

How to make Gold with Iron? Nuclear physics problems in s-process nucleosyntehsis

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Outlines S-process nucleosynthesis **#1:** Neutron sources #2: stellar reaction rates #3: stellar decay rates



s-only nuclei \rightarrow main s-process models



Decomposition of solar abundance



M. Arnould, S. Goriely | Physics Reports 384 (2003) 1-84

Accurate s-process model is the starting point to attach the mysterious r-process.

#1: Neutron Sources

Planetary Nebula



China Deep Underground Laboratory





First underground accelerator based on ECR source



new neutron source: ¹²C(¹²C, n)²³Mg



#2: Capture rates



Neutron capture cross section -0.1 < E_n< 500 keV with uncertainties (<3%) -accurate values for Maxwellian average needed -Stellar Enhancement Factor (SEF) due to thermal corrections

Unstable isotopes

Capture by excited states

$$\langle \sigma \rangle_{kT} = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \frac{\int_0^\infty \sigma(E_n) \ E_n \ e^{-E_n/kT} \ dE_n}{\int_0^\infty E_n \ e^{-E_n/kT} \ dE_n}$$

Activation technique at kT=25 keV

Neutron production via ⁷Li(p,n) reaction at a proton energy of 1991 keV.



¹⁸O(p,n): 5.1 keV ³H(p,n): 52 keV



Induced activity can be measured after irradiation with HPGe detectors.

- Only possible when product nucleus is radioactive (AMS for special case)
- Need theoretical extrapolation to the right temperatures
- High sensitivity -> small sample masses or small cross sections
- Use of natural samples possible, no enriched sample necessary
- Direct capture component included

Neutron TOF facilities

Facility	United States				Europe		China
Parameters	ORELA	LANSCE	IPNS	RPI	GELINA	n_TOF	Back-n
Source	e- linac	p -SNS	p -SNS	e- linac	e-linac	p -SNS	p -SNS
Particle E (MeV)	140	800	450	≻ 60	150 -	20000 /24000	1600
Max Power (kW)	50	80 /4	6.3	>10	11	9 /5	100
Rep Rate (Hz)	1-1000	20 /50k	30	1-500	Up to 900	0.278- 0.42	25
Flight Path (m)	10-200	7-55	~6-20	10-250	8-400	185	55, 80
e/p Pulse Width	2-30	125/0.125 (FWHM)	70-80	15- 5000	1-2000	7 (rms)	<12 (rms)
Best Intrinsic	0.01	3.9 /?	3.5	0.06	0.0025	0.034	0.65
Res. (ns/m)					100		
Neutrons/s	1×10 ¹⁴	7.5 /<<0.38 ×10 ¹⁵	8.1×10 ¹⁴	4×10 ¹³	3.2×10 ¹³	8.1×10 ¹⁴	2.0×10 ¹⁶

Back-n collaboration: IHEP+CIAE

Better uncertainties (1-3%)



We need to measure (n,γ) cross sections between 0.1 and 500 keV.

Re/Os clock: a example for thermal correction

> Thermal population $p_{i} = \frac{(2J_{i}+1)\exp(-E_{i}/kT)}{\sum_{m}(2J_{m}+1)\exp(-E_{m}/kT)}$ in ¹⁸⁷Os at *kT* = 30 keV: 300 P(qs) = 33%P(1st) = 47%P(all others) = 20% 200 > Stellar enhancement factor 100 $SEF(T) = \frac{\langle \sigma \rangle^{\text{star}}}{\langle \sigma \rangle_{kT}}$

star=0.33*lab+0.47*1st+.



Stellar enhancement factor



Calculation by T. Raucher

How to obtain a reliable ¹⁸⁷Os*(n,g)?

$$\sigma_{n,\gamma}^{i}(E_n) = \frac{\pi}{k_n^2} \sum_{J,\pi} g_J \frac{\sum_{ls} T_{n,ls} T_{\gamma,J}}{\sum_{ls} T_{n,ls} + \sum_{ls} T_{n',ls} + T_{\gamma,J}} W_{\gamma,J}$$

 T_n : from elastic and inelastic experiment within astrophysics energy range (1 < E_n < 500 keV) [NOT many data around] T_γ : from GDR experiment (eg, (g,n)) Level density at neutron threshold <D>: (n,g) with NTOF



K. Fuji et al., PRC 82, 015804 (2010)

Production of ⁶⁰Fe

- Weak s-process component in massive stars
- During He-core and C-shell burning
- 59,60 Fe(n, γ) cross section needed
- Precise ⁶⁰Fe lifetime







63 Myrs ago

First Experimental Constraint on the 59 Fe $(n,\gamma){}^{60}$ Fe Reaction Cross Section at Astrophysical Energies via the Coulomb Dissociation of 60 Fe





SLEGS at Shanghai (photo nuclear reaction)

Suppression of the centrifugal barrier effects in the off-energy-shell neutron + ¹⁷O interaction

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High Intensity Accelerator Facility (HIAF)



1011-1012 n/s/cm²

2.1 MeV/10 mA proton

Radioactive sample from HIAF



NUCLEAR β-DECAYS OF HIGHLY IONIZED HEAVY ATOMS IN STELLAR INTERIORS[†]

NPA404 (1983) 578-598

KOHJI TAKAHASHI and KOICHI YOKOI



Science 345, 650 (2014) Stellar origin of the ¹⁸²Hf cosmochronometer and the presolar history of solar system matter











Heavy Ion Research Facility (explosive nucleosynthesis)



Beijing Radioactive Ion Facility (explosive neucleosynthesis)



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SLEGS at Shanghai (photo nuclear reaction)



