Galactic chemical evolution (of rprocess elements and short-lived radioactive isotopes)

Benjamin Wehmeyer

http://www.nasa.gov/images/content/138785main\_image\_feature\_460\_ys\_full.jpg





# What happens in between???

# What does a GCE model do?



Brief introduction: Galactic Chemical Evolution

Look at the night sky: Unsorted stars.



Brief introduction: Galactic Chemical Evolution

Now: Identify Fe contents: Solar metallicity, metal poor, extremely metal poor



**Sort the stars** according to their Fe contents:





 $[X/Y] = \log (X/Y)_{star} - \log (X/Y)_{sun}$ 

Brief introduction: Galactic Chemical Evolution

Now: introduce alpha element y-axis.



Now: Real data.



## How can this evolution be explained?



# Done? Unfortunately not....

## Hydrostatic stellar burning only until Fe



=> How do we produce the heavier elements?

## Then, we need: "neutron capture processes"



=> "Walk around" the binding energy peak, then decay towards valley of stability

Responsible for ~50% of the heavi(est) elements You need a lot of neutrons!!

r-process elements vs. metallicity



Europium is taken as diagnostic for r-process elements

- ~96% produced by the r-process
- Has two good lines at 4192.70 and 4205.05 Å

From SAGA database, e.g., T. Suda et al., PASJ, 60, 1159-1171, 2008.

# alpha- and r-process elements



Pignatari, BW, 2016

# "Classical" r-process site: NSM





## Classical site (NSMs) works in 1D models



Ejecta of a site propagate **everywhere immediately** 1D models always predict a <u>line</u> Overlap of lines matches observations

### But the classical site (NSM) has a hard time in 3D



#### 3D models can account for the scatter of elements

No matter which parameter is altered, it is difficult to match the observed abundances:

- Red dots are model stars with the canonical parameters
- Green dots are model stars in a model with extremely low coalescence time scales for NSM, but shift is marginal
- Blue dots are model stars with increased NSM probability

#### Explanation: local inhomogeneities

Wehmeyer+15+16a



A neutron star merger requires <u>2</u> neutron stars Thus <u>2</u> supernovae necessary!

## A solution: A <u>second</u> r-process site Acting at low metallicities, e.g., MHD-SNe



MHD-SNe are a very rare sub-class of CCSNe Their progenitors are extremely fast rotating and highly magnetized During explosion, the magnetic field lines force the emergence of polar jets In the jets, requirements for an r-process are met (Winteler+12, Nishimura+15) Advantage: r-process contribution already at low metallicities!!



MHD-SNe eject Fe and Eu simultaneously! MHD-SNe and NSMs together are a good combination

# Another possibility? BHNSMs



# Model results show good agreement with observations!



- Skip one CCSN per r-process event
- Age-metallicity relation is slowed down
- Effect is very localised



# Dominant process

We know location and time of all nucleosynthesis sites > Allows us to determine which process is dominant at which



#### Short lived (~My) radioisotopes have an additional advantage: They provide <u>timing</u> information!



Production value, observed value, elapsed time: If you know two, you may derive the third!

#### Imagine an arbitrary astrophysical source of radioactive isotopes:



Production value, observed value, elapsed time: If you know two, you may draw conclusions about the third!

#### Imagine an arbitrary astrophysical source of radioactive isotopes:





Côté+, 2021Science 371, 945C

Produced exclusively by the r-process...

...and have very similar half-lives...





Fig. 2. <sup>129</sup>I/<sup>247</sup>Cm abundance ratios predicted by our theoretical *r*-process models (see Methods section). The red horizontal line and horizontal bands show the meteoritic ratio along with its  $1\sigma$  and  $2\sigma$  uncertainty (see Methods section).



**Fig. 2.** <sup>129</sup>I/<sup>247</sup>Cm abundance ratios predicted by our theoretical *r*-process models (see Methods section). The red horizontal line and horizontal bands show the meteoritic ratio along with its

...allowing you to directly probe the yield ratios of the last r-process

#### event!!!

#### Why does this work?



**Fig. 2.** <sup>129</sup>I/<sup>247</sup>Cm abundance ratios predicted by our theoretical *r*-process models (see Methods section). The red horizontal line and horizontal bands show the meteoritic ratio along with its  $1\sigma$  and  $2\sigma$  uncertainty (see Methods section).

#### Why does this work?



Let's look at the evolution before the formation of the Solar system.

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#### Why does this work? ...because even if any other r-process sources have contributed to the ratio before,



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#### Why does this work?

...because even if any other r-process sources have contributed to the ratio

before, their contribution is gone!



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...this enables us to precisely study the LAST r-process event that contributed to the Solar system! If you look at the whole Galaxy, however, And have variable delay times (NSMs)...



Figure 2. Visualization of the key parameters involved in our Monte Carlo calculations. Here  $\gamma$  is the constant time interval between the formation of two progenitors. The delay times (blue arrows) represent the time intervals between the formation of the progenitors and their associated enrichment event. Those delay times are randomly sampled from an input DTD function. The different  $\delta$  values are the time intervals between two consecutive enrichment events, regardless of the formation time of the progenitors. This means that  $\delta$  cannot have negative values.

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...this this tends to extend the steady-state value...



#### ...leading rather to a *spectrum* of abundances:



Figure 3. Top panels: evolution of the median and 68% and 95% confidence levels of the mass of radionuclei ( $M_{radio}$ ) as a function of time using Monte Carlo calculations with 100, 1000, and 10,000 runs (from left to right), with  $\gamma = 10$  Myr and the 3–50 Myr box DTD function. The gray shaded area represents the maximum and minimum values reached during the calculations. Bottom panels: distribution of predicted  $M_{radio}$  at 12 Gyr (black histograms) for the calculations with 100, 1000, and 10,000 runs (from left to right). The gray histograms show the distribution of  $M_{radio}$  when all time steps between 12 and 14 Gyr are stacked together to improve the statistics.

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Yellow: median, grey scales: statistics

Zoom in



Yellow: median, grey scales: statistics Blue: Single sub-cell of the 3D simulation



#### **Remarks:**

• Radioactive decay is visible in single cells (between nucl events)



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- This is often hidden behind the SN blast wave effect
- Pu-244 & Fe-60 always seem to appear simultaneously

## <u>What happens if NSM ejecta get "bulldozed"</u> <u>by CCSN bubbles?</u>



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...confirms what is seen in deep-sea sediments: Fe-60 and Pu-244 seem to <u>arrive simultaneously</u> on Earth!



#### RESEARCH

#### NUCLEAR ASTROPHYSICS

#### <sup>60</sup>Fe and <sup>244</sup>Pu deposited on Earth constrain the r-process yields of recent nearby supernovae

A. Wallner<sup>1,2</sup>\*, M. B. Froehlich<sup>1</sup>, M. A. C. Hotchkis<sup>3</sup>, N. Kinoshita<sup>4</sup>, M. Paul<sup>5</sup>, M. Martschini<sup>1</sup>†, S. Pavetich<sup>1</sup>, S. G. Tims<sup>1</sup>, N. Kivel<sup>6</sup>, D. Schumann<sup>6</sup>, M. Honda<sup>7</sup>‡, H. Matsuzaki<sup>8</sup>, T. Yamagata<sup>8</sup>

#### Compare 3D model to deep-sea detection values





#### Core-collapse Supernova Explosions Driven by the Hadron-quark Phase Transition as a Rare *r*-process Site

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Fischer et al.

Table 3											
Ejecta	Properties	of the	Supernova	Explosion	Models						

$M_{\rm prog}^{\rm a}$ $(M_{\odot})$	$M_{\text{inner ejecta}}^{\text{b}}$ $(10^{-2} M_{\odot})$	$M_{\text{direct}}^{c}$ (10 <sup>-2</sup> $M_{\odot}$ )	$M_{\text{intermediate}}^{\text{d}}$ (10 <sup>-3</sup> $M_{\odot}$ )	$\frac{M_{\rm NDW}^{\rm e}}{(10^{-3} M_{\odot})}$	$\frac{M_{\rm Fe}{}^{\rm f}}{(10^{-2}~M_{\odot})}$	$\frac{M_{\rm Sr}^{\rm f}}{(10^{-4} M_{\odot})}$	$M_{\rm Eu}^{\rm f}$ (10 <sup>-6</sup> $M_{\odot}$ )	$M_{244p_{\rm u}}^{{\rm f.g}}$ (10 <sup>-10</sup> $M_{\odot}$ )	$\frac{M^{60}{\rm Fe}^{\rm h}}{(10^{-5} M_{\odot})}$
35†	1.44	1.03	3.72	0.33	7.15	6.50	7.86	2.09	12.2
40†	1.33	0.97	3.19	0.43	7.62	6.15	2.26	2.64	3.2
50‡	1.80	1.45	3.06	0.46	3.73	8.22	11.03	22.59	0.5

Notes. All yields are evaluated after about 1 Gyr.

<sup>a</sup> ZAMS masses of the stellar models (same as in Table 2), †: Rauscher et al. (2002) and ‡: Umeda & Nomoto (2008).

<sup>b</sup> Total inner ejecta mass, launched from the PNS surface

#### See also yesterday's talk:

Constraining the onset density for the QCD phase transition with the supernova neutrino signal Noshad Khosravi Largani

Aula Grande, FBK Headquarters

15:10 - 15:30

# One step further: implementing SLRs in Kobayashi chemodynamical cosmological zoom-in SPH model



# One step further: implementing SLRs in Kobayashi chemodynamical cosmological zoom-in SPH model



- Many features (DM, hydrodynamics, feedback) are included
- Know exactly where (spiral arms?) in the Galaxy and when which SLRs can be found

We can use current AI-26 emission to pinpoint stellar activity!



...Slide stolen from R. Diehl, see many talks this workshop

It will provide us with an "emission map" of the Galaxy: We can interpret it using Galaxy models!





**Fig. 8.** Longitude-velocity diagram comparing  $\gamma$ -ray-measured velocities (crosses, including error bars) with other objects in our Galaxy. <sup>26</sup>Al line-centroid energies were fitted to determine velocities in longitude bins of 12° and latitude ranges ±5°. For comparison, different models are shown (blue solid, red dotted, and green dashed lines), as well as the velocity information from molecular gas seen in CO (see Sect. 4 for details).

It will provide us with an "emission map" of the Galaxy: We can interpret it using Galaxy models!



#### This might also help to find Galactic areas with habitable planets!



#### With radioactive isotopes also heating planetesimals



Figure 15: Total energy available for heating from radioactive decay per gram of material in the Solar System (CI meteorite composition) after the initially present isotope has completely decayed. For <sup>10</sup>Be/<sup>9</sup>Be a value of  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  was used. For <sup>60</sup>Fe also the situation for a high abundance ( $^{60}$ Fe/ $^{56}$ Fe =  $5 \times 10^{-7}$  as compared to  $1.01 \times 10^{-8}$  given in Table 2) is indicated.

## Conclusions

NSMs alone have difficulties explaining high r-process abundances at low metallicities

- >> Additional site can cure this (BHNS-M, MHD-SNe, Exotic SNe)
- We can constrain the SLR abundances and uncertainties by using the timing information of the sources ( $\delta$ ,  $\gamma$ ), and vice versa
- SLRs may give us information about the nucleosynthesis conditions of the last event before formation of the Solar system
- SLRs seem to arrive on Earth simultaneously
  - This can be explained with the appropriate statistical tools
  - Can be further constrained by more deep-sea sediment detections
- Al-26 maps can help us locate stellar activity
  - This can be modeled with Galaxy evolution models
- We can identify regions in the Galaxy with enhanced isotope abundances
  - Might help to find areas with potentially habitable planets



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