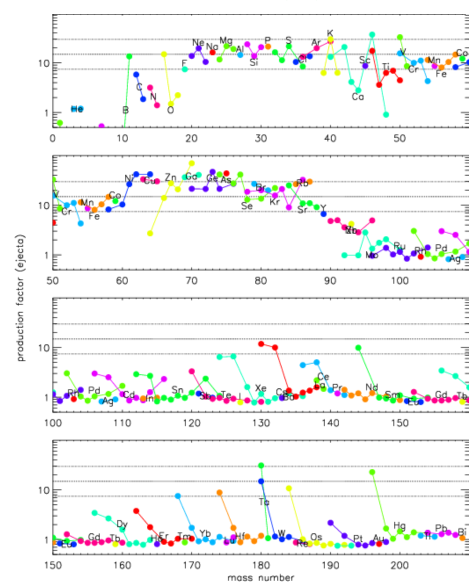
Produced both before and during the explosion:

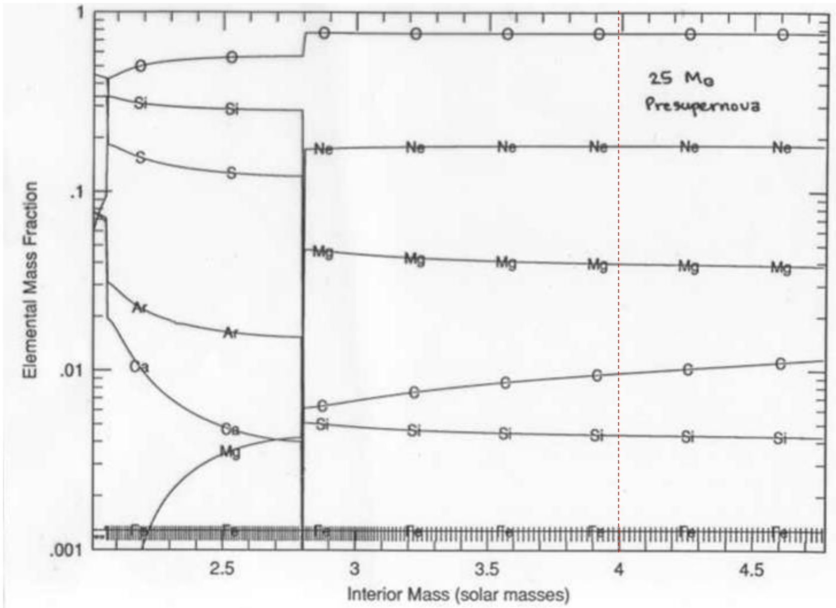
- The intermediate mass elements – Si, S, Ar, Ca
- The p-process (in oxygen burning and explosive Ne burning)

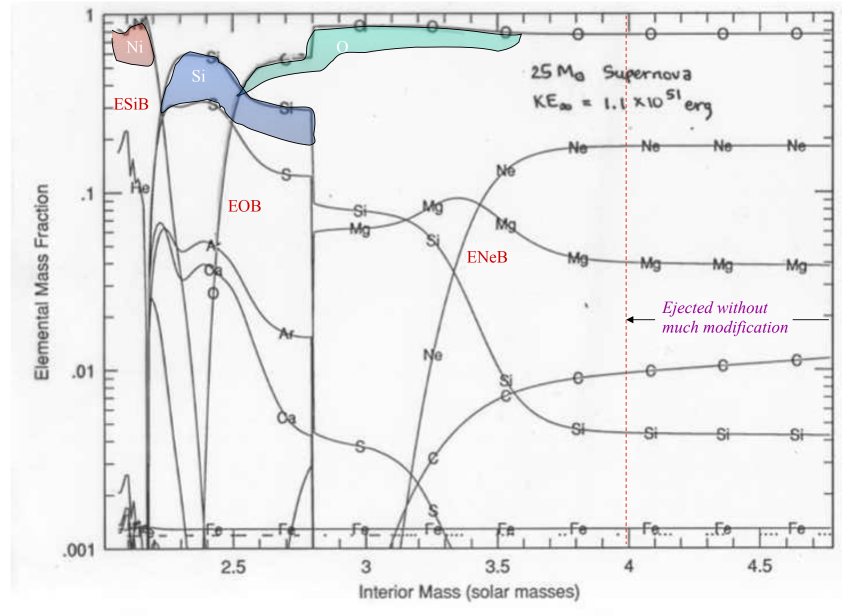
Explosive Nucleosynthesis

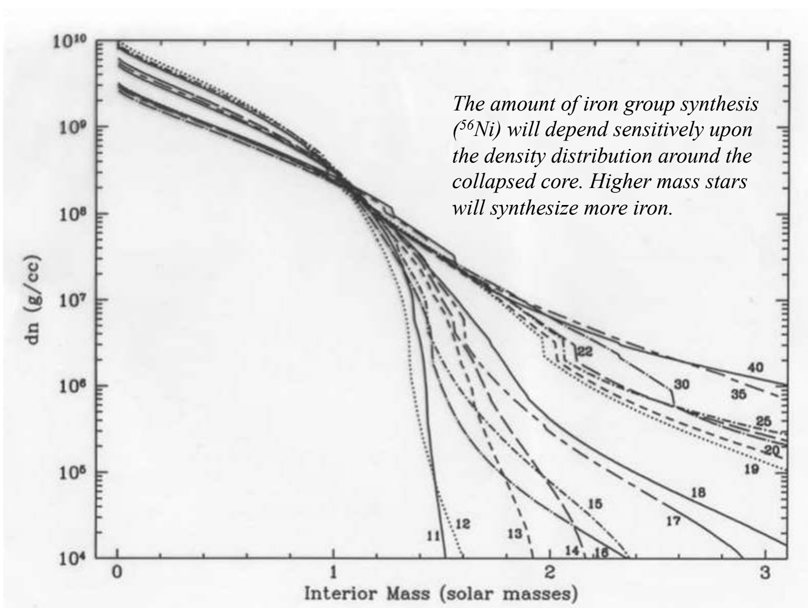
Fuel	Main Product	Secondary Products	Temp (10^9 K)	Time (sec)
Innermost Ejecta	r- process	-	>10 low Y_e	about 1
Si, O	^{56}Ni	Iron group	> 4	0.1
O	Si,S	Cl, Ar K, Ca	3 - 4	1
O, Ne	O, Mg Ne	Na, Al P p - process ^{11}B, ^{19}F	2 - 3 "	5 "

25 Solar Masses; Rauscher et al. (2002)









The nucleosynthesis that results from explosive silicon burning is sensitive to the density (and time scale) of the explosion.

1) High density (or low entropy) NSE, and long time scale:

Either the material is never photodisintegrated even partially to $\alpha-$particles or else the $\alpha-$particles have time to reassemble into iron-group nuclei. The critical (slowest) reaction rate governing the reassembly is $\alpha(2\alpha,\gamma)^{12}$C which occurs at a rate proportional to ρ^2.

If as $T \rightarrow 0$, X_n, X_p, and $X_\alpha \rightarrow 0$ then one gets pretty much the unmodified "normal" results of nuclear statistical equilibrium calculated e.g.,at $T_9 = 3$ (fairly indedendent of ρ).

Abundant at $\eta = 0.002 - 0,004$

^{56,57}Ni, ^{55}Co, ^{52,53,54}Fe, ^{48,49,50}Cr, ^{51}Mn

Products:

^{54,56}Fe, ^{55}Mn, ^{48,49}Ti, ^{50,51,52,53}Cr, ^{51}V

2) Low density or rapid expansion → the "α-rich" freeze out

If all the α's cannot reassemble on $\tau_{\rm HD}$, then the composition will be moditied at late times by α-capture. The composition will "freeze out" with free α-particles still present (and, in extreme cases, free n's or p's). The NSE composition at low T willbe modified by reactions like

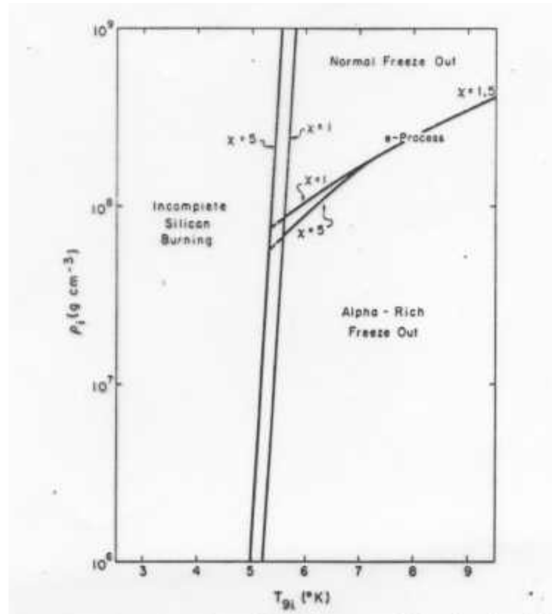
$$^{54}Fe(\alpha,\gamma)^{58}Ni \qquad ^{56}Ni(\alpha,p)^{59}Cu$$
$$^{56}Ni(\alpha,\gamma)^{60}Zn \qquad ^{40}Ca(\alpha,\gamma)^{44}Ti$$
$$^{57}Ni(\alpha,\gamma)^{61}Zn \qquad ^{58}Ni(\alpha,\gamma)^{62}Zn \qquad etc.$$

Abundant:

^{44}Ti, ^{56,57,58}Ni, ^{59}Cu, ^{60,61,62}Zn, (^{64,66}Ge)

Produced :

^{44}Ca, ^{56,57}Fe, ^{58,60,61,62}Ni, ^{59}Co, (^{64,66}Zn)



3) Explosive oxygen burning $(3 \le T_9 \le 4)$

Makes pretty much the same products as ordinary oxygen burning ($T_9 \approx 2$) at low $\eta \approx 0.002$ ($Z/Z_\odot$)

Principal Products:

^{28}Si, ^{32,33,34}S, ^{35,37}Cl, ^{36,38}Ar

^{39,41}K, ^{40,42}Ca, ^{46}Ti, ^{50}Cr

4) Explosive neon burning $(2.5 \le T_9 \le 3.0)$

Same products as stable hydrostatic neon buring

More ^{26}Al, the p-process or γ-process.

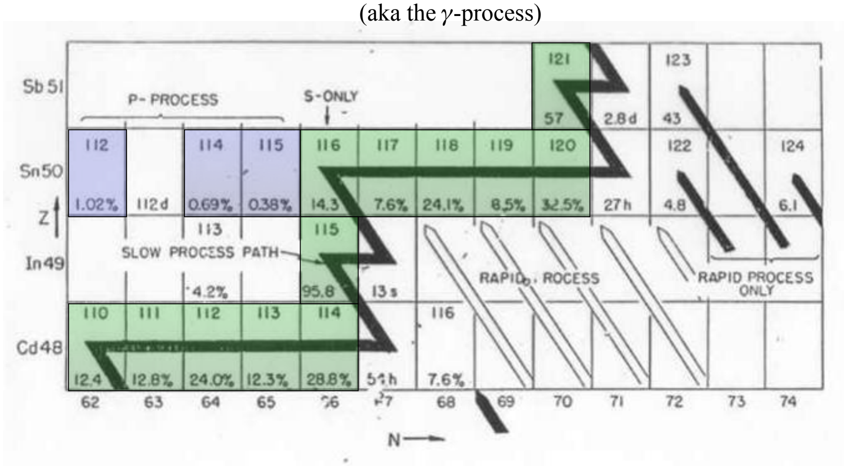
5) Explosive H and explosive He burning.

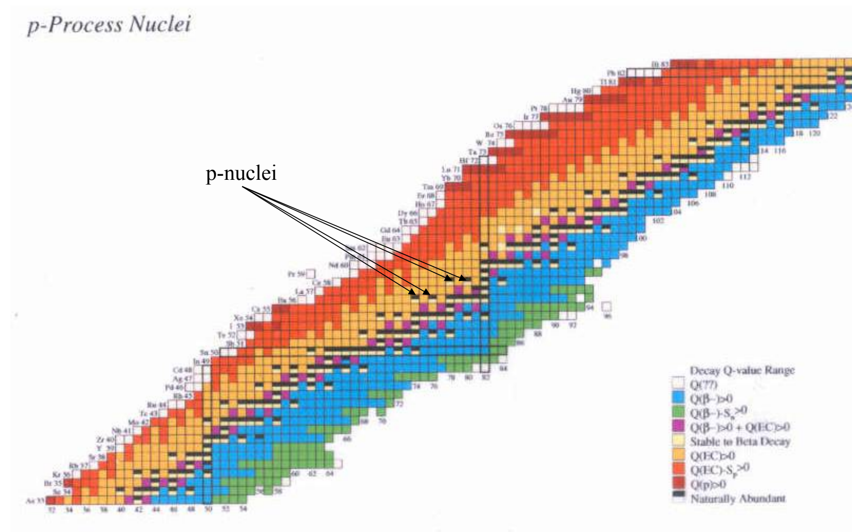
The former occurs in novae; the latter in some varieties of Type Ia supernovae. Discuss later.

The "p -" or γ - Process

At temperatures ~2 x 10^9 K before the explosion (oxygen burning) or between 2 and 3.2 x 10^9 K during the explosion (explosive neon and oxygen burning) partial photodisintegration of pre-existing s-process seed makes the proton-rich elements above the iron group.

The *p*-Process
(aka the γ-process)





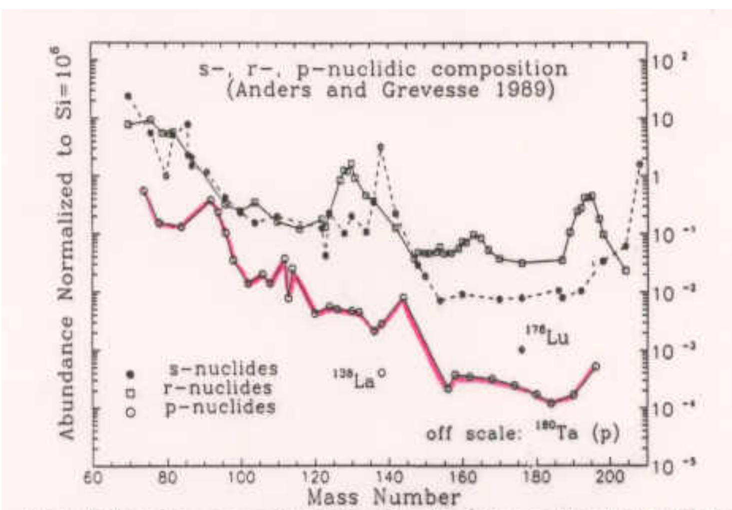
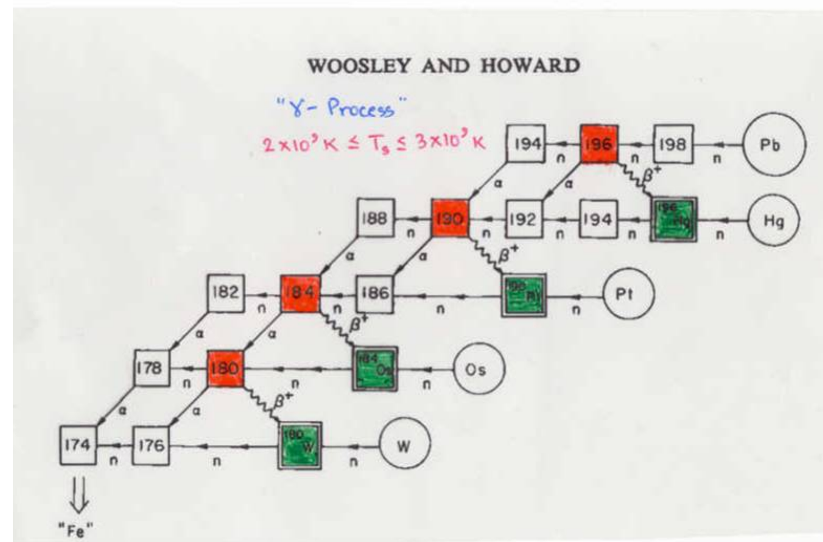
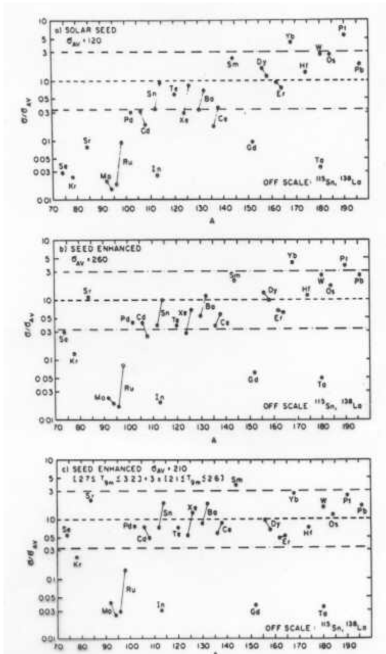
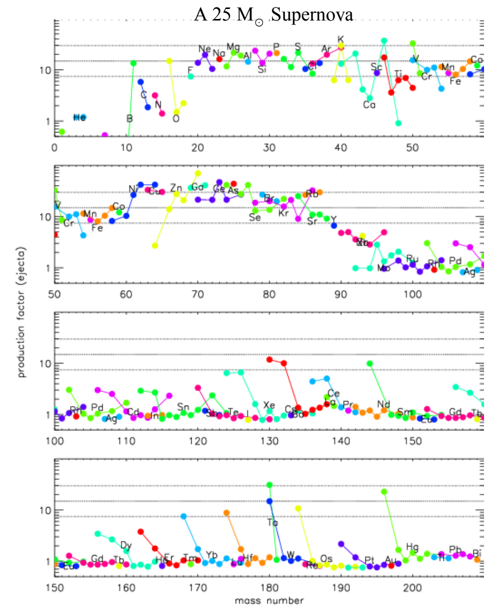


Fig. 1. Abundances of *p*, *r*, and *s*-nuclides in the SAD (Anders and Grevesse 1989). Note that ^{180}Ta has the very low abundance of 2.5×10^{-6}. (From Arnould 1991)





Parameterized studies show the need for prior enhancement of the s-process



Problems below A ~ 130.

Summary: γ – Process

- Makes nuclei traditionally attributed to the "p-process" by photodisintegration of pre-existing s-process nuclei. The abundance of these seeds is enhanced – at least for A < 90 – by the s-process that went on in He and C burning.

- Partially produced in oxygen shell burning before the collapse of the iron core, but mostly made explosively in the neon and oxygen-rich shells that experience shock temperatures between 2 and 3.2 billion K.

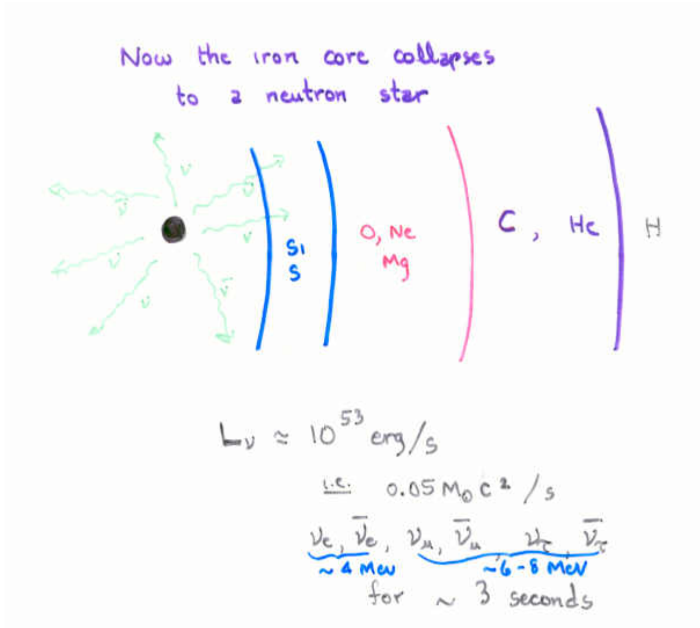
- Production factor ~100 in about 1 solar mass of ejecta. Enough to make solar abundances

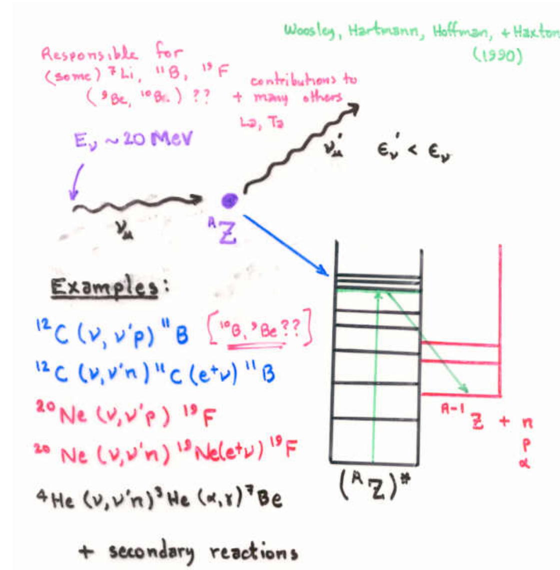
- A secondary (or tertiary) process. Yield is proportional to abundance of s-process in the star.

- There remain problems in producing sufficient quantities of p-nuclei with atomic masses between about 90 and 120, especially ^{92}Mo.

The Neutrino Process (ν–process)

The neutrino flux from neutron star formation in the center can induce nuclear transmutation in the overlying layers of ejecta. The reactions chiefly involve μ and τ-neutrinos and neutral current interactions. Notable products are ^{11}B, ^{19}F. ^{138}La, ^{180}Ta, and some ^{7}Li and ^{26}Al.

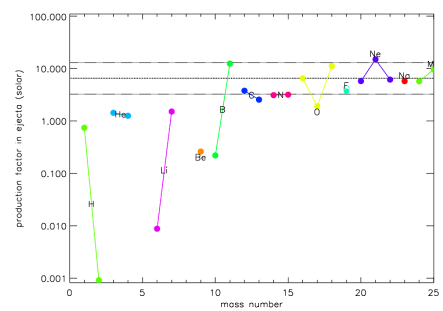




Production factor relative to solar normalized to ^{16}O production as a function of μ and τ neutrino temperature (neutral current) and using 4 MeV for the electron (anti-)neutrinos (for charged current only).

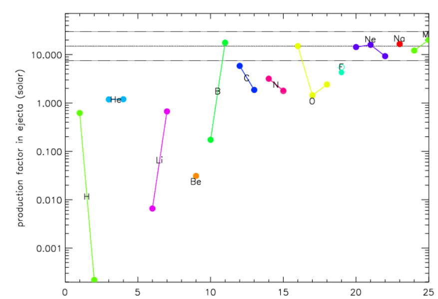
Product	15 $M_\odot$				25 $M_\odot$			
	6 MeV		8 MeV		6 MeV		8 MeV	
	WW95	This work	WW95	This work	WW95	This work	WW95	This work
^{11}B	1.65	1.88	3.26	3.99	0.95	1.18	1.36	1.85
^{19}F	0.83	0.60	1.28	0.80	0.56	0.32	1.03	0.53
^{15}N	0.46	0.49	0.54	0.58	0.09	0.12	0.15	0.19
^{138}La		0.97		1.10		0.90		1.03
^{180}Ta		2.75		3.07		4.24		5.25

*Heger et al,, 2005, Phys Lettr B, **606**, 258*



15 solar mass supernova including the neutrino process.

n.b. ^{7}Li, ^{11}B, ^{15}N, ^{19}F

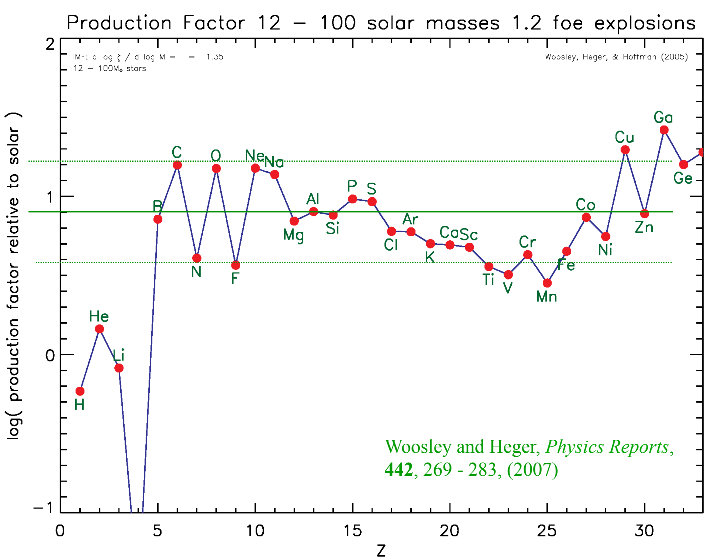


25 Solar Masses

Heger et al. (2003)

Integrated Ejecta

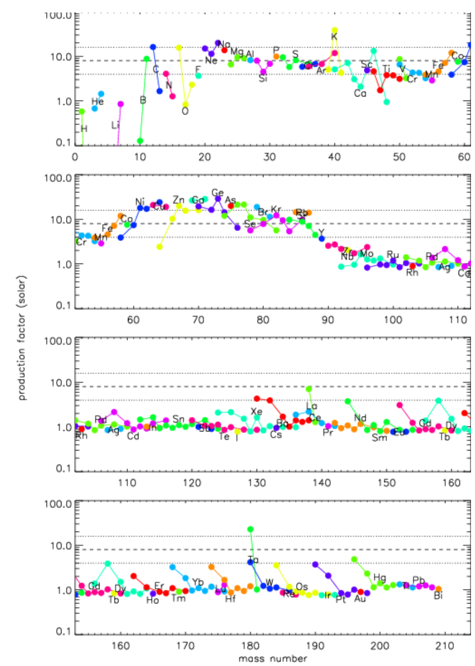
Averaged yields of many supernovae integrated either over an IMF or a model for galactic chemical evolution.



Survey - Solar metallicity:

(Woosley, Heger, & Hoffman 2005)

- *Composition – Lodders (2003); Asplund, Grevesse, & Sauval (2004)*
- *32 stars of mass 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 70, 80, 100, 120 solar masses. More to follow.*
- *Evolved from main sequence through explosion with two choices of mass cut ($S/N_AkT = 4$ and Fe-core) and two explosion energies (1.2 foe, 2.4 foe) – 128 supernova models*
- *Averaged over Salpeter IMF*



Isotopic yields for 31 stars averaged over a Salpeter IMF, $\Gamma = -1.35$

Intermediate mass elements (23< A < 60) and s-process (A = 60 – 90) well produced.

Carbon and Oxygen over-produced.

p-process deficient by a factor of ~4 for A > 130 and absent for A < 130

Survey

$Z = 0$; 10 to 100 $M_\odot$

(Heger & Woosley, 2010, *ApJ*, **724**, 341)

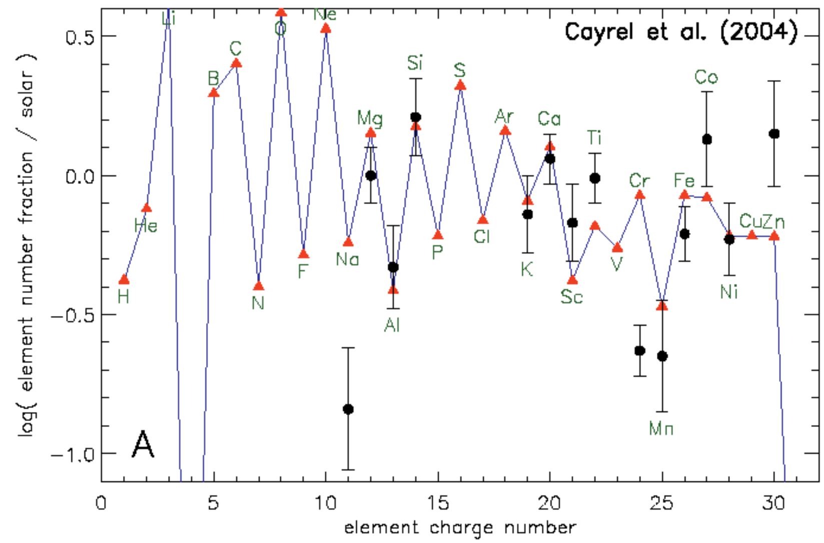
Big Bang initial composition, Fields (2002), 75% H, 25% He

$10-12 M_\odot \quad \Delta M = 0.1 M_\odot$
$12-17 M_\odot \quad \Delta M = 0.2 M_\odot$
$17 - 19 M_\odot \quad \Delta M = 0.1 M_\odot$
$19-20 M_\odot \quad \Delta M = 0.2 M_\odot$
$20 - 35 M_\odot \quad \Delta M = 0.5 M_\odot$
$35 - 50 M_\odot \quad \Delta M = 1 M_\odot$
$50 - 100 M_\odot \quad \Delta M = 5 M_\odot$

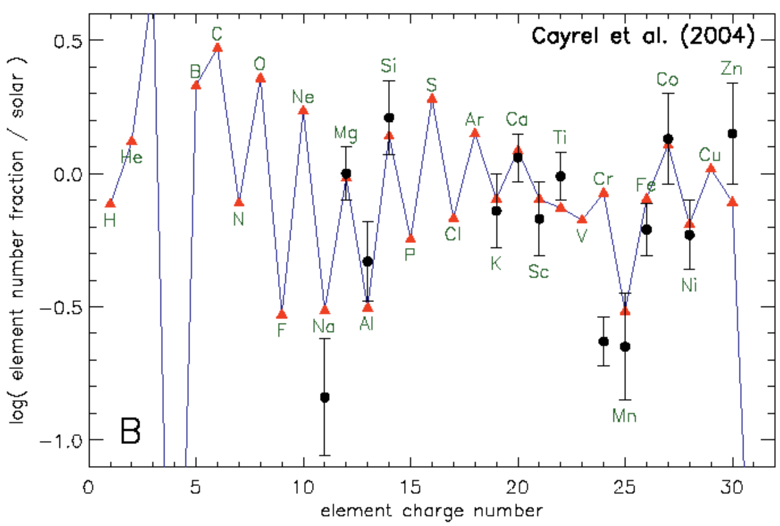
Evolved from main sequence to presupernova and then exploded with pistons near the edge of the iron core ($S/N_A k = 4.0$)

Each model exploded with a variety of energies from 0.3 to 10 x 10^{51} erg.

126 Models
at least 1000 supernovae

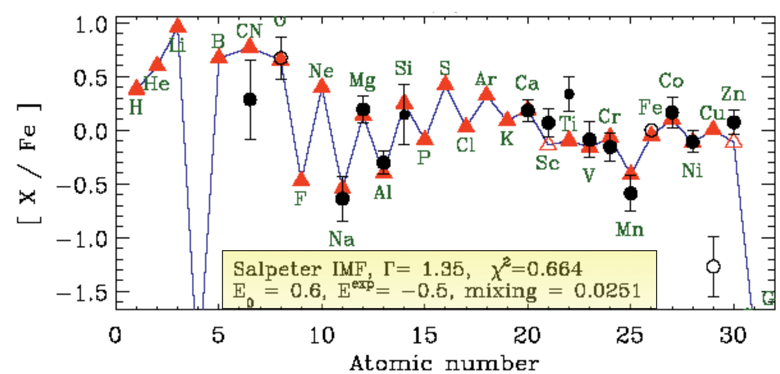


"Standard model", 1.2 B, $\Gamma = 1.35$, mix = 0.1, 10 - 100 solar masses



Best fit, 0.9 B, $\Gamma = 1.35$, mix = 0.0158, 10 - 100 solar masses

Lai et al. 2008, *ApJ*, **681**, 1524

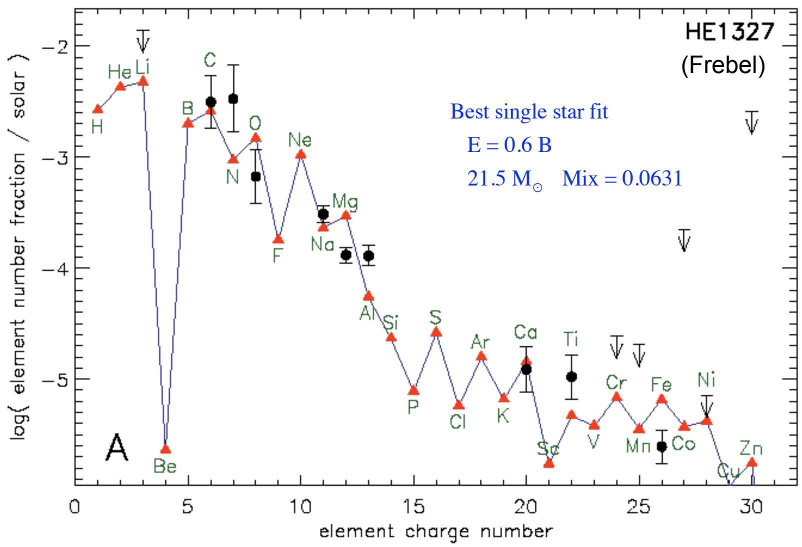


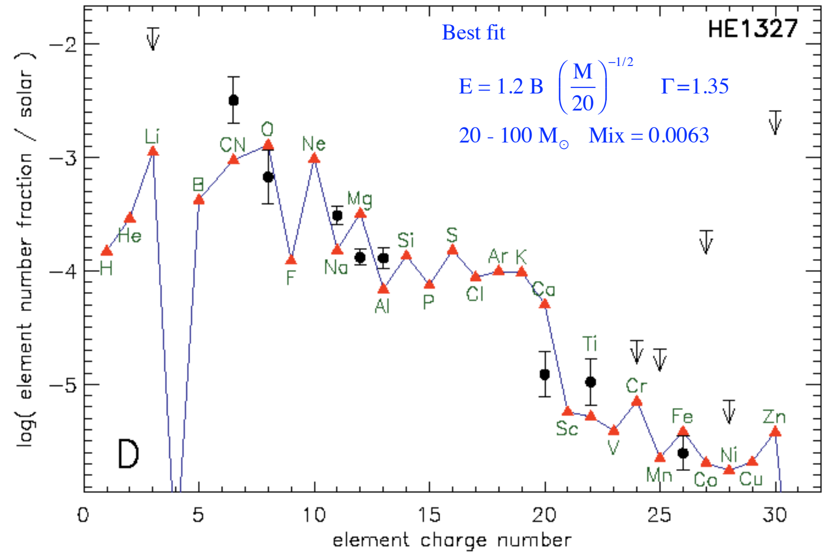
28 metal poor stars in the Milky Way Galaxy
-4 < [Fe/H] < -2; 13 are < -.26

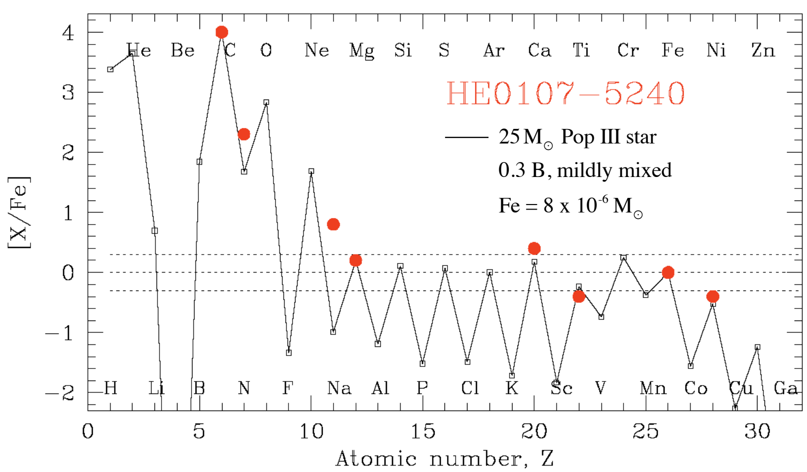
Cr I and II, non-LTE effects; see also Sobeck et al (2007)

$KE = E_o (20/M)^{E_{exp}}$ B

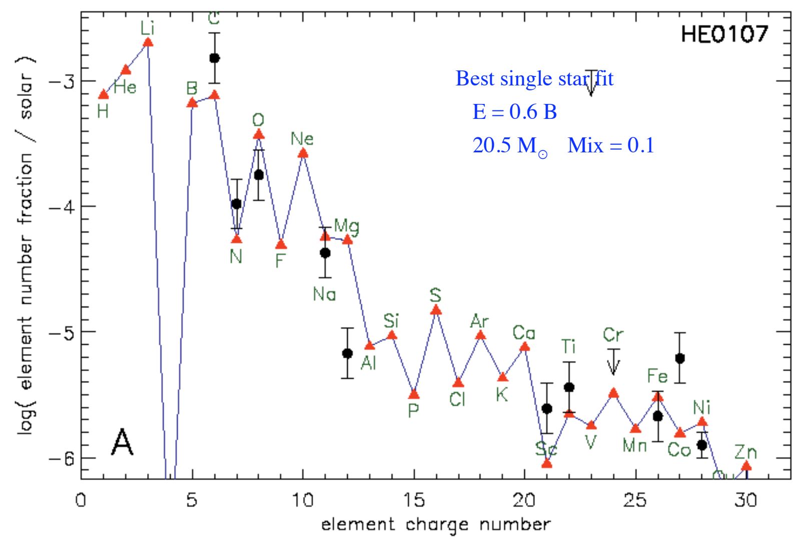
mixing 0.1 would have been "normal"

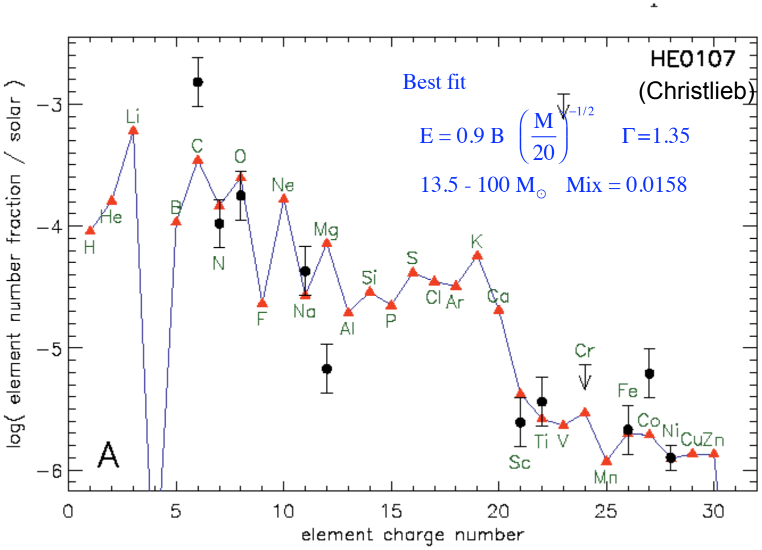






Umeda and Nomoto, Nature, 422, 871, (2003)





MISSING PIECES

- ^{6}Li, ^{9}Be, ^{10}B, part of ^{7}Li
  Cosmic ray spallation, some ^{7}Li from AGB
- ^{15}N and now ^{17}O
  Classical Novae
- ^{43}Ca?, part of ^{44}Ca, ^{47}Ti, part of ^{51}V
  Helium detonation Type Ia supernovae
- ^{48}Ca, ^{50}Ti, ^{54}Cr, (^{58,60}Fe, ^{66}Zn in grains)
  Chandrasekhar Mass Type Ia supernovae
- ^{64}Zn, ^{70}Ge, ^{74}Se, ^{78}Kr, ^{84,88}Sr, ^{89}Y, ^{90}Zr, ^{92}Mo?
  Neutrino driven winds from neutron stars

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 297: 837–845, 1985 October 15

NUCLEOSYNTHESIS IN NEUTRON-RICH SUPERNOVA EJECTA[1]

D. HARTMANN,[2,3] S. E. WOOSLEY,[2,4] AND M. F. EL EID[2,5]

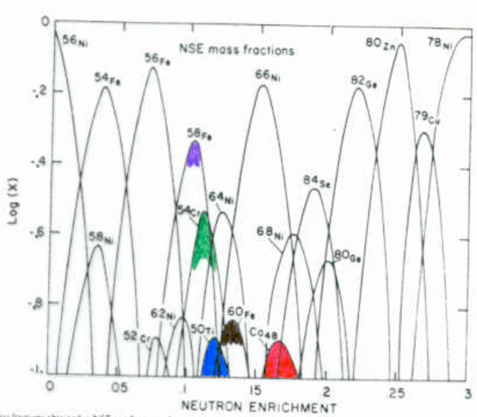


FIG. 2.—Mass fractions obtained in NSE as a function of neutron enrichment η for fixed temperature $T = 3.5 \times 10^9$ K and density $\rho = 10^7$ g cm^{-3}

TABLE III: The Origin of the Light and Intermediate Mass Elements

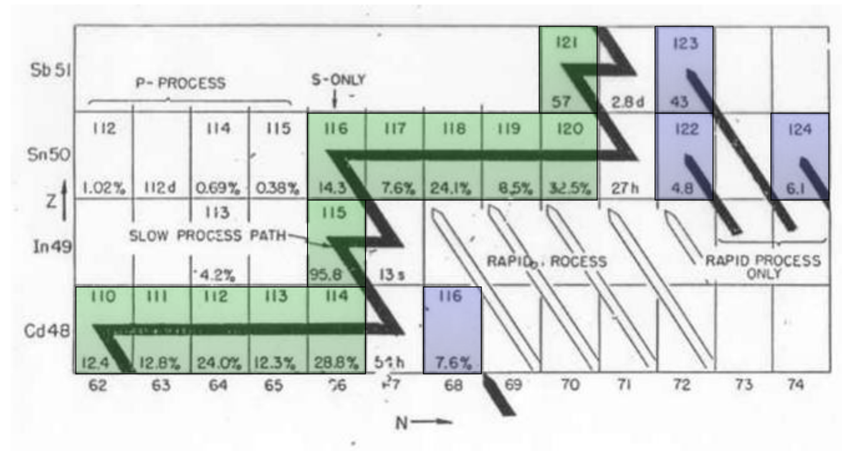
Species	Origin	Species	Origin	Species	Origin
^{1}H	BB	^{30}Si	C,Ne	^{51}V	α,Ia-det,xSi,xO,ν
^{2}H	BB	^{31}P	C,Ne	^{50}Cr	xSi,xO,α,Ia-det
^{3}He	BB,L*	^{32}S	xO,O	^{52}Cr	xSi,α,Ia-det
^{4}He	BB,L*,H	^{33}S	xO,xNe	^{53}Cr	xO,xSi
^{6}Li	CR	^{34}S	xO,O	^{54}Cr	nse-Ia-MCh
^{7}Li	BB,ν,L*,CR	^{36}S	He(s),C,Ne	^{55}Mn	Ia,xSi, ν
^{9}Be	CR	^{35}Cl	xO,xNe,ν	^{54}Fe	Ia,xSi
^{10}B	CR	^{37}Cl	He(s),xO,xNe	^{56}Fe	xSi,Ia
^{11}B	ν	^{36}Ar	xO,O	^{57}Fe	xSi,Ia
^{12}C	L*,He	^{38}Ar	xO,O	^{58}Fe	He(s),nse-Ia-MCh
^{13}C	L*,H	^{40}Ar	He(s),C,Ne	^{59}Co	He(s),α,Ia,ν
^{14}N	L*,H	^{39}K	xO,O,ν	^{58}Ni	α
^{15}N	Novae,ν	^{40}K	He(s),C,Ne	^{60}Ni	α, He(s)
^{16}O	He	^{41}K	xO	^{61}Ni	He(s),α,Ia-det
^{17}O	Novae, L*	^{40}Ca	xO,O	^{62}Ni	He(s), α
^{18}O	He	^{42}Ca	xO	^{64}Ni	He(s)
^{19}F	ν,He,L*	^{43}Ca	C,Ne,α	^{63}Cu	He(s),C,Ne
^{20}Ne	C	^{44}Ca	α,Ia-det	^{65}Cu	He(s)
^{21}Ne	C	^{46}Ca	C,Ne	^{64}Zn	ν-wind,α,He(s)
^{22}Ne	He	^{48}Ca	nse-Ia-MCh	^{66}Zn	He(s),α,nse-Ia-MCh
^{23}Na	C,Ne,H	^{45}Sc	α,C,Ne,ν	^{67}Zn	He(s)
^{24}Mg	C,Ne	^{46}Ti	xO,Ia-det	^{68}Zn	He(s)
^{25}Mg	C,Ne	^{47}Ti	Ia-det,xO,xSi	r	ν-wind
^{26}Mg	C,Ne	^{48}Ti	xSi,Ia-det	p	xNe,O
^{27}Al	C,Ne	^{49}Ti	xSi	s(A <90)	He(s)
^{28}Si	xO,O	^{50}Ti	nse-Ia-MCh,He(s)	s(A>90)	L*
^{29}Si	C,Ne	^{50}V	C,Ne,xNe,xO		

Woosley, Heger, & Weaver (2002)

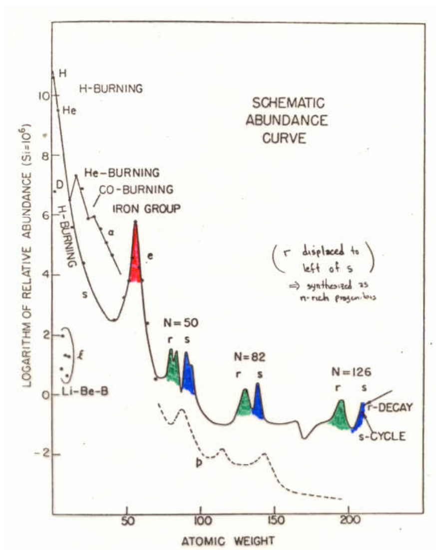
The r-Process

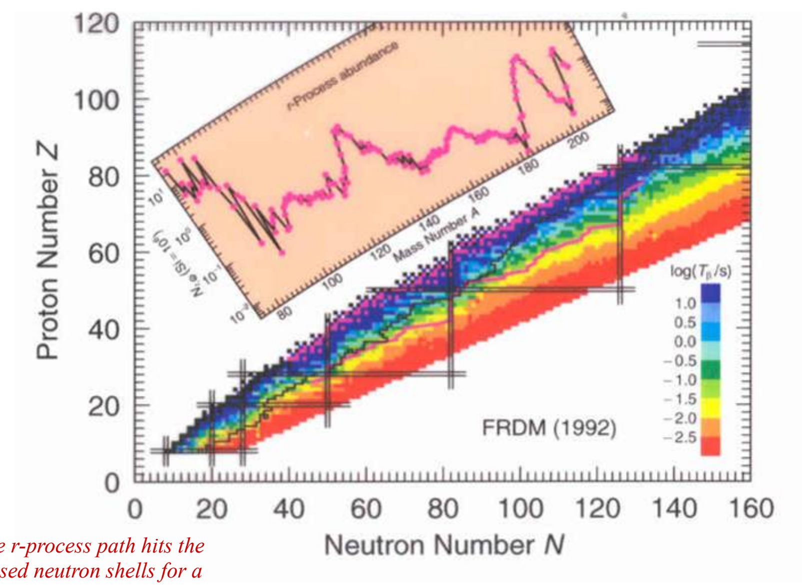
The rapid addition of neutrons to iron group nuclei that produces the most neutron-rich isotopes up to uranium and beyond. This is though to occur either in the deepest ejecta of supernovae or in merging neutron stars.

The *r*-Process



The r-Process





The r-process path hits the closed neutron shells for a smaller value of A (i.e., a lower Z)

These heavy nuclei cannot be made by the s-process, nor can they be made by charged particle capture or photodisintegration.

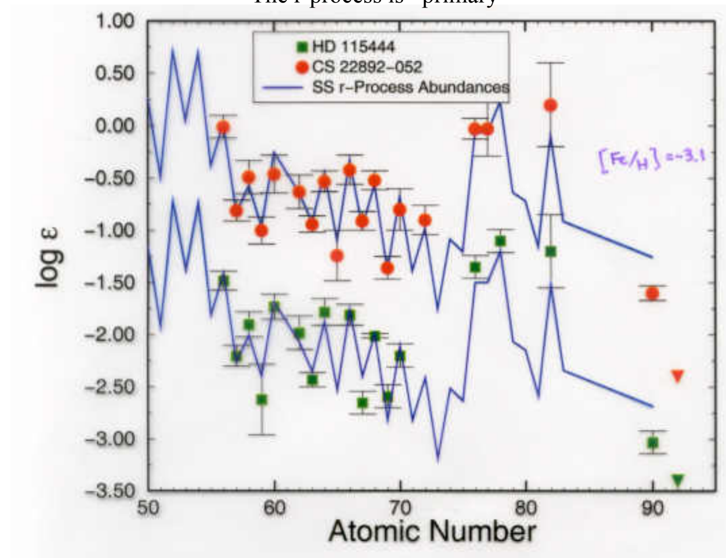
Photodisintegration would destroy them and make p-nuclei. The temperatures required for charged particle capture would destroy them by photodisintegration.

Their very existence is the proof of the addition of neutrons on a rapid, explosive time scale. This requires a high density of neutrons.

They were once attributed to the Big Bang, but the density is far too low.

Still, observations suggest though that the r-process arose or at least began to be produced very early in the universe, long before the s-process.

The r-process is "primary"



Truran, Cowan, and Field (2001)

If neutrons are to produce the r-process nuclei then β-decay must be responsible for the increase in proton number along the r-process path. Protons would combine with neutrons and end up in helium. (neutrino capture? fluxes probably too small)

The neutron density must be high both because the abundances themselves indicate a path that is very neutron-rich (so $\rho\ Y_n\ \lambda_{n\gamma}$ must be >> $1/\tau_\beta$ near the valley of β-stability) and because only very neutron-rich nuclei have sufficiently short b-decay lifetimes to decay and reach, e.g., Uranium, before Y_n goes away (τ_{HD}) in any realistic scenario.

The beta decay lifetimes of nuclei that are neutron-rich become increasingly short because of the large Q-value for decay:

- More states to make transitions to. Greater liklihood that some of them have favorable spins and parities
- Phase space – the lifetime goes roughly as the available energy to the fifth power

We shall find that the typical time for the total r-process is just a few seconds. Neutron rich nuclei have smaller neutron capture cross sections because Q_{ng} decreases, eventually approaching zero

$t < 1\ s \Rightarrow$ Take $\lambda_{n\gamma} \sim 10^4$. One needs $\rho\ Y_n\ \lambda_{n\gamma} >> 1$.

This implies that $n_n = \rho\ N_A\ Y_n >> 10^{20}\ \mathrm{cm}^{-3}$

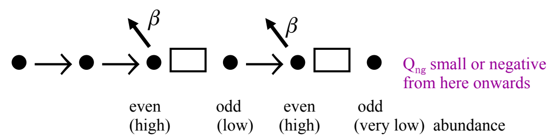
for many captures to happen in a second

$$\frac{1}{Y_A}\left(\frac{dY_A}{dt}\right) = \rho Y_n \lambda_{n\gamma}$$

For such large neutron densities neutron capture will go to the (T-dependent) neutron drip line and await a beta decay.

The r-process proceeds by rapidly capturing neutrons while keeping Z constant, until a "*waiting point*" is reached. At the waiting point, photo-neutron ejection (photodisintegration) balances neutron capture. At zero temperature, the waiting point would be the neutron drip line ($S_n \leq 0$), but the r-process actually happens at high temperature (a necessary condition to obtain the high neutron density).

At the waiting point (or points), beta decay eventually happens creating Z+1. Neutron capture continues for that new element until a new waiting point is found.



The temperature cannot be too high or

- The heavy isotopes will be destroyed by photo-disintegration
- (γ,n) will balance (n,γ) too close to the valley of β stability where τ_β is long

At a waiting point for a given Z:

$$\frac{Y_{A+1}}{Y_A} = \rho\, Y_n \frac{\lambda_{n\gamma}(A)}{\lambda_{\gamma n}(A+1)} \qquad A + n \rightleftarrows_{\gamma} A+1$$

$$= \rho\, Y_n \left(9.89 \times 10^9\right)^{-1} \frac{G(A+1)}{G(A)} T_9^{-3/2} \frac{(A+1)}{A} \exp\left(11.6045\, Q_{n\gamma} / T_9\right)$$

At a waiting point photodisintegration will give Y_{A+1} and Y_A comparable abundances – at least compared with abundances far from A. Since we only care about log's anyway …

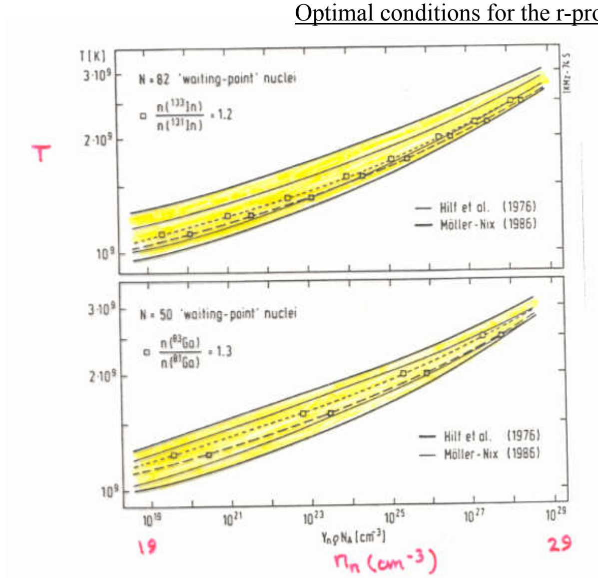
Ignoring G's and other less dominant terms

$$\log \frac{Y_{A+1}}{Y_A} \sim 0 \sim \log\, \rho Y_n - 10 + 5.04\, Q_{n\gamma} / T_9$$

$\rho\, Y_n$	T_9	Q_{lim}(MeV)
1 gm cm^{-3}	1	1.98
	2	3.97
	3	5.94
10^3 gm cm^{-3}	1	1.39
	2	2.78
	3	4.17

Therefore the path of the r-process depends upon a combination of T_9 and n_n. Actually both are functions of the time.

Optimal conditions for the r-process



Based upon estimated lifetimes and Q-values along path of the r-process.

Kratz et al. (1988)

For example, at T_9=2.5, $n_n \sim 10^{27}$ cm^{-3}.

SITE FOR THE R-PROCESS

In general, all succesful modern scenarios make use of high temperature, photodisintegration of matter to free nucleons, and partial reassemby on a rapid time scale. For example,

$$^{56}\text{Fe} \rightarrow 26\,p + 30\,n$$
$$\text{Most } n,p \rightarrow \alpha$$

One then has matter consisting mostly of α's, and if $Y_e < 0.5$, some excess of free neutrons. If the time scale is very rapid (~1 ms), there may even be free protons as well.

At a rate limited by $\alpha(2\alpha,\gamma)^{12}$C and $\alpha(\alpha n,\gamma)^9$Be ^{9}Be$(\alpha,n)^{12}$C, a few of the α's recombine to make nuclei in the iron group and beyond.

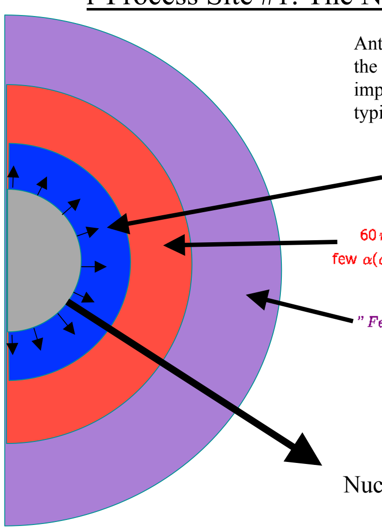
Then:

$$\text{“}Fe\text{”} + n + n + n... \rightarrow \text{r} - \text{process}$$

Three sites in nature are discussed today:

- Neutrino powered winds from neutron stars
- Merging neutron stars
- Jets from stellar iron core collapse (not so much)

r-Process Site #1: The Neutrino-powered Wind *



Anti-neutrinos are "hotter" than the neutrinos, thus weak equilibrium implies an appreciable neutron excess, typically 60% neutrons, 40% protons

$\bar{\nu}_e + p \rightarrow n + e^+$ * favored
$\nu_e + n \rightarrow p + e^-$

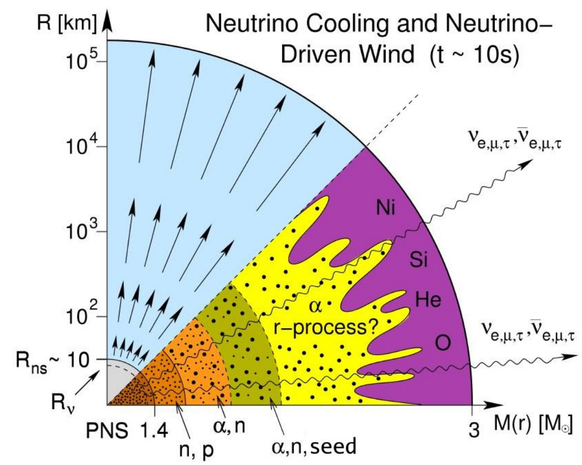
$60\,n + 40\,p \rightarrow 20\,\alpha + 20\,n$ $T_9 = 5 - 10$
few $\alpha(\alpha n,\gamma)^{12}C(n,\gamma)(\alpha,n).....$"$Fe$" $T_9 = 3 - 5$

"Fe" $+ 200\,n \rightarrow$ r – process $T_9 = 1 - 2$

e.g., 5% by mass "Fe" and 20% by mass neutrons ($Y_e = 0.4$) implies 200 neutrons per iron. The other 75% is alphas.

Nucleonic wind, 1 - 10 seconds

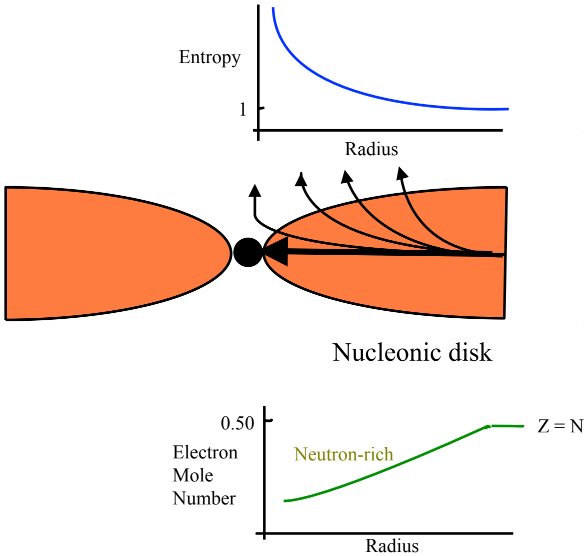
Duncan, Shapiro, & Wasserman (1986), *ApJ*, **309**, 141
Woosley et al. (1994), *ApJ*, **433**, 229



Janka (2006)

At higher entropies, less helium assembles to make seeds -> bigger n/seed ratio. Independent of metallicity…

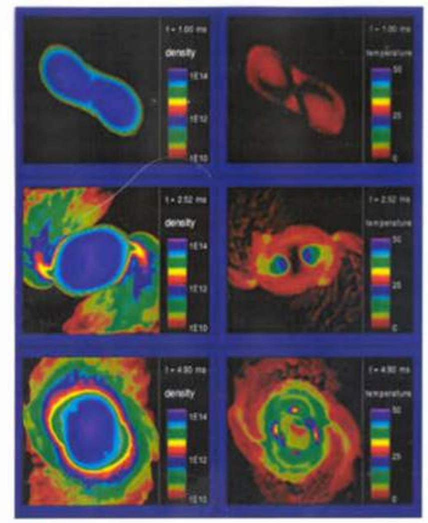
r-Process Site #3: Accretion Disk Wind



The disk responsible for rapidly feeding a black hole, e.g., in a collapsed star, may dissipate some of its angular momentum and energy in a wind.

Closer to the hole, the disk is a plasma of nucleons with an increasing neutron excess.

r=Process Site #2 - Merging Neutron Stars



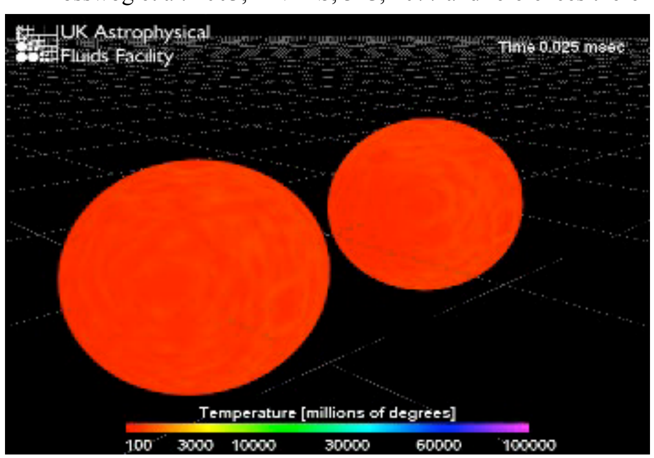
Merging Neutron Stars:

May happen roughly once every 10^7 years in the Milky Way galaxy. Eject up to 0.1 solar masses of r-process.

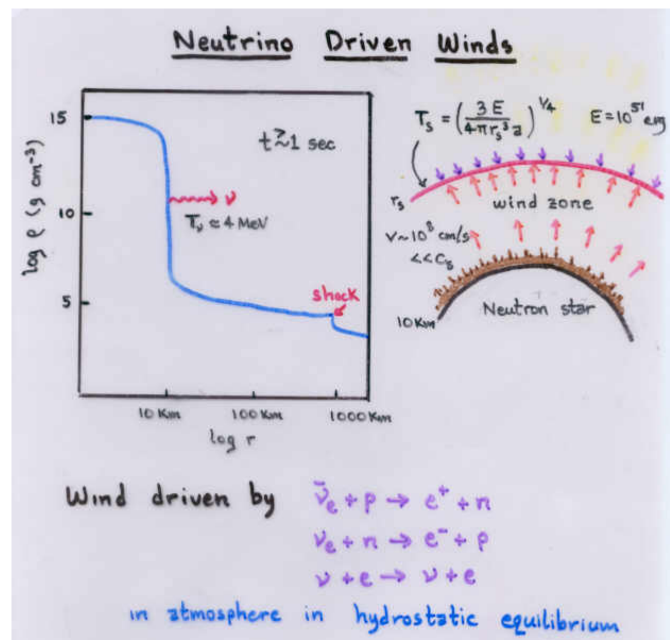
May be too infrequent to explain r-process abundances in very metal deficient stars (Argast et al, 2004, A&A, ***416****, 997).*

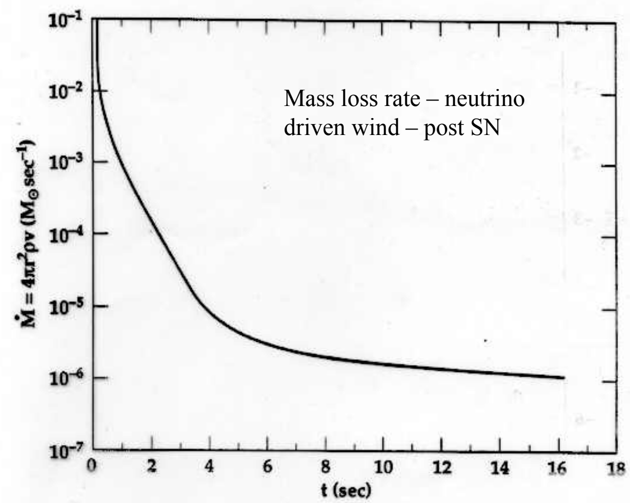
Nevertheless, probably the currently favored site.

Rosswog et al. 2003, *MNRAS*, **345**, 1077 and references therein



May also jet of neutron rich material after merger
Burrows et al., 2007, *ApJ*, **664**, 416





WHAT SETS Y_e IN THE WIND?
(Qian et al. 1993)

$$Y_e = \frac{X_p}{X_n + X_p}$$

$$\frac{dX_n}{dt} = X_p\left(\lambda_{\bar{\nu}}(p) + \lambda_e(p)\right) - X_n\left(\lambda_\nu(n) + \lambda_{e^+}(n)\right)$$

$$\frac{dX_p}{dt} = -X_p\left(\lambda_{\bar{\nu}}(p) + \lambda_e(p)\right) + X_n\left(\lambda_\nu(n) + \lambda_{e^+}(n)\right)$$

So long as the fluxes (and spectra) of ν and $\bar{\nu}$ are equal, the neutron-proton mass differecnce negible, the electrons non-degenerate, and the number of positrons equal to the number of electrons, Y_e will be 0.50.

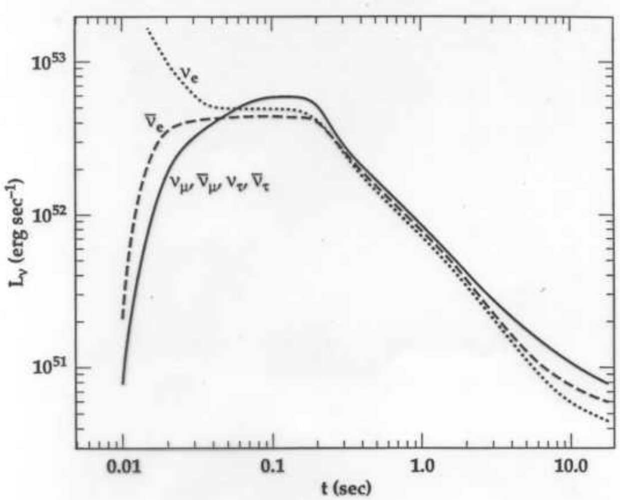
Of these the neutrino interactions predominate (it takes many such interactions to lift a proton from the neutron star).

$$Y_e \approx \frac{\lambda_\nu(n)}{\lambda_{\bar{\nu}}(p) + \lambda_\nu(n)}$$

(which is less than 0.5 if $\lambda_{\bar{\nu}}(p) > \lambda_\nu(n)$.)

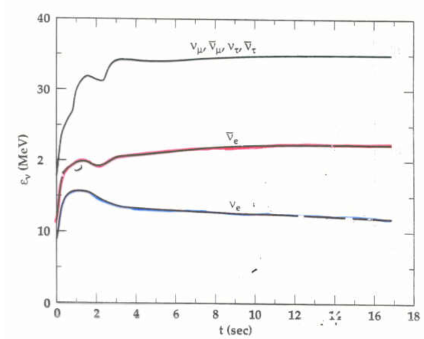
After 0.1 s, the luminosities of all flavors of neutrinos are equal - made by pair annihilation

Woosley et al
ApJ, 433, 229
(1994)



But the average energy each flavor of neutrino is not the same

Y_e decreases with time.

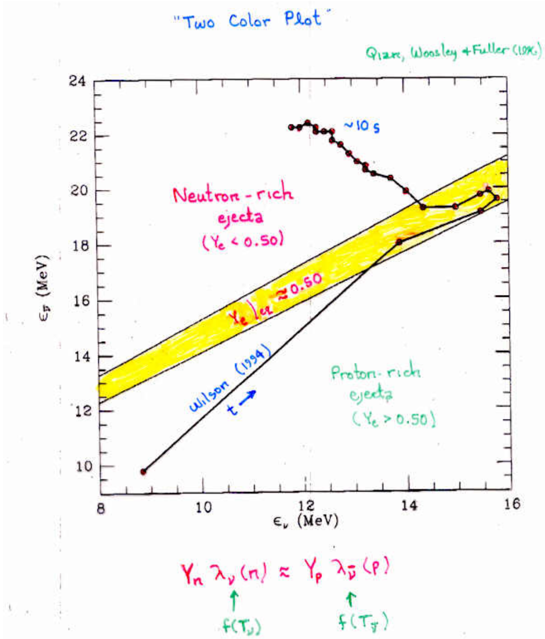


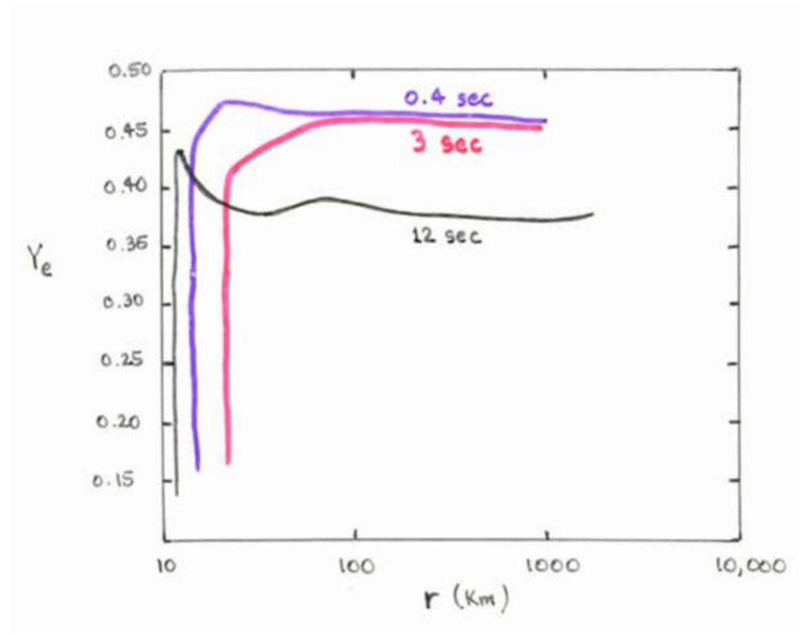
t (sec)	Y_e in wind
0.30	0.489
1.05	0.488
5.85	0.474
9.69	0.429
15.08	0.365

$Y_e \equiv \sum \frac{Z_i X_i}{A_i}$

X_n (nse) $\simeq 1 - 2Y_e$
(hi T / 1 MeV) rest ..
Fig. 3
X_α

GG-U-28985-01





Why it might work.

1) low Y_e because $T_{\bar{\nu}_e} > T_{\nu_e}$

2) High entropy $\quad S \sim \dfrac{T^3}{\rho}$ (entropy dominated by radiation)

need S ~ 400

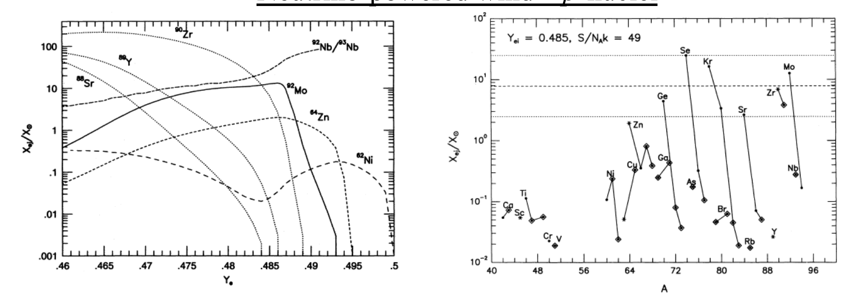
For higher entropy the density is lower at a given temperature. The rates governing the reassembly of α-particles are proprtional to ρ^2 (the 3α reaction) or ρ^3 (the $\alpha\alpha n$ reaction)

3) Rapid time scale - $\tau \sim \dfrac{R}{v_{wind}} \sim 100\,\text{ms}.$

Why it hasn't worked so far

Need entropies $s_{rad}/N_A k \sim 400$. Most calculations give ~ 100.
Magnetic fields may help – Thompson 2003, *ApJL*, **585**, L33.

Neutrino-powered wind – *p*-nuclei



Hoffman, Woosley, Fuller, & Meyer , ApJ, 460, 478, (1996)

In addition to being a possible site for the r-process, the neutrino-powered wind also produces interesting nucleosynthesis of "p-process" nuclei above the iron-group, especially ^{64}Zn, ^{70}Ge, ^{74}Se, ^{78}Kr, ^{84}Sr, ^{90,92}Zr, and ^{92}Mo.

SUMMARY - NEUTRINO WIND

- Capable of producing both light "p-process" nuclei - ^{64}Zn, ^{70}Ge, ^{74}Se, ^{78,80}Kr, ^{84}Sr, ^{90}Zr, ^{92}Mo - as well as the r-process.

- Tight restrictions on Y_e

- Synthesis of r-process up to the first peak at A $\approx$ 130 is natural and perhaps unavoidable (fall-back?) in both analytic and numerical models of neutron star formation (requires dimensionless entropy $\sim$ 100 - 150).

- Making the heavy r-process, especially the peak around A $\approx$ 190 is proving difficult. Requires higher entropy and faster time scales than given by current physics or $Y_e \lesssim 0.30$.