The Hunt for the Site(s?) of the r-Process



Friedrich-K. Thielemann Dept. of Physics University of Basel

Happy Birthday



We met the first time at the 1980 Santa Cruz Workshop, I learned skiing with (because of) you at a Moriond Winter School, and we had many encounters in Erice, Vulcano, Trieste, NIC and other Meetings. It was always a pleasure and I hope it continues I am very sorry I could not make it at the

very end, life is still a rat race..

r-Process Path



Explosive Si-Burning



Explosive Burning above a critical temperature destroys (photodisintegrates) all nuclei and (re-)builds them up during the expansion. Dependent on density, the full NSE is maintained and leads to only Fe-group nuclei (normal freeze-out) or the reactions linking ⁴He to C and beyond freeze out earlier (alpha-rich freeze-out).

n/seed ratios for high entropy conditions are are function of entropy Farouqi et al. (2010)



The essential quantity for a successful r-process to occur is to have a n/seed ratio so that A_{seed} +n/seed= $A_{actinides}$!

n/seed ratios as function of S and Y_e Two options for a successful r-process



What is the site of the r-process? from S. Rosswog



from H.-T. Janka



NS mergers, BH-NS mergers (Freiburghaus et al. 1999, Rosswog.., Panov et al., Bauswein et al., Korobkin et al. 2012.)

or alternatively polar jets from supernovae (Cameron 2003, Fujimoto et al. 2008, Winteler et al. 2012)

SN neutrino wind (originally introduced by Hoffmann, Woosley, Meyer, Howard..), problems: high enough entropies attained? Ye<0.5? neutrino properties???

How do we understand: low metallicity stars ... galactic evolution?





Average r-process (Eu) behavior resembles CCSN contribution, but large scatter at low metallicities!!

What is the site of the r-process(es)? • Neutrino-driven Winds (in supernovae?) ? Arcones, Burrows, Janka, Farouqi, Hoffman, Kajino, Kratz, Martinez-Pinedo, Mathews, Meyer, Qian, Takahara, Takahashi, FKT, Thompson, Wanajo, Woosley ... (no!?)

- Electron Capture Supernovae ? *Wanajo and Janka (weak!)*
- SNe due to quark-hadron phase transition *Fischer*, *Nishimura*, *FKT* (*if*? *weak*!)
- Neutron Star Mergers? Freiburghaus, Goriely, Janka, Bauswein, Panov, Arcones, Martinez-Pinedo, Rosswog, FKT, Argast, Korobkin
- Black Hole Accretion Disks (massive stars as well as neutron star mergers, neutrino properties) *MacLaughlin*, *Surman*, *Wanajo*, *Janka*, *Ruffert*
- Explosive He-burning in outer shells (???) *Cameron, Cowan, Truran, Hillebrandt, FKT, Wheeler, Nadyozhin, Panov*
- CC Neutrino Interactions in the Outer Zones of Supernovae *Haxton*, *Qian* (*abundance pattern ?*)
- **Polar Jets from Rotating Core Collapse?** *Cameron, Fujimoto, Käppeli, Liebendörfer, Nishimura, Nishimura, Takiwaki, FKT, Winteler*

Growing set of 2D CCSN Explosions (i.e., core collapse supernovae are finally also exploding in computations, here Hanke & Janka 2013 – MPA Garching)



Liebendörfer et al. (Basel)

Simulations in 3D



Finally multi-D core collapse supernovae calculations lead to explosions! (see T. Janka, A. Mezzacappa, C. Ott, etc.; here the Basel version).

There are two transitions: (i) 8-10M_{sol} progenitors even explode in spherical symmetry, (ii) from regular core collapse SNe with neutron star formation - to faint SNe with fall back and BH formation - BH formation and hypernovae???

What determines the neutron/proton or proton/nucleon=Ye ratio?

 Y_e dominantly determined by e^{\pm} and ν_e , $\bar{\nu}_e$ captures on neutrons and protons

$$\nu_e + n \leftrightarrow p + e^-$$

 $\bar{\nu}_e + p \leftrightarrow n + e^+$

- high density / low temperature → high E_F for electrons
 → e-captures dominate → n-rich composition
- if el.-degeneracy lifted for high T $\rightarrow \nu_e$ -capture dominates \rightarrow due to n-p mass difference, p-rich composition ?

If neutrino flux sufficient to have an effect (scales with $1/r^2$), and total luminosities are comparable for neutrinos and anti-neutrinos, only conditions with $E_{av,v}$ - $E_{av,v}$ >4(m_n - m_p) lead to Y_e <0.5!

- General strategy for a successful r-process:
- 1. either highly neutron-rich initial conditions + fast expansion (avoiding neutrino interactions!)
- 2. have neutrino properties to ensure (at least slightly) neutron-rich conditions (+ high entropies)
- 3. invoke (sterile?/collective) neutrino oscillations

Possible Variations in Explosions and Ejecta



Izutani et al. (2009)

• regular explosions with neutron star formation, neutrino exposure, vp-process.

• How to obtain moderately neutronrich neutrino wind and weak r-process or more ?? (see e.g. Arcones & Montes 2011, Roberts et al. 2010, Arcones & Thielemann 2013)

• under which (special?) conditions can very high entropies be obtained which produce the main r-process nuclei?

Innermost ejecta as a function of initial radial mass and also time of ejection, innermost zones ejected latest in the wind!

Long-term evolution up to 20s, transition from explosion to neutrino wind phase Fischer et al. (2010) these 2010 findings see a longterm proton-rich composition, late(r) transition to neutron-rich ejecta possible?



Inclusion of medium Effects, potential U in dense medium Martinez-Pinedo et al. 2012, see also Roberts et al., Roberts & Reddy 2012, **changes neutrino and anti-neutrino energies**

$$E_i(\boldsymbol{p}_i) = \frac{\boldsymbol{p}_i^2}{2m_i^*} + m_i + U_i, \quad i = n, p$$

$$E_{\nu_e} = E_{e^-} - (m_n - m_p) - (U_n - U_p)$$
$$E_{\bar{\nu}_e} = E_{e^+} + (m_n - m_p) + (U_n - U_p)$$



Can reduce slightly proton-rich conditions (Ye=0.55) down to Ye=0.4!

FIG. 1. (Color online) Opacity and emissivity for neutrino (left panels) and antineutrino (right panels), evaluated at conditions $\rho = 2.1 \times 10^{13}$ g cm⁻³, T = 7.4 MeV and $Y_e = 0.035$.

Individual components for high entropies, *if such entropies are attained in SNe*

Farouqi et al. (2010), above S=270-280 fission back-cycling sets in

such high entropies are apparently not obtained in present models!!!

HEW, ETFSI-Q, V_{exp} = 7500 km/s, Y_{e} = 0.45



Neutron Star Mergers are observed

A 'kilonova' associated with the short-duration γ-ray burst GRB 130603B N. R. Tanvir, A. J. Levan, A. S. Fruchter, J. Hjorth, R. A. Hounsell, K. Wiersema, & R. L. Tunnicliffe (2013, Nature)



Short-duration γ -ray bursts (less than about two seconds) are produced by a relativistic jet created by the merger of two compact stellar objects (specifically two neutron stars or a neutron star and a black hole). Mergers of this kind are also expected to create significant quantities of neutron-rich radioactive species, whose decay should result in a faint transient, known as a 'kilonova', in the days following the burst. Recent calculations suggest that much of the kilonova energy should appear in the near-infrared, because of the high optical opacity created by these heavy r-process elements. **Here we report optical and near-infrared observations of such an event accompanying the short-duration \gamma-ray burst GRB 130603B.**

Fission Cycling in Neutron Star Mergers

 $(Y_e = 0.1, n/Seed = 238).$



Panov, Korneev and Thielemann (2007, 2009) with parametrized fission yield contribution (see also Goriely, Bauswein, Janka 2011)

Martinez-Pinedo et al. (2006)

Trajectory from Freiburghaus, Rosswog, and Thielemann 1999



Recent neutron star merger updates (Korobkin et al. 2012)

Variation in neutron star masses fission yield prescription





Eichler et al. (2013)

Variations in fission yield distributions (ABLA from Kelic et al. GSI). Fills somewhat A=140-160 gap and moves A=195 peak down slightly (related to fission yield distribution and corresponding neutron emission)

The final abundance pattern Also depends when the neutron capture from fission neutrons occurs. If still $n,\gamma-\gamma,n$ equilibrium persists, the fit is better than with late neutron capture in a type of n-process. The first is the case if beta-decay rates above Z=80 are faster (recent evidence)..



SN rates and NS merging rate (from Matteucci 2013)

The SN II and Ia rates compared with the NS merger rate (100 yr ⁻¹) The present time NS merger rate reproduces the observed present time NS merger rate of 83/Myr (Kalogera et al. 2004) This is obtained with alpha=0.018 (fraction of NS mergers from total NS production rate).

The rate of mergers is by a factor of about 100 smaller than CCSNe,

but they also produce more by a factor of 100 than required if CCSNe would be the origin



3D Collapse of Fast Rotator with Strong Magnetic Fields: 15 M_{sol} progenitor (Heger Woosley 2002), shellular rotation with period of 2s at 1000km, magnetic field in z-direction of 5 x10¹² Gauss, *results in 10¹⁵ Gauss neutron star*



3D simulations by C. Winteler, R. Käppeli, M. Liebendörfer et al. 2012 Eichler et al. 2013

Nucleosynthesis results



similar to mergers!!!

 M_{\odot}

 $M_{\rm r,ej} \approx 6 \times 10^{-3}$

- r-process peaks well reproduced
- Trough at A=140-160 due to FRDM and fission yield distribution
- A = 80-100 mainly from higher Ye
- A > 190 mainly from low Ye
- Ejected r-process material (A > 62):

Effect of Fission Yield Distribution (Eichler et al. 2013)



Effect not as strong as in neutron star merger case, as conditions slightly less neutron-rich and influence of fission less prominent.

Observational Constraints on r-Process Sites



apparently uniform abundances above Z=56 (and up to Z=82?) -> "unique" astrophysical event for these "Snedentype" stars

Weak (non-solar) r-process in Hondatype stars

related to massive stars due to "early" appearance at low metallicities (behaves similar to SN II products like O, but with much larger scatter), why the large scatter?



Observational indications: heavy r-process and Fe-group uncorrelated, Ge member of Fe group, Zr intermediate behavior, weak correlations with Fe-group as well the heavy r-elements (Cowan et al. 2005)



Argast et al. (2004): Do neutron star mergers show up too late in galactic evolution, although they can be dominant contributors in late phases?



'ig. 4. Evolution of [Eu/Fe] and [Ba^r/Fe] abundances as a function of metallicity [Fe/H]. NSM with a rate of 2×10^{-4} yr⁻¹, a coalescence mescale of 10^6 yr and 10^{-3} M_{\odot} of ejected r-process matter are assumed to be the dominating r-process sources. Symbols are as in Fig. 1. The

This is the main question related to mergers, which will also be discussed at this meeting ([Fe/H] can be shifted by different SFR in galactic subsystems), Is inhomogenous galactic evolution implemented correctly?? The problem is that the neutron star-producing SNe already produce Fe and shift to higher metallicities before the r-process is ejected!!!

Galactic chemical evolution

• If all r-process material in the Galaxy from CCSNe:

 10^{-4} - 10^{-5} M_{sol} required per event (here: 6 10^{-3} M_{sol})

- $\rightarrow\,$ if only 1 CCSN in 10-100 produces a jet, this could account for sufficient r-process material
- → would explain scatter in r-process elements at low [Fe/H] (neutron star mergers would have similar behavior in frequency and ejecta, only deficiency: occurrance too late???)
- only needed at low [Fe/H], later neutron star mergers could take over
- progenitor configuration (B, Ω) for magnetic jet supernovae:
 - Not reached in common evolutionary paths (Heger 2005)
 - Possible for small fraction (~1%) of low metallicity models
 (Woosley&Heger 2006)
- present magnetar knowledge permits ~1% of CCSNe resulting in magnetars (Kramer 2009, Koveliotou et al. 1998)

Summary

The r-process in astrophysical environments comes in at least two versions (weak-main/strong)??

Does the neutrino wind in core collapse SNe lead initially to proton-rich conditions (and vp-process, LEPP) or also to a weak r-process (extending up to Eu)?

Weak r-process contributions are also possible in EC SNe and Quark-Hadron EoS SNe.

The main/strong r-process comes apparently in each event in solar proportions, but the events are rare. The site is not clearly identified, yet. Options include rotating core collapse events with jet ejection, neutron star mergers and accretion disks around black holes (either from mergers or massive star collapse).

How to identify the signatures in chemical evolution for these different contributions?