

The classical r-process revisited: what's left over — what's new?





Early milestones of r-process nucleosynthesis

- discovery of the neutron by Chadwick
- prediction of neutron stars by Zwicky & Baade
- *1937* first systematic tabulation of solar abundances by Goldschmidt
- *1953* reflection of closed n-shells in r-process peaks; postulation of steady-state element formation by Coryell
- 1956 determination of geochemical abundances by Suess & Urey



1957 fundamental papers on nucleosynthesis by Burbidge, Burbidge, Fowler & Hoyle (B²FH) and by Cameron



Solar abundance observables at B²FH (1957)



neutrons

B²FH, Rev. Mod. Phys. 29 (1957)

"...it appears that in order to explain all the features of the abundance curve, at least eight different types of synthesizing processes are demanded..."

- 1. H-burning
- 2. He-burning
- 3. α -process
- 4. e-process
- 5. s-process
- 6. r-process
- 7. p-process
- 8. x-process

Neutrons produce ≈75% of the stable isotopes, but only 0.005% of the total SS abundances....



Fit of N_{r.☉} from B²FH

"Static" calculation

Reproduction of Solar system isotopic r-process abundances

(mainly from r-only nuclei)

N = 50 ABUNDANCE OF NUCLEI PRODUCED IN RAPID CHAIN OF NEUTRON CAPTURE EVEN A MADE ONLY IN RAPID CHAIN N=82 ODD A (Si=10⁶) × MADE ONLY IN RAPID CHAIN + . PROBABLY MADE IN RAPID CHAIN ¬ ~~ CALCULATED N=126 ABUNDANCE 0. FISSION ~ FRAGMENTS SPHEROIDAL DEFORMATION .0 60 80 180 200 ATOMIC WEIGHT

Assumption: whole r-process in "one shot"

assumptions



• astrophysical conditions explosive He-burning in SN-I $T_9 \approx 1$ (constant) $n_n \approx 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ (constant) $\tau_r \approx 100 \text{ s}$ • neutron source: ${}^{21}\text{Ne}(\alpha,n)$

- nuclear physics:
 - Q_β Weizsäcker mass formula + empirical corrections (*shell*, *deformation*, *pairing*)
 - $T_{1/2}$ one allowed transition to excited state, $\log ft = 3.85$

From the Chalk River Report CRL-41: Lecture series given at Purdue Univ.

First (?) assumption of different r-process components in a SN-I, as function of the number of neutrons injected per initial Si-seed atom.

Neutron source ¹³C(α,n)





Speculations about r-process scenario:

- SN-I (as in B²FH) unlikely
- explosion of massive stars M > 10³ M_o
- conventional SNe



First (?) time-dependent calculations of several r-process components

The r-process "waiting-point" concept (1)

Concept already used by B²FH

to explain the SS-r abundances $N_{r,\odot}$ assumes equilibrium between (n, γ)- and (γ ,n)-reactions in all isotopic chains; not only at N_{magic}

much easier to handle than full reaction network

Rate of n-captures:

$$r_{n,\gamma}(A,Z) = \left\langle \sigma_{n,\gamma} v \right\rangle n_n N(A,Z)$$

$$(1)$$

$$cross section averaged over Maxwell-Boltzmann velocity distribution to T_9$$

Photodisintegration:

$$r_{\gamma,n}(A+1,Z) = \frac{G(A,Z)G_n}{G(A+1,Z)} \left(\frac{A}{A+1}\right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{2\pi kTm_u}{h^2}\right)^{3/2} \left\langle\sigma_{n,\gamma}v\right\rangle N(A+1,Z) e^{-Sn/kT}$$
(2)

(n, γ)-(γ ,n) equilibrium \square combine (1) and (2) :

$$\frac{N(A+1,Z)}{N(A,Z)} = n_n \frac{G(A+1,Z)}{2G(A,Z)} \left(\frac{A+1}{A}\right)^{3/2} \left(\frac{h^2}{2\pi kT m_u}\right)^{3/2} e^{S_n/_{kT}}$$

Nuclear Saha equation



Equilibrium-flow along r-process path:

$$\dot{N}(Z) = \sum_{A} \left\{ \frac{N(Z-1,A)}{\tau_{\beta}(Z-1,A)} - \frac{N(Z,A)}{\tau_{\beta}(Z,A)} \right\} = 0;$$

- governed by β -decays from isotopic chain Z to (Z+1)

 $\mathbf{A} \quad \underline{\beta} \text{-decay flow equilibrium}$

in addition to $(n,\gamma)-(\gamma,n)$ equilibrium

$$\tau_{\beta} > \tau_{n,\gamma}, \tau_{\gamma,n}$$

T_{1/2} ("w.-p.") ↔ N_{r,0}

"Waiting-point" estimate T_{1/2}(¹³⁰Cd)

Model predictions (S.M. & Gr.Th.) in the mid 1980s: 30 ms \leq T_{1/2} \leq 1.2 s

If the historical "**waiting-point**" **concept** is valid for the A ≈ 130 N_{r,☉}-peak, then in the simplest version with S_n(N=82)=const.

$$\frac{T_{\frac{1}{2}}(^{131}\mathrm{In}_{82})}{N_{r,\odot}(^{131}\mathrm{Xe})} = \frac{T_{\frac{1}{2}}(^{130}\mathrm{Cd}_{82})}{N_{r,\odot}(^{130}\mathrm{Te})} = \frac{T_{\frac{1}{2}}(^{129}\mathrm{Ag}_{82})}{N_{r,\odot}(^{129}\mathrm{Xe})} \dots$$

From this assumption, in 1986 the waiting-point prediction for T_{χ} ⁽¹³⁰Cd) \approx **595 ms**.

With a more realistic approach, taking in account that

- breakout from N=82 involves 131 In and 133 In (\approx 1:1)
- ¹³³In has a known $P_n \approx 90$

$$T_{\frac{1}{2}}(^{130}\text{Cd}) \approx \frac{N_{r,\odot}(^{^{130}}\text{Te})}{\left[N_{r,\odot}(^{^{131}}\text{Xe})/T_{\frac{1}{2}}(^{^{131}}\text{In})\right] + \left[1.1N_{r,\odot}(^{^{132}}\text{Xe})/T_{\frac{1}{2}}(^{^{133}}\text{In})\right]} \approx 170 \text{ ms}$$

...to be compared to our **1986** exp. value of **195 (35) ms**, and to our **2000** improved value of **162 (7) ms**, today ≈ **130 (3) ms**

¹³⁰Cd – the key isotope at the A=130 peak

already B²FH (Revs. Mod. Phys. 29; 1957) C.D. Coryell (J. Chem. Educ. 38; 1961) ...hunting for nuclear properties of waiting-point isotope ¹³⁰Cd...



"climb up the <u>staircase</u>" at N=82; major waiting point nuclei; "break-through pair" ¹³¹In, ¹³³In;

"association with the rising side of major peaks in the abundance curve"



K.-L. Kratz (Revs. Mod. Astr. 1; 1988) climb up the N= 82 <u>ladder</u> ... $A \cong 130$ "bottle neck"

T_{1/2}

\Rightarrow total r-process duration τ_r

What we knew already in 1986 ...

Z. Phys. A325, 489 (1986)

The Beta-Decay Half-Life of ¹³⁰₄₈Cd₈₂ and its Importance for Astrophysical *r*-Process Scenarios

K.-L. Kratz¹, H. Gabelmann², W. Hillebrandt³, B. Pfeiffer¹, K. Schlösser², and F.-K. Thielemann⁴ and the ISOLDE Collaboration, CERN



Model predictions at that time: $30 \text{ ms} \le T_{1/2} \le 1.2 \text{ s}$ Exp. at old SC-ISOLDE with plasma ion-source quartz transfer line and βdn counting

Problems: high background from -surface ionized ¹³⁰In, ¹³⁰Cs -molecular ions [⁴⁰Ca⁹⁰Br]⁺

Exp. T_{1/2} of ¹³⁰Cd as gate-keeper of the r-process excludes explosive He-burning favored at that time; supports supernova scenario.

The FK²L waiting-point approach (I)

...about 3 decades later:

When we (FK²L) started in 1986,

already numerous attempts, >10 different stellar sites ... (none successful)

Since 30 years, search for the site(s) of the <u>t-process</u>

Aim:

Understanding of nucleosynthesis ("t-abundances")

Problems:

Knowledge of - astrophysical conditions - nucl physics far off B-stability

Our approach: No new astrophys. model From observed +-abundances (Nr, 0) measured nucl. physics data (T1/2; Pn; Sn) deduce r-proc. conditions A constraints on existing models. Assume "waiting-point" approximation (3²74, 1357) Nrox XA ~ const. C. Rolfs

FK²L => Friedrich-Karl & Karl-Ludwig by analogy to B²FH

coined at 22nd Masurian Lake Summer

School (1991)

Classical assumptions:

- global steady flow of r-process through $N = 50^{80}Zn$ N = 82 ¹³⁰Cd N = 126 ¹⁹⁵Tm
- r-matter flow at freeze-out temperature



<u>Ap. 7. 403 (1333)</u>

Static and time-dependent	r-process calculations
Use of internally consistent nuc Abundances after beta decay	clear-physics input (FRDM + QRPA).
1000 60 2n (norm) 100 80 2n (norm)	<u>Steady-flow NOT global</u>
MANAAAA MANAMANA	- wrong trend, increasing Nr, with A
	-A=130 and 135 peaks shifted, too large;
	\Rightarrow indicates too low n_n

Our model:

"site-independent" waiting-point approach, using first experimental nuclear data of rprocess isotopes: $N = 56,57 \quad {}^{91,92}Br$ $N = 60-63 \quad {}^{97-100}Rb$ $N = 50 \quad {}^{79}Cu, \quad {}^{80}Zn, \quad {}^{81}Ga$ $N = 82 \quad {}^{130}Cd, \quad {}^{131}In$

"imperfect" at N=82, A ≈ 130 peak; r-process through 40 s 132 Sn, instead of 195 ms 130 Cd...

The FK²L waiting-point approach (III)

Consequences :



The FK²L waiting-point approach (IV)



"...best fit so far...; long-standing problem solved..." W. Hillebrandt

My speculative interpretation at that time:

"The FRDM + QRPA (1992) model" deficiency may have its origin in the neglect of the p-n residual interaction which manifests itself in an overestimation of the Z=50 and N=82 shell strength below ¹³²Sn."

▲ birth of N=82			
"shell-quenching"			
idea			

...this catchword coined by **W. Nazarewicz** later led to numerous misinterpretations

To be fair...

J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 19 (1993) S197-S208

The *r*-process in the hot bubble

Bradley S. Meyer^{†1}

Abstract. The high-entropy, evacuated region forming just outside the proto-neutron star during a core-collapse supernova makes an excellent site for the *r*-process. The high entropy per baryon allows this region to have a high free neutron/seed nucleus ratio, a necessary requirement for the *r*-process, even though the material is not particularly neutron rich. The neutrino-driven wind blowing from the hot bubble lasts several seconds and has a mass loss rate of roughly $10^{-5} M_{\odot} s^{-1}$. The total mass of *r*-process matter produced during the supernova is thus ~ $10^{-4} M_{\odot}$, in good agreement with arguments from galactic chemical evolution. The hot-bubble *r*-process achieves local steady beta flow, in agreement with results from experimental nuclear physics. Deficiencies in the present model may reflect in part failings of the nuclear mass extrapolation used. It may be possible to constrain nuclear and neutrino physics through the *r*-process.

Same conclusions as in FK²L !

Figure 1. Weighted-sum r-process and solar r- abundances



N=82 "shell quenching"

What is "shell quenching" ?

J. Dobaczewski et al., Phys.Scr. T 56 (1995)



spherical mass model using the HFB theory with the Skyrme interaction SkP

...reduction of spin-orbit strength; caused by strong interaction between bound and continuum states; due to diffuseness of neutron-skin and its influence on the central potential...

Change of shell gaps

$$\Delta S_n = [S_n(N=81) - S_n(N=83)]$$

In "unquenched" FRDM: Z=50: ¹³²Sn with $\Delta S_n = 2.35$ MeV Z=40: ¹²²Zr with $\Delta S_n = 2.50$ MeV

In "quenched" HFB/SkP: Z=50: ¹³²Sn with $\Delta S_n = 2.40$ MeV Z=40: ¹²²Zr with $\Delta S_n = 0.62$ MeV

Effects of nuclear properties at N=82



break-out at N=82 ¹³⁰Cd

Kratz et al., Nucl. Phys. A630 (1998)

correlated effects of $S_n / Q_\beta \& T_{1/2}$

1998

mass models with pronounced N=82 gap \Rightarrow longest T_{1/2}(QRPA)



"time-dependent" w.p.-calculations

Under conditions where "unquenched" mass models produce the 2nd r-peak, "quenched" HFB/SkP forms already the 3rd peak Z. Physik A357 (1997)

Analysis of the solar-system r-process abundance pattern with the new ETFSI-Q mass formula

For spherical HFB/SKP to Pearson's deformed ETFSI-Q

Consequences of n-shell quenching:

From ETFSI-1 to ETFS-Q with increasing distance

from ß-stability

- Lowering of ground-state deformation
- Lowering of S_n values \rightarrow larger P_n
- Increase of Q_{β} values \rightarrow shorter $T_{1/2}$

"speeding up" the r-process

- Elimination of r-abundance troughs before and after $A \approx 130 \& A \approx 195 r$ -peaks
- Better reproduction of REE "pygmy peak"
- Better agreement for Pb and Bi
- Considerably improved ²³²Th & ²³⁸U r-chronometer



$N = 82 \Delta S_{2n}$ shell gap

Exp. facts from mass measurements in **2015**:

Exp./Mass model	₅₀ Sn - ₄₉ In	₅₀ Sn – ₄₈ Cd	₅₀ Sn – ₄₀ Zr
Mainz & AME (2012)	- 773 keV	- 963 keV	/
GSI/ESR	- 777 keV	+ 350 keV	/
ISOLTRAP	- 777 keV	- 1.31 MeV	/
FRDM (1992)	- 353 keV	+ 204 keV	+ 792 keV
HFB/SkP	- 270 keV	- 600 keV	- 3.64 MeV
ETFSI-Q	- 190 keV	- 180 keV	- 4.28 MeV
KTUY (2005)	- 500 keV	- 690 keV	- 1.41 MeV
HFB-27	- 200 keV	- 420 keV	- 4.28 MeV

Publicized statements:

"There is absolutely no evidence of the hypothesized quenching effect in either the β -decay rates or nuclear masses."

(Kajino, Mathews et al.)

"Our study ... manifests for the first time changes in the shell structure in this (N=82) region. ... A significant reduction of the N=82 gap ... is **expected**." (Aprahamian, Mumpower et al.)

"The masses measured in this work allow a **first probing** of the N=82 shell towards the drip line. ...The new masses **show** a **significant reduction** of the N=82 shell gap for Z<50." (Blaum, Goriely et al.)

Consequences of neutron-shell quenching - TODAY



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Review

Current status of *r*-process nucleosynthesis

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Chapter 6.6: Magneto-hydrodynamical jet models

- "... As the ejected low Ye material in the jet emerges from the Si layers, an r-process occured that reasonably reproduced the solar r-process abundance distribution up top the 3rd peak."
- "... However, many of the jet simulations (Refs. Winteler; Nishimura) tend to underproduce nuclides just below and above the r-process peaks. This tendency seems to be a generic weakness of the MHDJ models."

As shown before, this is NOT a "weakness" of the r-process models, but due to the "unquenched" nuclear physics input !

From Nishimura et al., ApJL 836 L21 (2017)

MHDJ simulations based on "unquenched" FRDM (1992)



At the end: Why still hunting for ¹³⁰Cd?

already B²FH (Revs. Mod. Phys. 29; 1957) C.D. Coryell (J. Chem. Educ. 38; 1961)



"climb up the <u>staircase</u>" at N=82; major waiting point nuclei; "break-through pair" ¹³¹In, ¹³³In;

"association with the rising side of major peaks in the abundance curve"

A = 130, N = 82 as most important bottleneck for the r-process matter flow



K.-L. Kratz (Revs. Mod. Astr. 1; 1988) climb up the N= 82 <u>ladder</u> ... $A \cong 130$ "bottle neck"

T_{1/2}

\Rightarrow total r-process duration τ_r

$S_{\beta}(E) \& T_{1/2} \text{ of } N=82 \ ^{130}Cd$

By combination of all nuclear-physics quantities, a physically consistent picture !



Request: Selectivity !

Remember

 $T_{1/2}$ of $^{130}\mbox{Cd}$ at SC-ISOLDE

- non-selective plasma ion-source
- selective quartz transfer line
- selective ßdn-counting

Obviously not sufficient High background from

- surface-ionized ¹³⁰In, ¹³⁰Cs
- molecular ions [40Ca90Br]+

▲ Request:

additional selectivity steps

- Fast UC_x target
- Neutron converter
- Laser ion-source
- Hyperfine splitting
- Isobar separation
- Repeller
- Chemical separation
- Multi-coincidence setup

... hunting for N=82 ¹²⁹Ag



developed since 1993

Additional spectroscopy of ¹³⁰Cd decay

...17 years after the first $T_{\frac{1}{2}}$ measurement, a physically consistent picture;

but, all experimental ingredients correct ?



ENSDF(2008):

¹³⁰gIn ($J^{\pi} = 1^{-}$) $T_{1/2} = 290 \pm 20$ ms; populated as β -decay daughter of ¹³⁰Cd

^{130m,n}In (J^{π} = 10⁻,5⁺) T_{1/2} = 540 ± 10 ms; no feeding from ¹³⁰Cd For example,

question about "correct" ¹³⁰Cd half-life

ISOLDE $T_{1/2} = 162 \pm 7 \text{ ms}$

subtraction of primary ionized high-spin ^{130m,n}In; Cd component may also contain small ^{130g}In daughter activity;

new analysis yields $T_{1/2}(Cd) = 137 + 8/-5 ms$ (now closer to the new RIKEN value !)



...just **ONE** neutron outside the N=82 magic shell

Experiment: $T_{1/2} = 68 / 98 \text{ ms}; P_n = 3.4 \%$ (PRC 62, 2000)



nuclear-structure requests: higher Q_{β} , main GT lower, low-lying ff-strength; later, γ -spectroscopic confirmation of decay scheme at ISOLDE and RIKEN

...on the basis of the experimental results on ¹³¹Cd β –decay, in 2010, new QRPA calculations of $T_{1/2} \& P_{xn}$ for 82 $\leq N \leq 86_{45}Rh$ to $_{48}Cd$; instead of standard Folded-Yukawa using a modified Nilsson potential with a 25% reduction of the *P*-term (see e.g. Hannawald et al., PRC 62) reduction of neutron-pairing energy upward shift of E(SP) of $vg_{7/2}$ $T_{1/2}$ of 12 new isotopes from above Rh to Cd measured at RIKEN (PRL 114) mean deviation from "old" FY-QRPA 2.10 mean deviation from "new" mod.-N-QRPA 1.35 as typical example, N=82 ¹²⁸Pd: $T_{1/2}(exp) = 35(3)$ ms $T_{1/2}(old) = 74 ms$ $T_{1/2}(new) = 33 ms$ Modified Nilsson-QRPA also used to predict new P_{xn} values; partly significant differences to old FY-QRPA predictions as typical example N=84 ¹³³Ag: P_{1n} P_{2n} P_{3n} old 8% 69% 19% 3% 8% 86% new

The may change the abundance of "r-only" ¹³⁰Te !

Experimental information on r-process nuclides









Site-independent r-process "waiting-point" model, our first working horse...

Fe seed (implies **secondary** nucleosynthesis process), detailed nuclear and astrophys. parameter studies T_9 and n_n constant over process duration;





superposition of n_n-components

 $10^{20} \le n_n \le 10^{30}$

correlated process durations

1.2 s $\leq \tau_{\rm r} \leq$ 4.5 s

temperature neutron-freezeout

 $T_9 = 1.35$

With this approach, we have learnt a lot about astro-parameters and nuclear structure far from stability. Kratz et al., A

Kratz et al., Ap.J. 662 (2007)

From waiting-point to high-entropy-wind (HEW) model

Core-collapse SN "HEW" ... for a long time **"the"** r-process scenario;

in an interim period completely **"out"** with wrong neutrino-properties; corrected e.g. by Roberts et al. (2012) with improved v-nucleus interactions; today "rehabilitated" as important scenario for (at least) the **"weak"** r-process

The **neutrino-driven wind** starts from the surface of the proto-neutron star with a flux of neutrons and protons.

As the nucleons cool ($\sim 10 \le T_9 \le 6$), they combine to α -particles + an excess of unbound neutrons.

Further cooling ($6 \le T_9 \le 3$) leads to the formation of a few Fe-group "seed" nuclei in the so-called α -rich freezeout.

Still further cooling $(3 \le T_9 \le 1)$ leads to neutron captures on this seed composition, making the heavy **r-process** nuclei.



Neutrino cooling and neutrino-driven wind ($t \approx 10$ s)

(Woosley & Janka, Nature, 2005)

High-entropy wind of SN II

...still one of the favoured scenarios for the "weak" r-process

full dynamical network (extension of Freiburghaus model 1999)

- time evolution of temperature, matter & neutron densities
- extended freezeout phase
- n-rich "r-seed" beyond N=50 (⁹⁴Kr, ¹⁰⁰Sr, ⁹⁵Rb...), avoids first bottle-neck of classical model

"best" nuclear-physics input (LANL, Basel, Mainz)

- consistent ETFSI-Q, QRPA(GT+ff) & NON-SMOKER models
- experimental data

Three main parameters:

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{electron abundance} & \textbf{Y}_{e}=\textbf{Y}_{p}=\textbf{1}-\textbf{Y}_{n} \\ \text{radiation entropy} & \textbf{S} ~~ T^{3}\!/\rho \\ \text{expansion speed} & \textbf{v}_{exp} \Rightarrow \text{durations } \tau_{\alpha} \text{ and } \tau_{r} \end{array}$

parameters correlated !

→ r-process "strength" formula



Parameters HEW model ⇒ Y(Z)



Farougi et al., ApJ 712 (2010)

Abundances of HEW components $0.450 \le Y_{p} \le 0.498$

"weighting" of r-ejecta according to mass predicted by HEW model: for $Y_e = 0.400$ ca. $5 \times 10^{-4} M_o$ for Y_e=0.498 ca. 10⁻⁶ M_o



"what helps...?" low Y_e, high S, high V_{exp}

For Y_e≤ 0.470 full r-process, up to Th, U

For Y_a≈ 0.490 still 3rd peak, but no Th, U

For Y_e= 0.498

still 2nd peak, but no REE

Effects of P_n on r-abundances

Site-independent "waiting-point" model (ApJ 403, 1993)

overall smoothing of oe-

mass staggering of initial abundances





(a) progenitor abundances before ß-decay ($P_n=0$) (b) final abundances after ß-decay and ßdn-emissio

Site-specific cc-SN-II HEW model (ApJ 712, 2010)

significant P_n effects at r-abundance peaks (here A=130): – from $P_n=0$ to P_n :

smoothing of oe-mass staggering;

importance of individual "w.-p." isotopes (e.g. ¹²⁷Rh, ¹³⁰Pd, ¹³³Ag, ¹³⁶Cd)

- from P_n to β dn-recapture :

shift of left wing of peak to higher A

Effects of correlated nuclear properties (2)

Recent dynamical cc-SN – HEW model

⇒ "self-regulating" (main) r-

process



No exponential fit to $N_{r,\odot}$!

	Process duration [ms]			
Entropy S	FRDM	ETFSI-Q	Remarks	
150	54	57	A≈115 region	
180	209	116	top of A≈130 peak	'
220	422	233	REE pygmy peak	
245	691	339	top of A≈195 peak	
260	1290	483	Th, U	
280	2280	710	fission recycling	
300	4310	1395	"	

⇒ significant effect of N=82 shell-gap below doubly-magic 132**Sn**



ETFSI-Q

210

250

170



Comparison between $N_{r,\odot}$ and r-abundances calculated with **FRDM 1992** and **FRDM 2012**, respectively.

Note the improvement in the REE region !



Comparison between N_{r, \odot} and r-abundances calculated with masses from **FRDM 2012** and two different sets of QRPA(GT+ff) β -decay properties T_{1/2} & P_n:

a) deformed

b) spherical