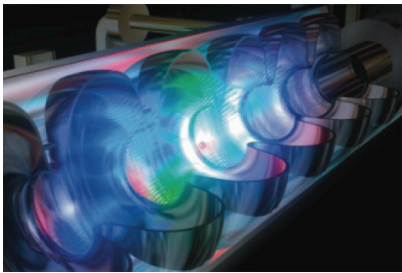


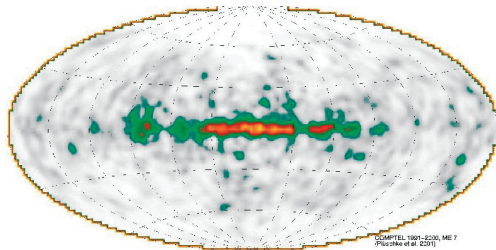
(SOME)

KEY NUCLEAR UNCERTAINTIES

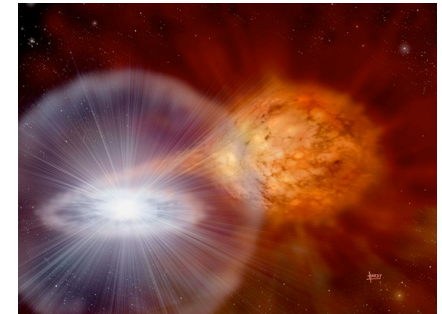
(FOR SYNTHESIS, ORIGINS AND IMPACTS)



CHRISTIAN AA. DIGET
UNIVERSITY OF YORK

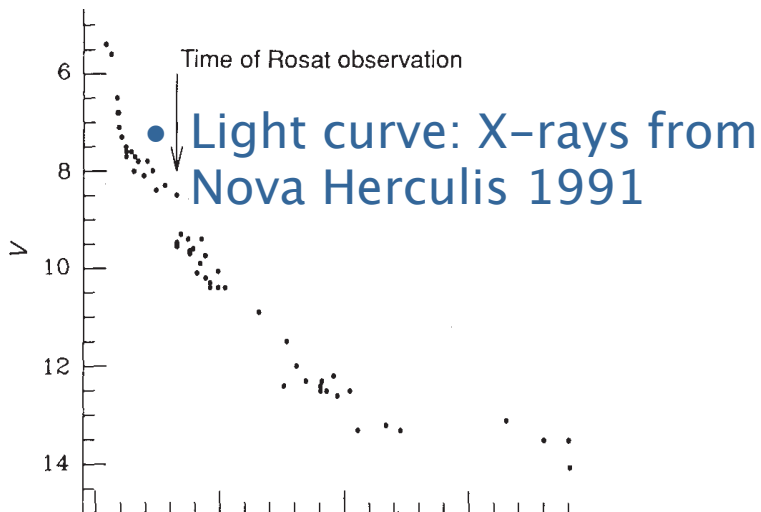


NUCLEOSYNTHESIS:
ORIGINS AND IMPACTS
14TH OF FEBRUARY 2014

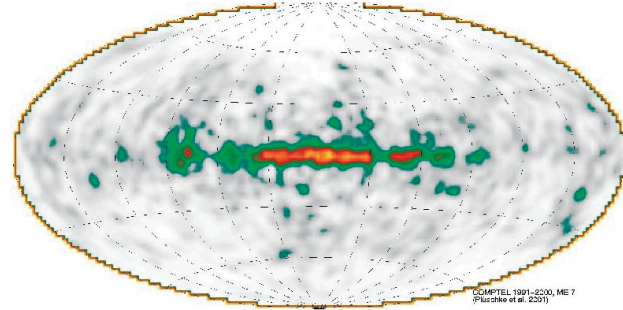


Stellar explosions and hydrostatic burning

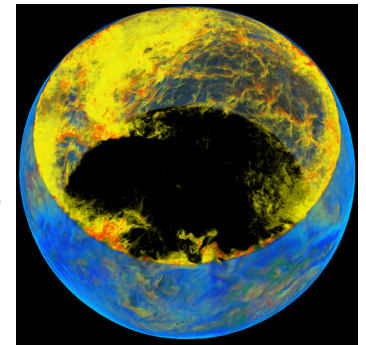
- Novae and X-ray bursts
 - Thermo-nuclear run-away on surface of white dwarf / neutron star
 - Fuelled by material from red-giant companion
- Type-1a supernova: subsequent to novae in binary systems
- Core-collapse supernova: precursor to neutron stars (XRB)



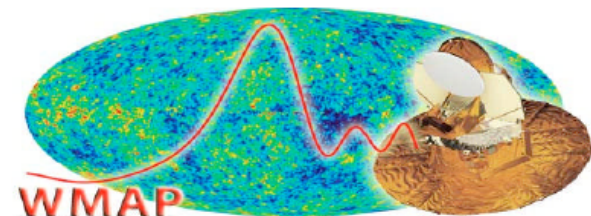
- COMPTEL/INTEGRAL: ^{26}Al decay spectroscopy survey, ESA



- Stellar fusion reactions in Asymptotic Giant Branch (AGB) stars [to the right a He-shell flash]



- Big Bang Nucleosynthesis



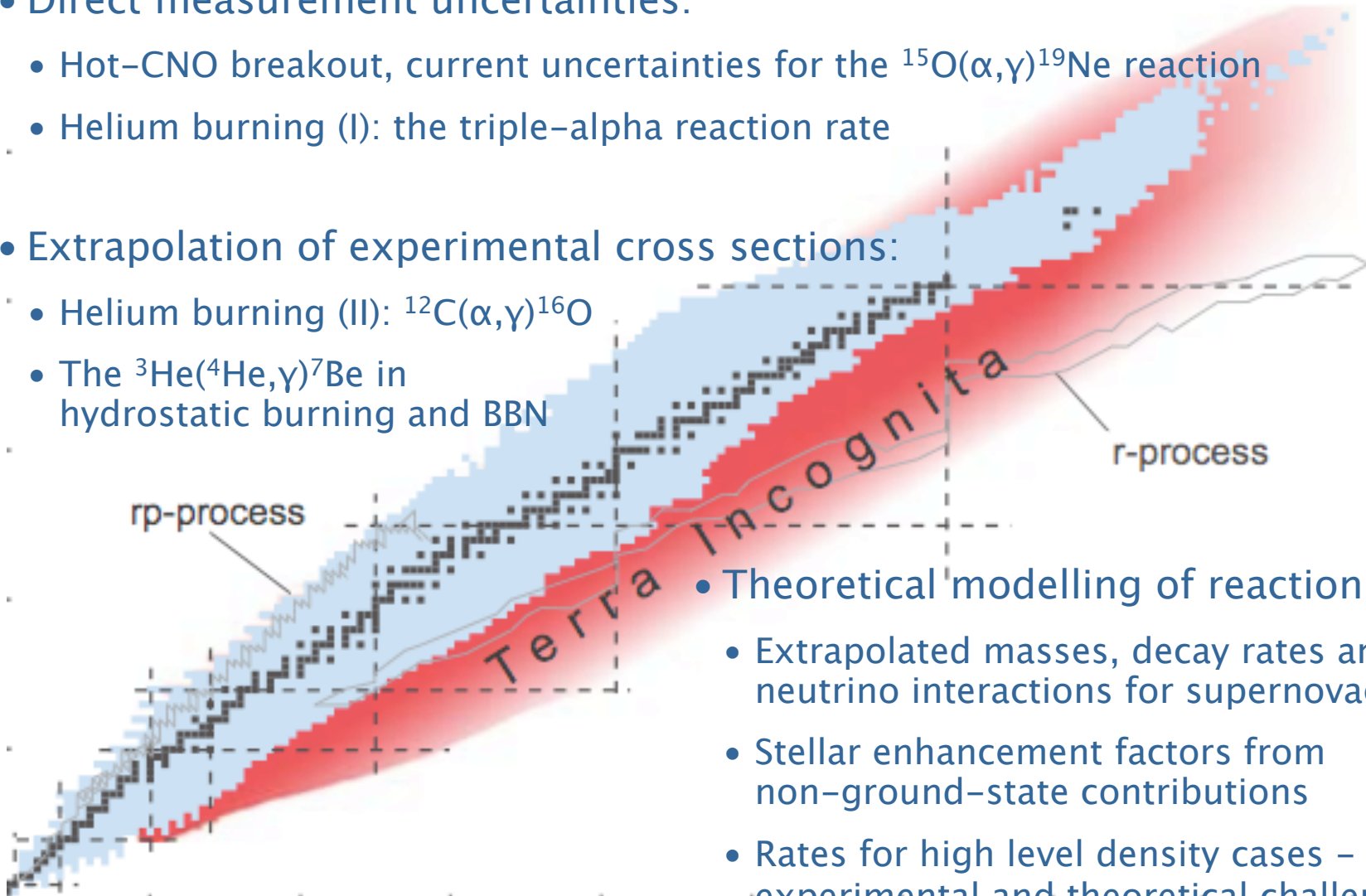
Key Nuclear Uncertainties for Origins and Impact

- Direct measurement uncertainties:

- Hot-CNO breakout, current uncertainties for the $^{15}\text{O}(\alpha,\gamma)^{19}\text{Ne}$ reaction
- Helium burning (I): the triple-alpha reaction rate

- Extrapolation of experimental cross sections:

- Helium burning (II): $^{12}\text{C}(\alpha,\gamma)^{16}\text{O}$
- The $^3\text{He}(^4\text{He},\gamma)^7\text{Be}$ in hydrostatic burning and BBN



- Theoretical modelling of reaction rates

- Extrapolated masses, decay rates and neutrino interactions for supernovae
- Stellar enhancement factors from non-ground-state contributions
- Rates for high level density cases – experimental and theoretical challenges

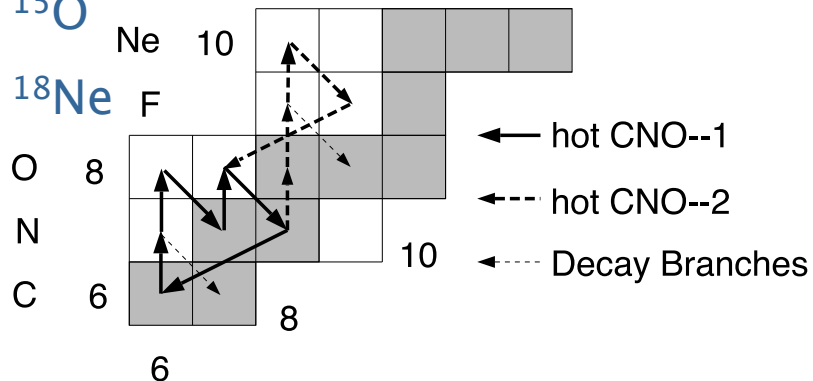
Nuclear measurements of Hot-CNO breakout

- The CNO and Hot-CNO cycles
- Build-up of waiting-point nuclei in novae and X-ray bursts:

- ^{14}O

- ^{15}O

- ^{18}Ne

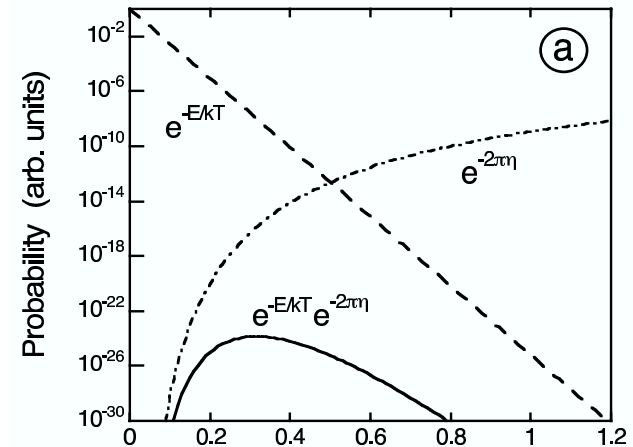


- Breakout from Hot-CNO cycles:

- $^{14}\text{O}(\alpha, p)^{17}\text{F}$

- $^{15}\text{O}(\alpha, \gamma)^{19}\text{Ne}$

- $^{18}\text{Ne}(\alpha, p)^{21}\text{Na}$



- Resonant reaction rate: velocity-weighted cross section.

- Resonant:

$$(2J + 1) \frac{\Gamma_\alpha \Gamma_p}{\Gamma_{tot}} \exp\left(-\frac{E_r}{k_B T}\right)$$

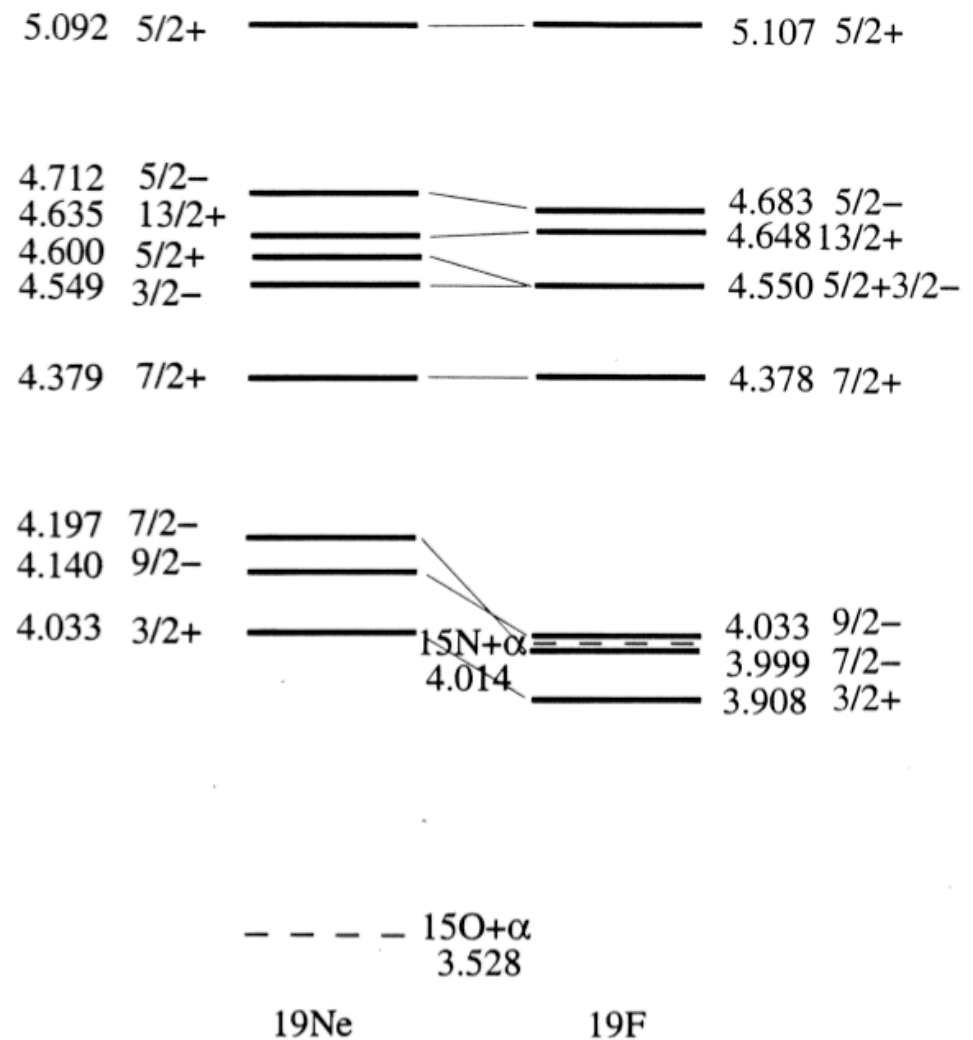
- Gamow-window: 0.7–2.0 MeV resonance energy for temperatures of 0.5–1.5 GK

- For $^{15}\text{O}(\alpha, \gamma)^{19}\text{Ne}$:

Dominated by 4033 keV $3/2+$ state in ^{19}Ne : $\Gamma_\alpha = 17 \pm 13 \mu\text{eV}$

Possible methods for reaction rate studies

- Direct measurement of resonant reaction cross section using a high-selectivity recoil separator
- Indirect: B_α and τ (presently most direct measurement of Γ_α)
- Indirect (mirror alpha transfer): $^{15}\text{N}(^6\text{Li},d\gamma)^{19}\text{F}$ and $^{15}\text{N}(^7\text{Li},t\gamma)^{19}\text{F}$
Measure S_α and Γ_α for ^{19}F states, $\Gamma_\alpha(^{19}\text{Ne})$ inferred from mirror symmetry
- Indirect (alpha transfer): $^{15}\text{O}(^6\text{Li},d\gamma)^{19}\text{Ne}$ and/or $^{15}\text{O}(^7\text{Li},t\gamma)^{19}\text{Ne}$ to measure S_α and Γ_α for ^{19}Ne states without assumption of detailed mirror symmetry



Studies of the ^{19}Ne states (life time and alpha branch)

4033 keV ($L=1$) state:

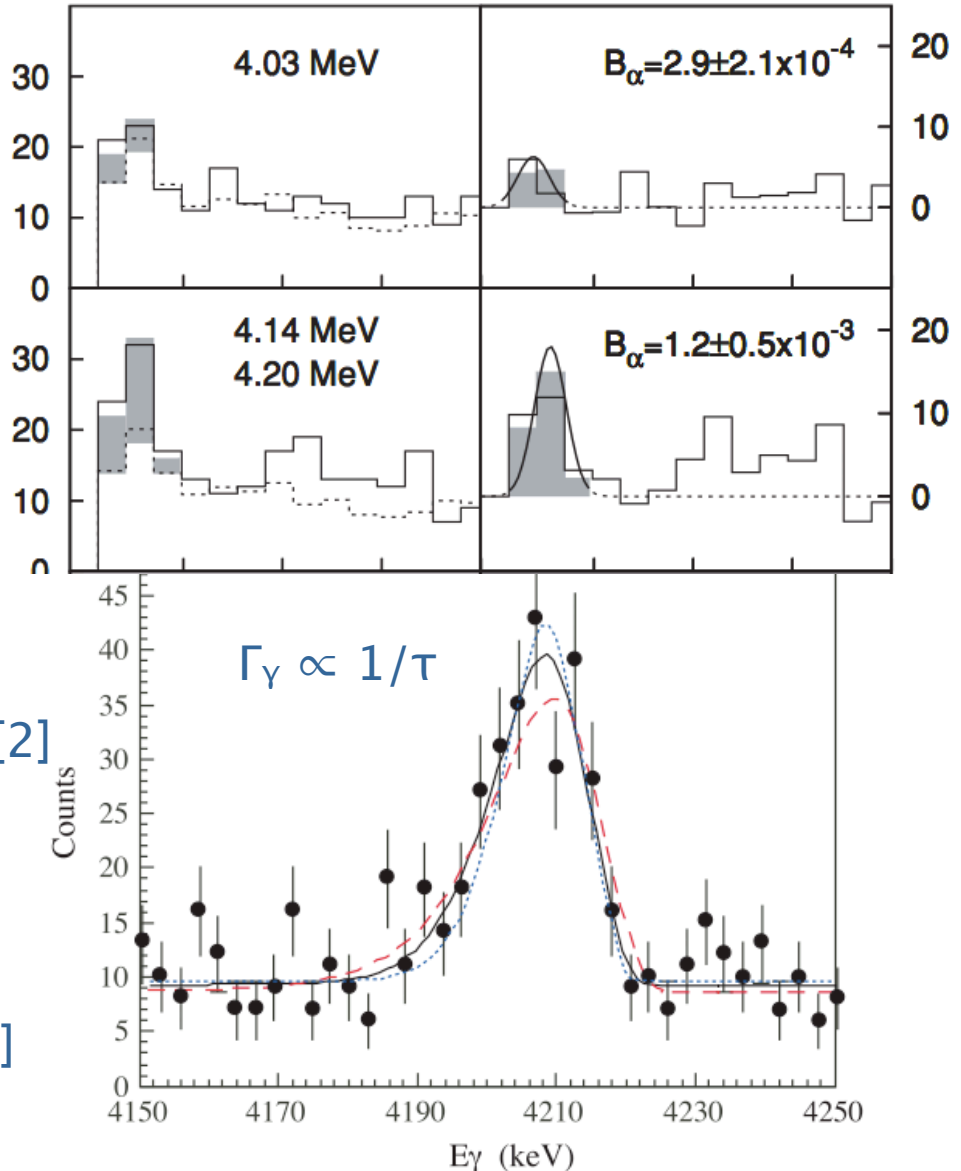
$$(2J + 1) \frac{\Gamma_\alpha \Gamma_\gamma}{\Gamma_{tot}} \exp\left(-\frac{E_r}{k_B T}\right)$$

with $\Gamma_\alpha = B_\alpha \Gamma_{tot}$

- $B_\alpha = 2.9 \pm 2.1 \cdot 10^{-4}$ from:
 - $^{19}\text{F}(^3\text{He}, t)^{19}\text{Ne}^*(, \alpha)^{15}\text{O}$
 - Difficult: 8 t- α events on background of 35
- $\Gamma_{tot} = \Gamma_\gamma \propto 1/\tau$ with
 - $\tau = 11(+4)(-3)$ fs from:
 - γ -ray Doppler-shift lineshape [2]
- $\Gamma_\alpha = 17 \pm 13 \mu\text{eV}$

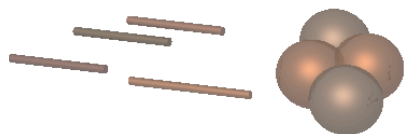
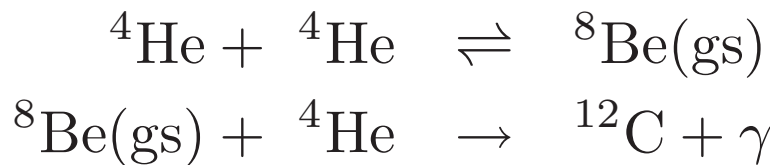
4140, 4197 keV ($L=4$) doublet:

- Combined (unresolved) measurement of alpha branch [1]
- Disputed ordering [1,3]



The ^{12}C Hoyle state and α clustering in the continuum

- Nuclear structure deduced from triple- α reaction rate constraints



- Prediction and subsequent measurement of ^{12}C Hoyle state at 7.65 MeV

A State in C^{12} Predicted from Astrophysical Evidence
F. Hoyle, D.N.F. Dunbar, W.A. Wenzel,
and W. Whaling,
Phys. Rev. 92:1095c (1953)

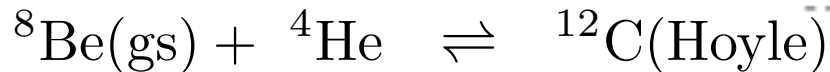
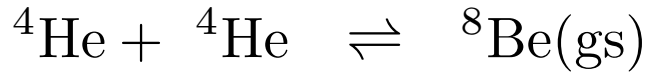
“It is assumed that oxygen and carbon are produced in stars ... by the reactions $2\text{He}^4 \rightarrow \text{Be}^8$; $\text{Be}^8 + \text{He}^4 \rightarrow \text{C}^{12}$; $\text{C}^{12} + \text{He}^4 \rightarrow \text{O}^{16}$. The observed cosmic abundance ratio of He:C:O can be made to fit the yields calculated for these reactions if the reaction: $\text{Be}^8(\alpha, \gamma)\text{C}^{12}$ has a resonance near 0.31 MeV, corresponding to a level at 7.68 MeV in C^{12} .”



Stellar helium fusion (the triple-alpha process)

- Stellar helium fusion in Asymptotic Giant Branch (AGB) stars and supernova precursors

- Equilibrium population of the $^8\text{Be}(0^+, \text{gs})$ and the $^{12}\text{C}(0^+)$ Hoyle state:



- $^8\text{Be}(\text{gs})$ at 92 keV above threshold, Hoyle state at 379 keV above threshold.

- Subsequent gamma decay to the ground state through the intermediate 4.44 MeV (2^+) state

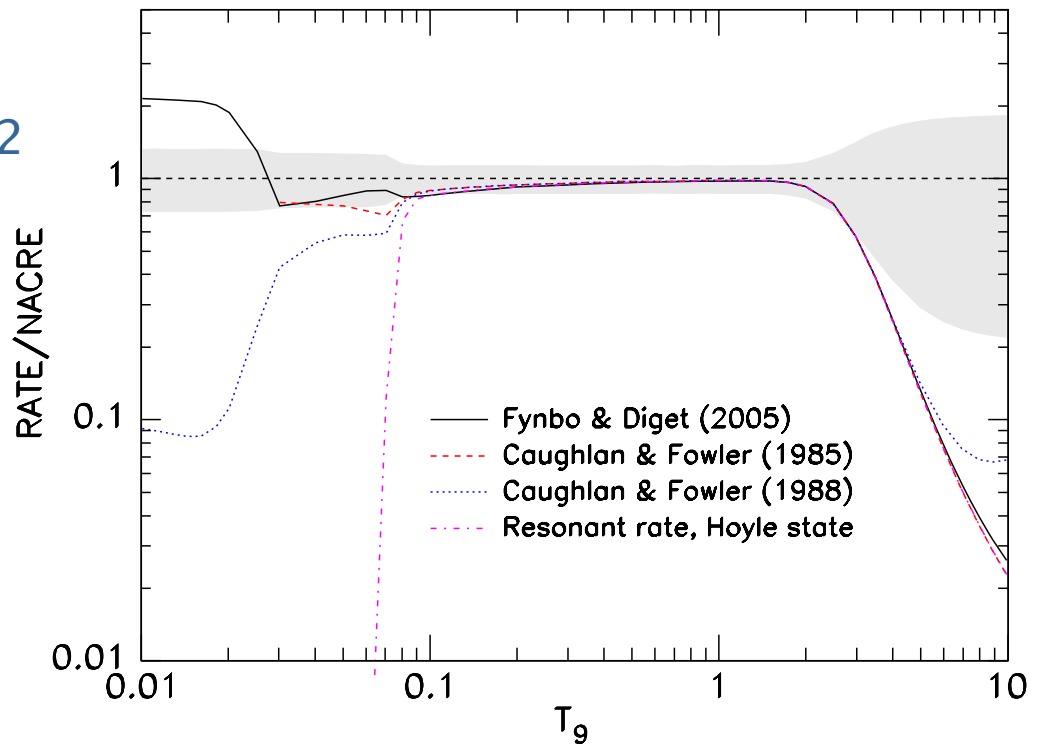
- Resonant reaction rate depends on radiative width and Q-value:

$$N_A^2 \langle \alpha\alpha\alpha \rangle \propto \Gamma_{\text{rad}} \exp(-Q/k_B T).$$

$J^\pi; T$	^{12}C energy (MeV)	Width (keV)	Decay channels
$1^-; 0$	10.844(16)	315(25)	α
$(0^+); 0$	10.3(3)	$3.0(7)10^3$	α
$3^-; 0$	9.641(5)	34(5)	γ, α
$0^+; 0$	7.65420(15)	$8.5(10)10^{-3}$	γ, π, α
	7.2748	3 α threshold	
$2^+; 0$	4.43891(31)	$10.8(6)10^{-6}$	γ
$0^+; 0$	0.0	stable	

Triple- α reaction rate: status and resonances

- The Hoyle state resonant reaction rate:
 - Dominant rate at $T_9=0.1-2$
 - Combined uncertainty of 10% dominated by pair-branch
- Other resonances, important above $T_9=2$:
 - 2^+ state at 9.1-11 MeV
 - 3^- state at 9.6 MeV



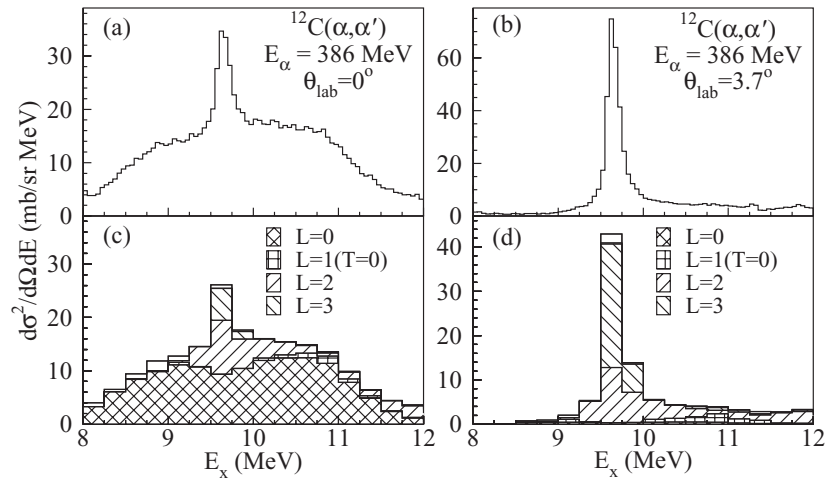
$$\langle \alpha\alpha\alpha \rangle_{res} \propto \frac{\Gamma_{\alpha_0} \Gamma_{rad}}{\mathcal{I}} \exp(-Q/k_B T) = \frac{\Gamma_{\gamma} + \Gamma_{\pi} \left(\frac{\Gamma}{\Gamma_{\pi}} \right) \Gamma_{\pi}}{\Gamma} \exp(-Q/k_B T)$$

9.2% [Alburger:1977]
1.2% @ $T_9=0.2$
[Nolen:1976]

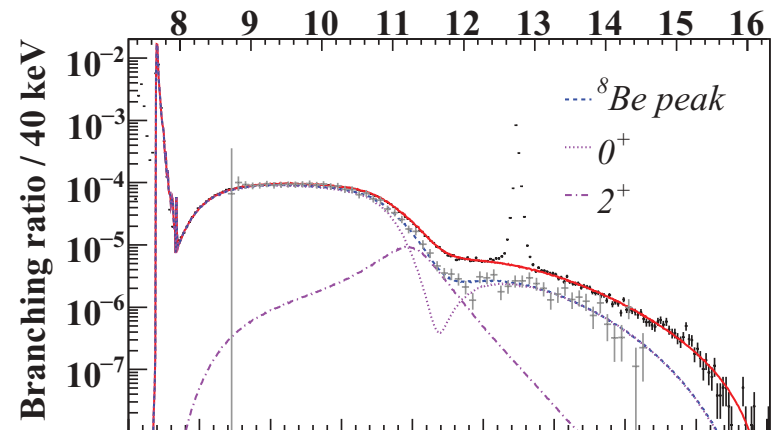
2.7% [Markham:1976]
3.2% [Chernykh:2010]

Recent suggestions of 2^+ state observation

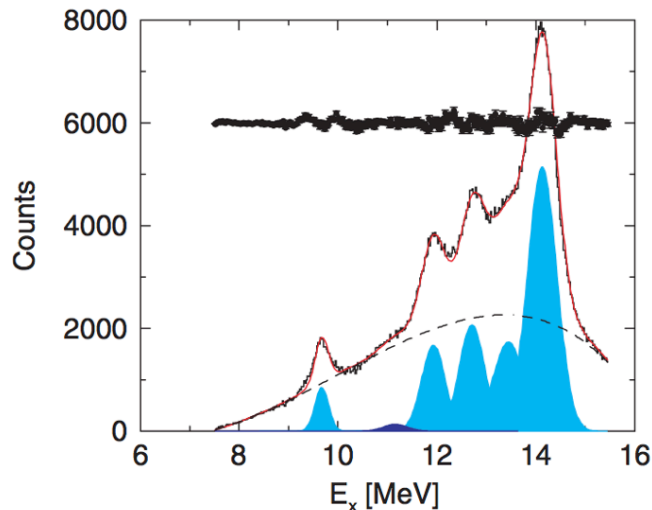
Itoh (2011): $^{12}\text{C}(\alpha, \alpha')^{12}\text{C}$



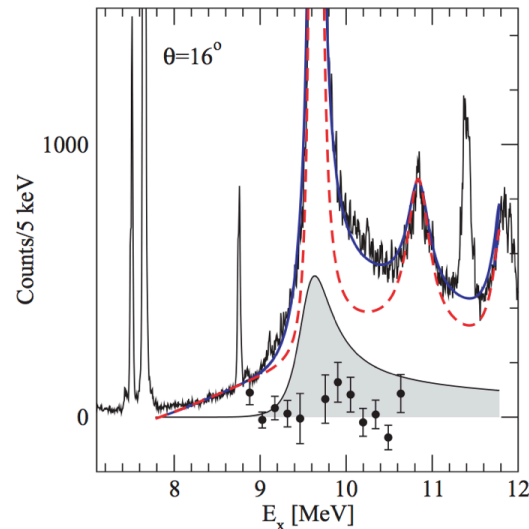
Hyldegaard (2010): $^{12}\text{N}/^{12}\text{B}(\beta)3\alpha$



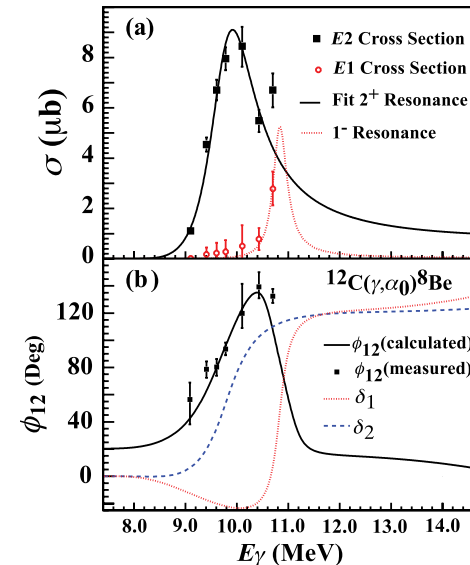
Freer (2007): $^{12}\text{C}(^{12}\text{C}, 3\alpha)^{12}\text{C}$



Freer et al. (2009): $^{12}\text{C}(p, p')^{12}\text{C}$

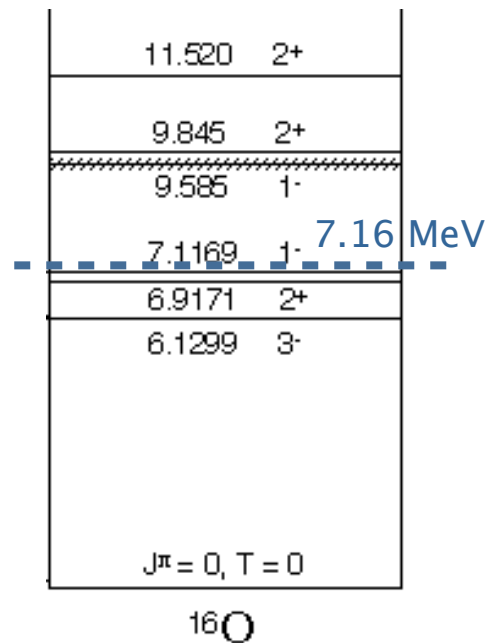


Zimmerman (2013): $^{12}\text{C}(\gamma, 3\alpha)$



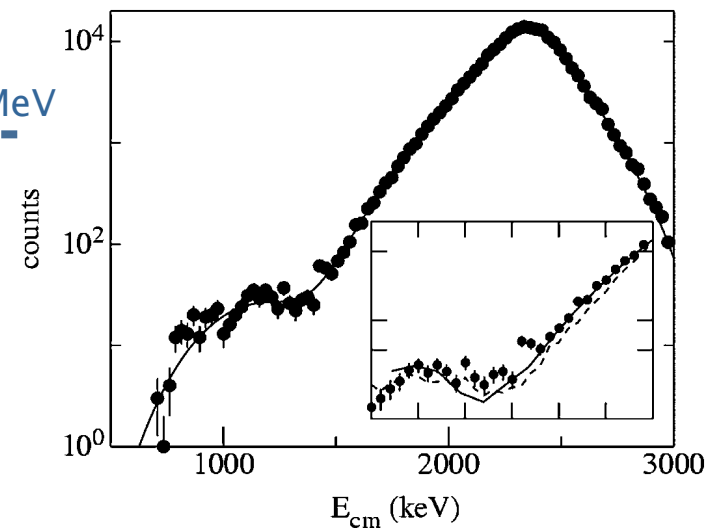
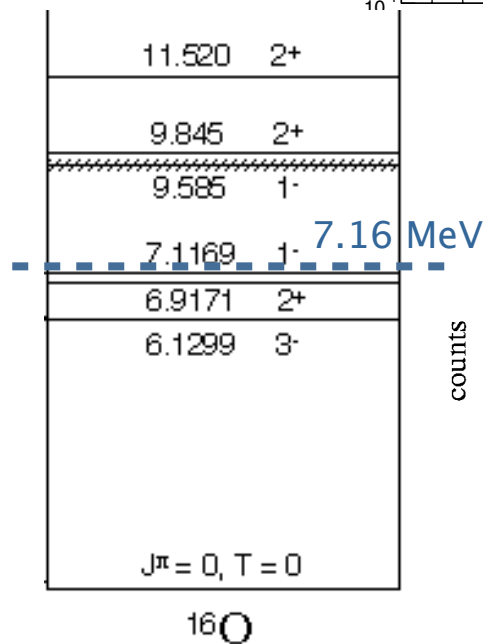
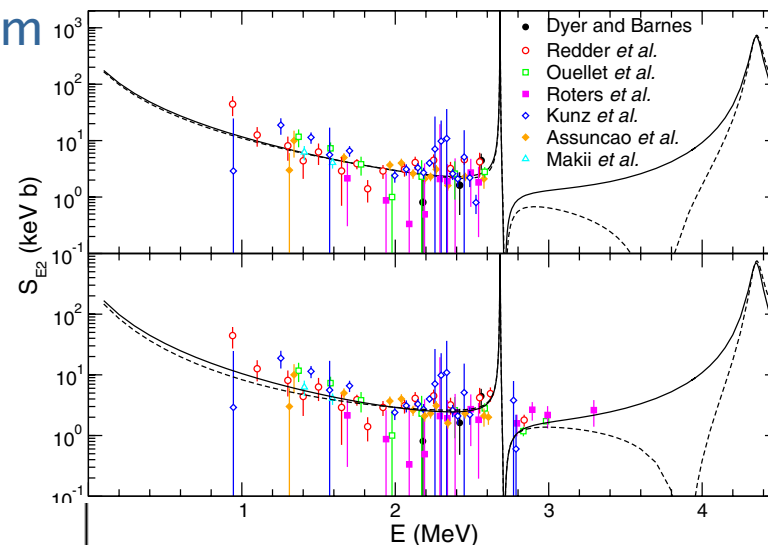
Extrapolation of $^{12}\text{C}(\alpha,\gamma)^{16}\text{O}$: S_{E1} and S_{E2} at 300 keV

- Extrapolation of E1 and E2 S-factors from the measured $S(1\text{ MeV})$ to $S(300\text{ keV})$
 - Detailed study of interference in S_{E2}
 - Dedicated beta-decay study of S_{E1}
- Combined fit to all reactions that proceed through the ^{16}O states: $^{12}\text{C}(\alpha,\alpha)$, $^{12}\text{C}(\alpha,p)$, $^{12}\text{C}(\alpha,\gamma)$, $^{15}\text{N}(p,p)$, $^{15}\text{N}(p,\alpha)$, $^{16}\text{N}(\beta\alpha)$ and $^{15}\text{N}(p,\gamma)$



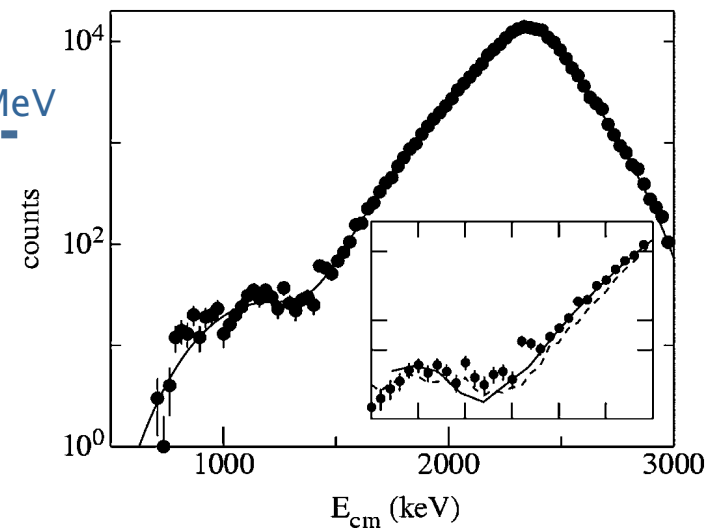
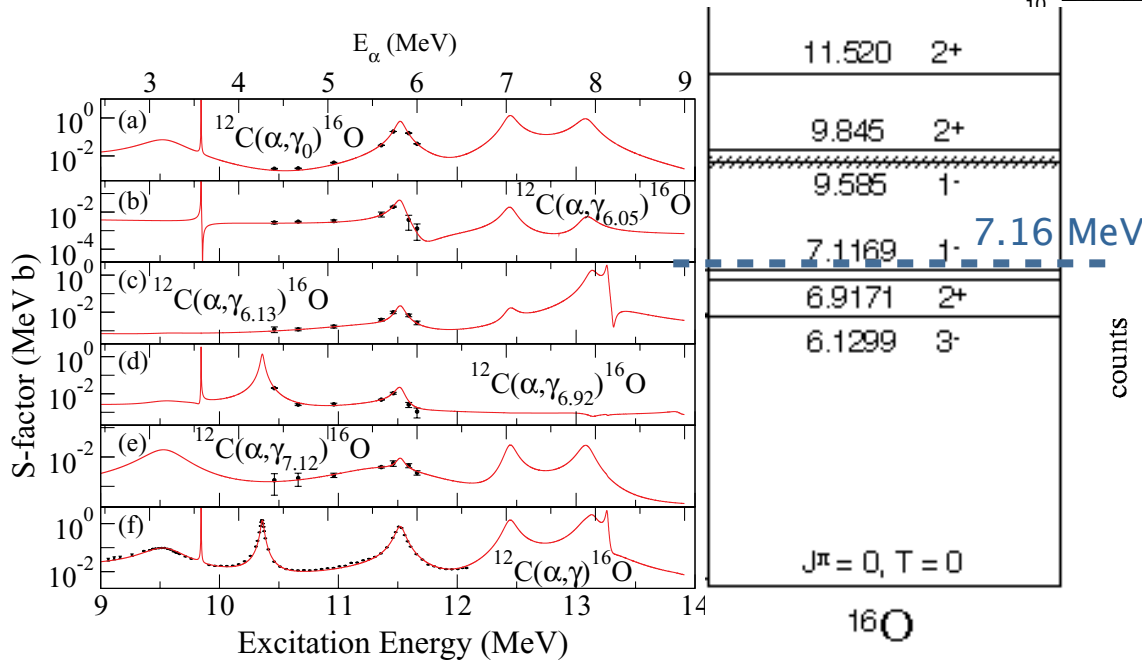
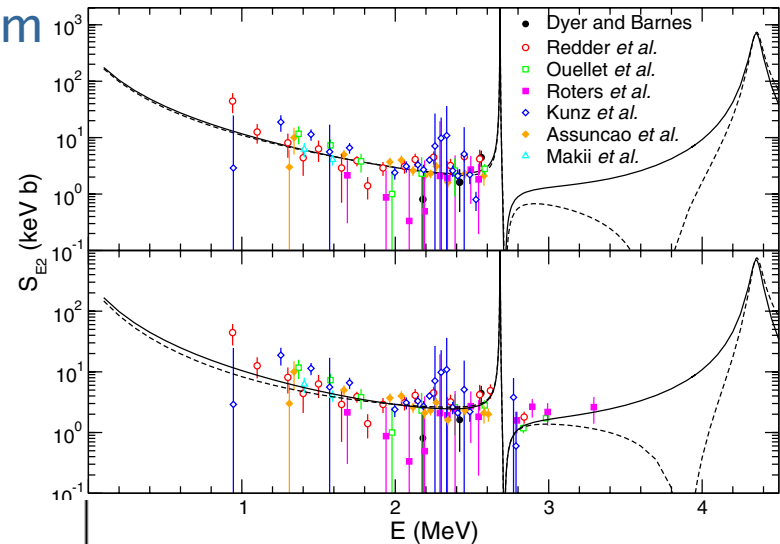
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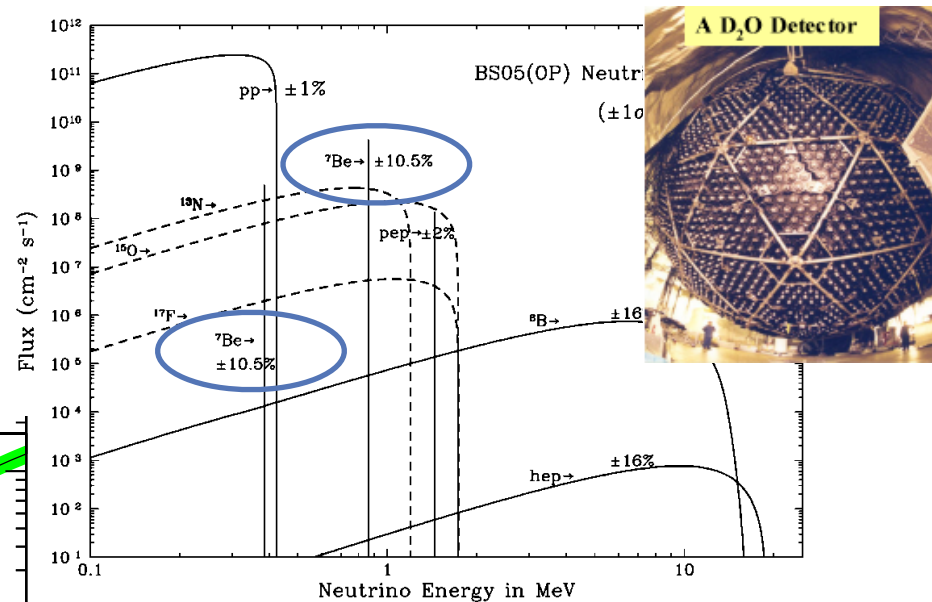
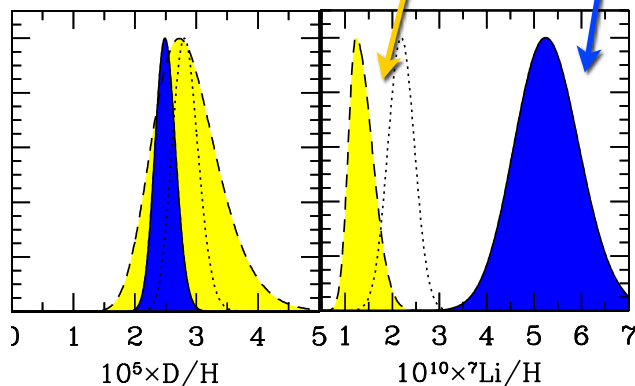
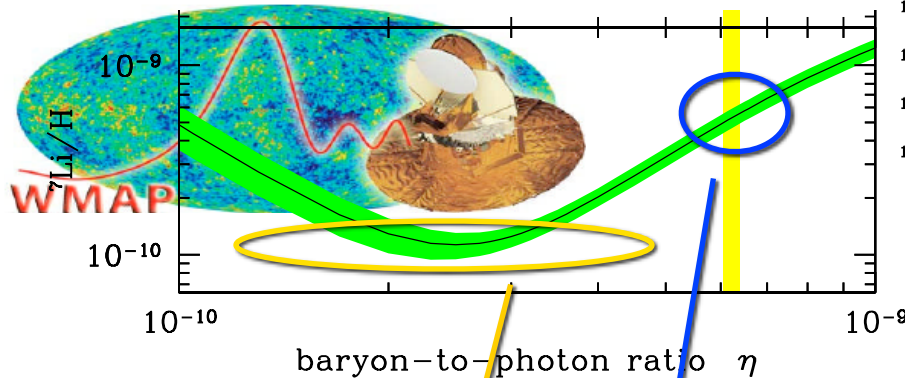
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Uncertainties in S_{34} , the ${}^3\text{He}({}^4\text{He},\gamma){}^7\text{Be}$ reaction rate

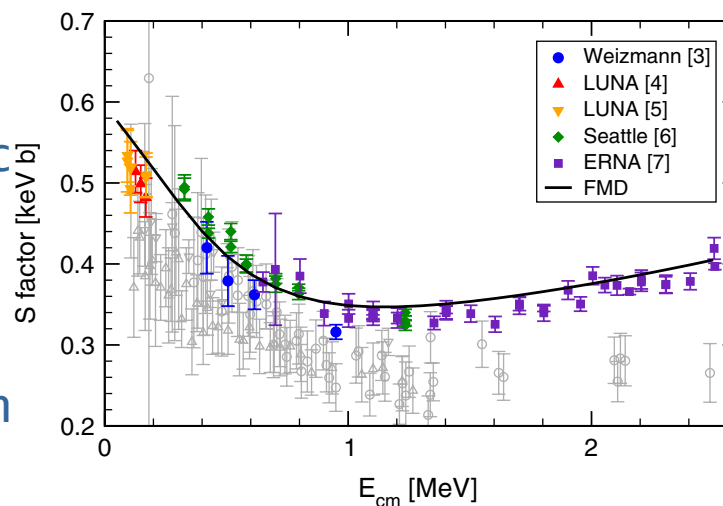
- Stable burning in stars (cross section uncertainty produces largest uncertainty in solar neutrino yield)
- Big Bang Nucleosynthesis (cross section critical for interpreting the Li problem)



- Choices for measurement of ${}^3\text{He}({}^4\text{He},\gamma){}^7\text{Be}$:
 - Detect gamma rays from reaction
 - Detect recoiling ${}^7\text{Be}$ in separator
 - Collect recoiling ${}^7\text{Be}$ and later count β -decays to ${}^7\text{Li}$

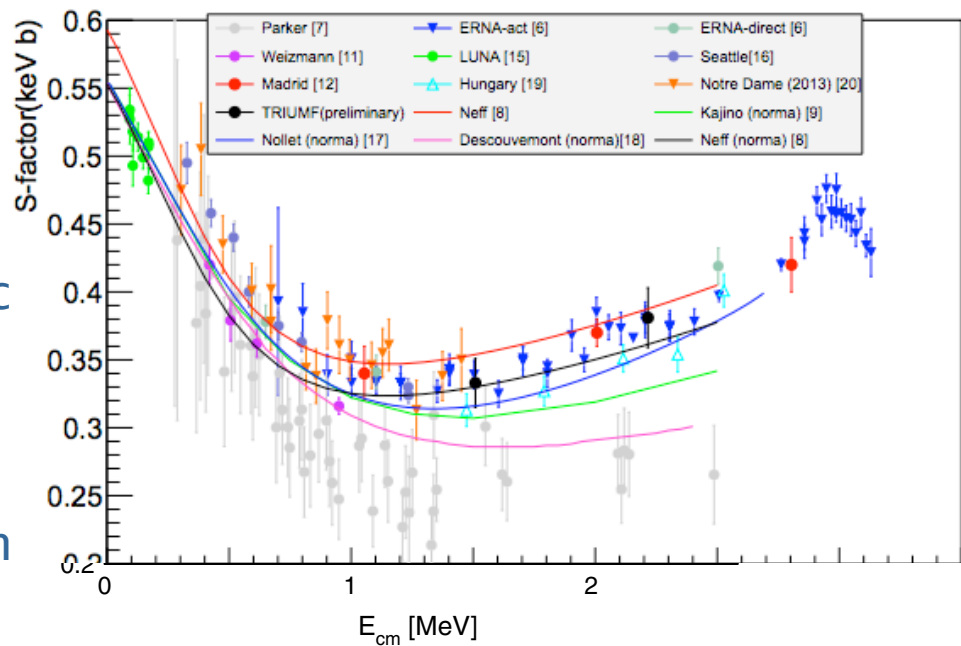
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- S_{34} reproduced by microscopic calculations [T Neff]
- However, the same microscopic calculation should reproduce the mirror reaction ${}^3\text{H}({}^4\text{He},\gamma){}^7\text{Li}$
- Plans for new measurement of triton-induced (mirror) reaction [Nara Singh, Fulton and the TRIUMF collaboration]



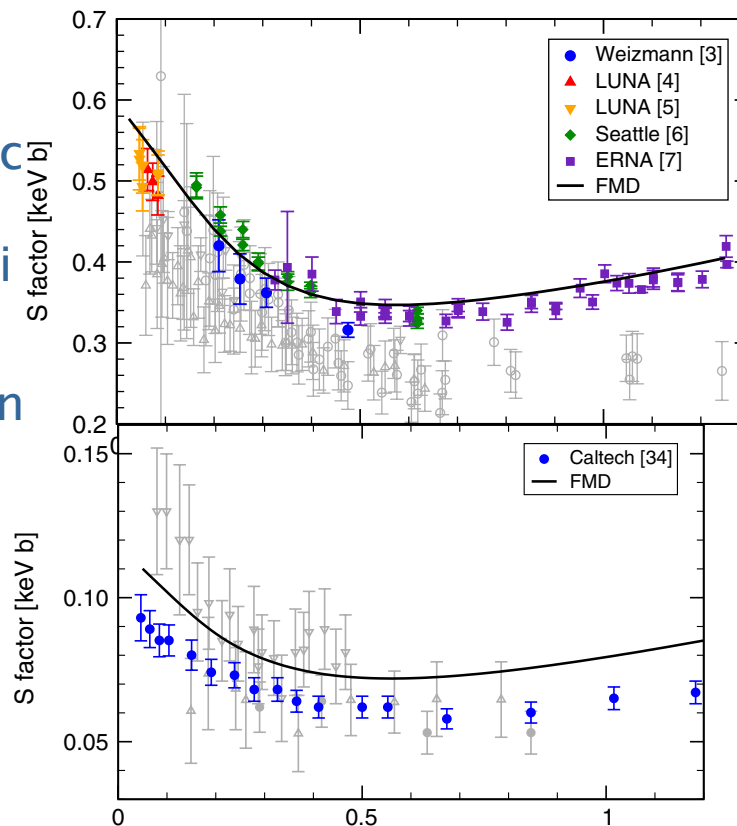
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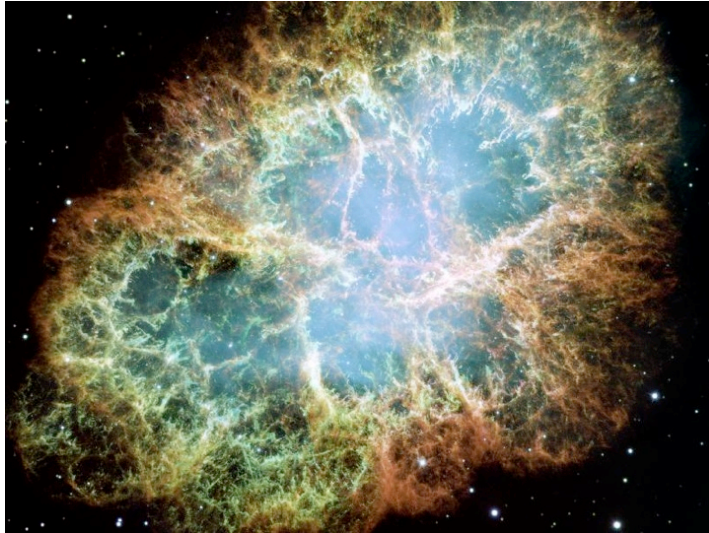


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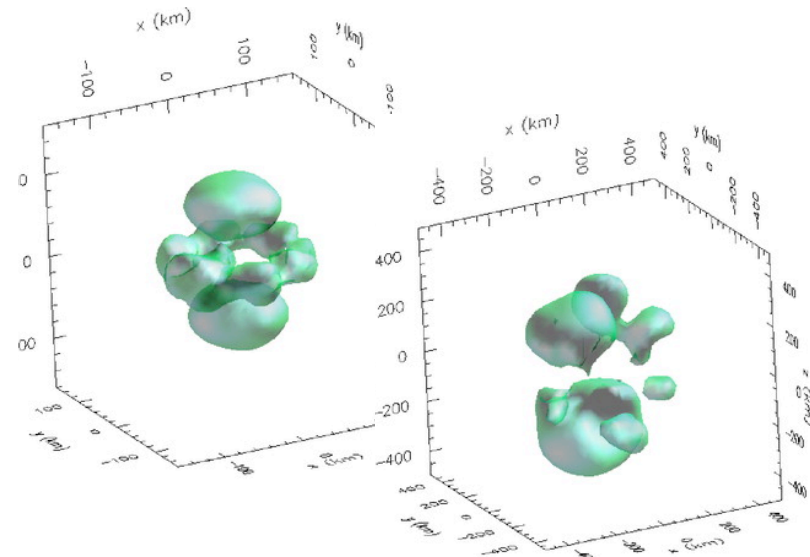
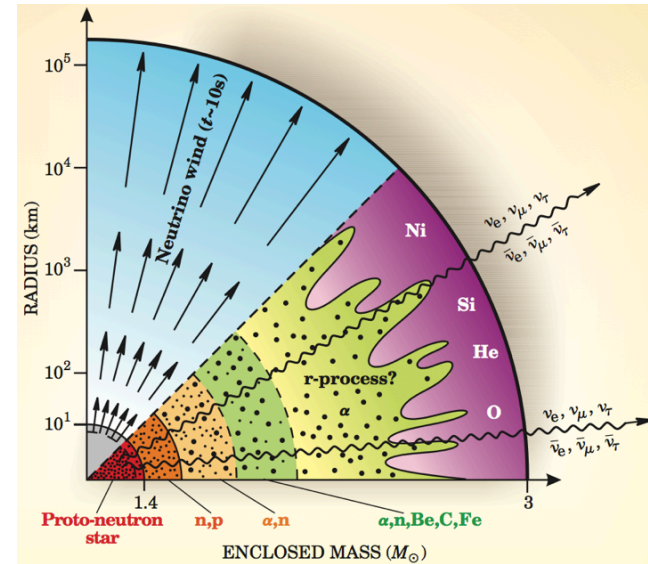
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Theoretical evaluations for CC-SN nuclear reactions

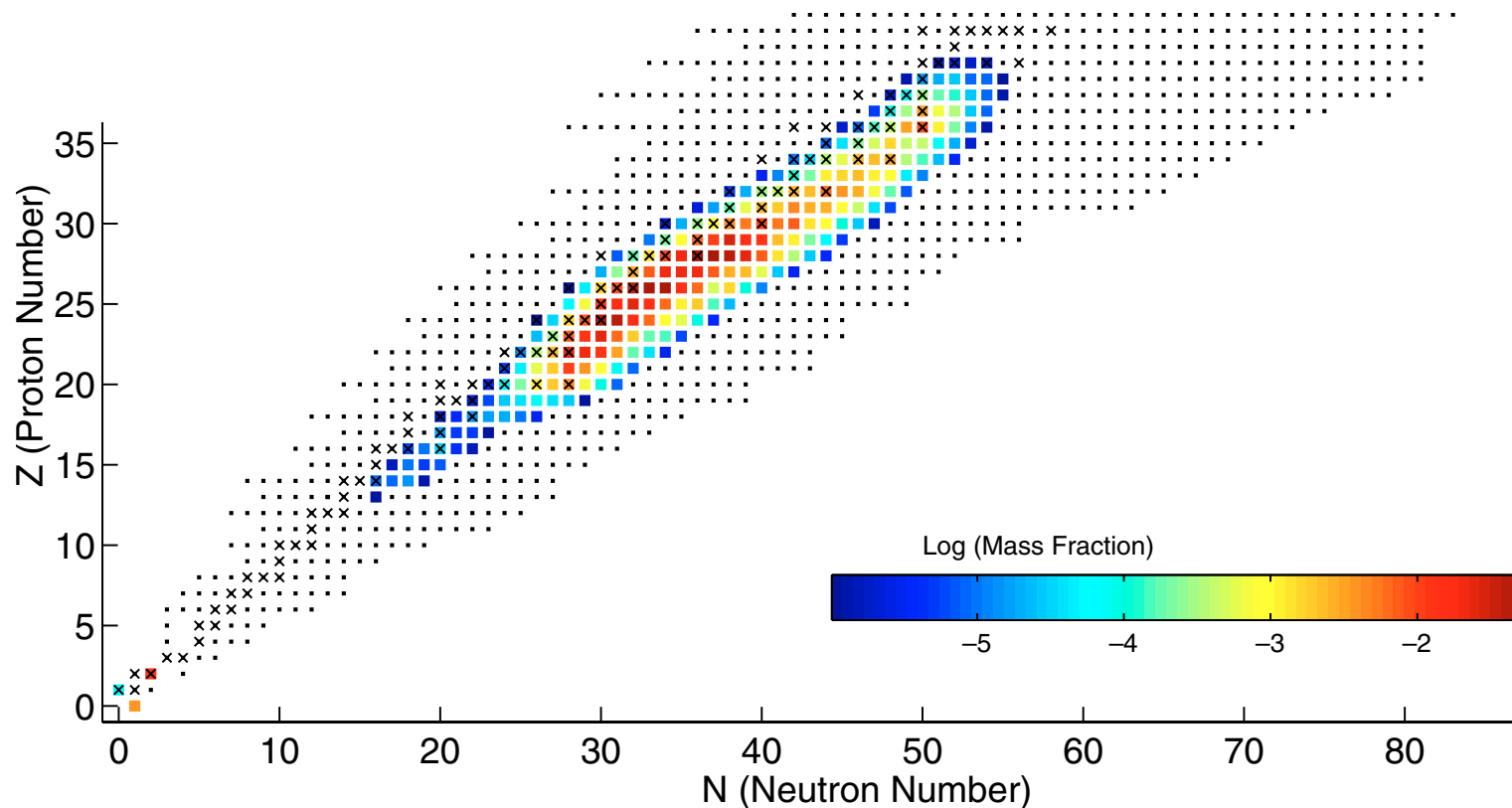


- Core-Collapse SN: gravity-driven massive-star core collapse
- Rebounding shock wave driving an (often) asymmetric explosion
- Radiation emitted – material ejected
- Crab Nebula: Remnant of a Type-II (core-collapse) supernova (1054 AD)



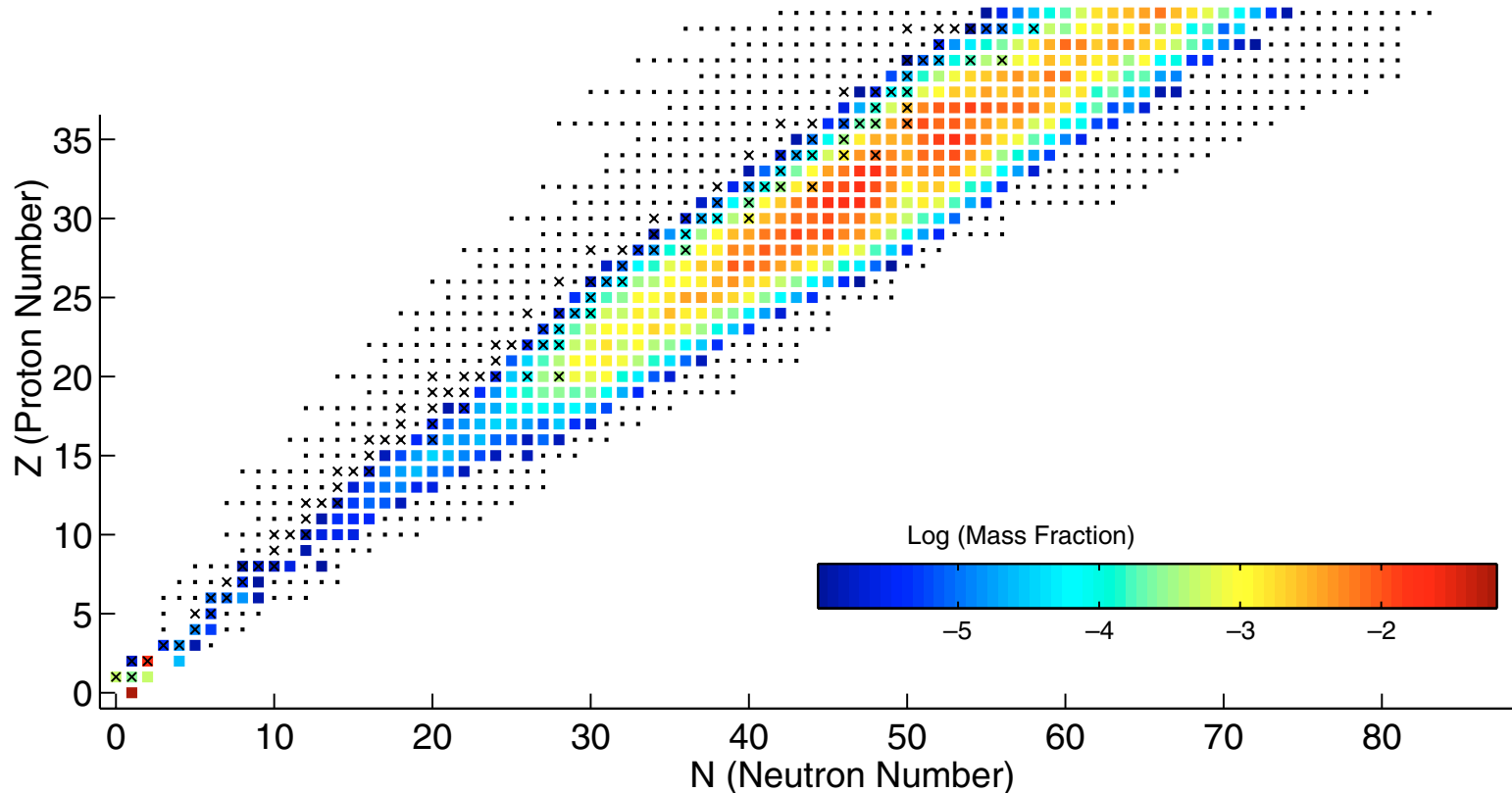
Weak interactions and groß properties for supernovae

- Weak interactions in supernovae:
 - gravitational collapse boosted by electron-capture on protons and iron-group nuclei: $p(e^-, \nu_e)n$
- Groß properties (masses and lifetimes) for exotic nuclei
 - Next-generation radioactive ion beam facilities: r-process nuclei up to around mass 130



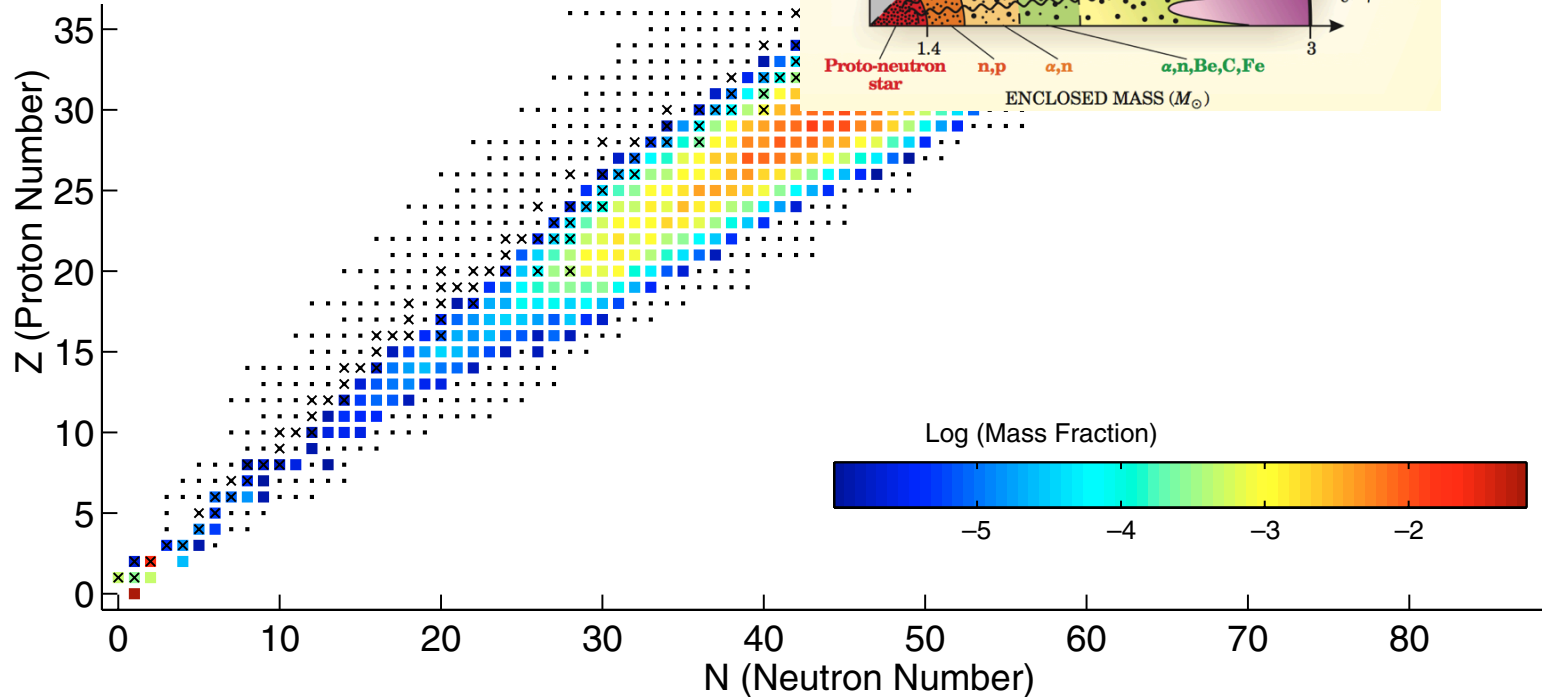
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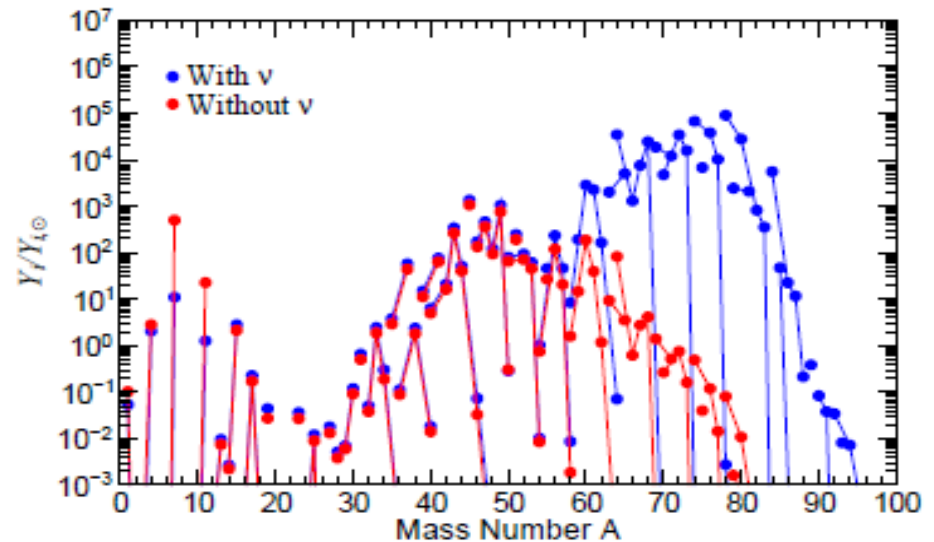
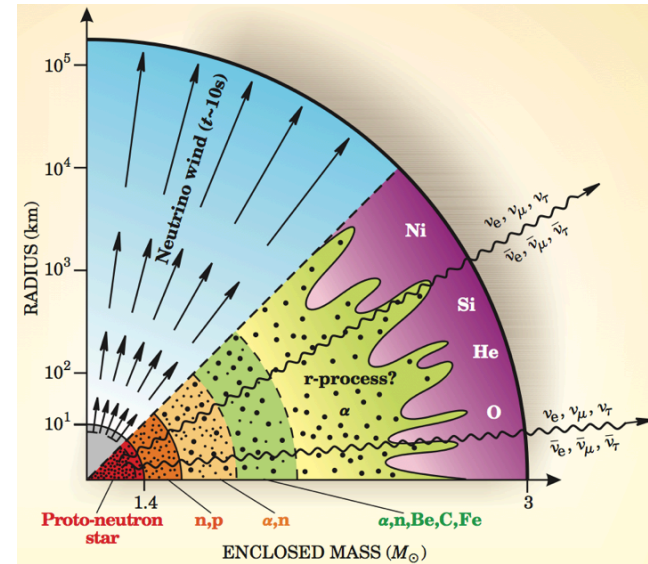
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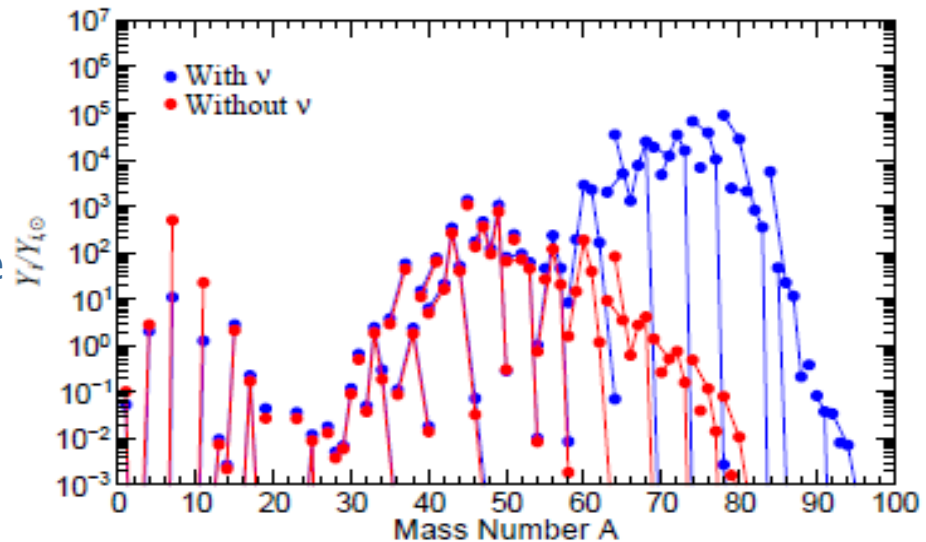
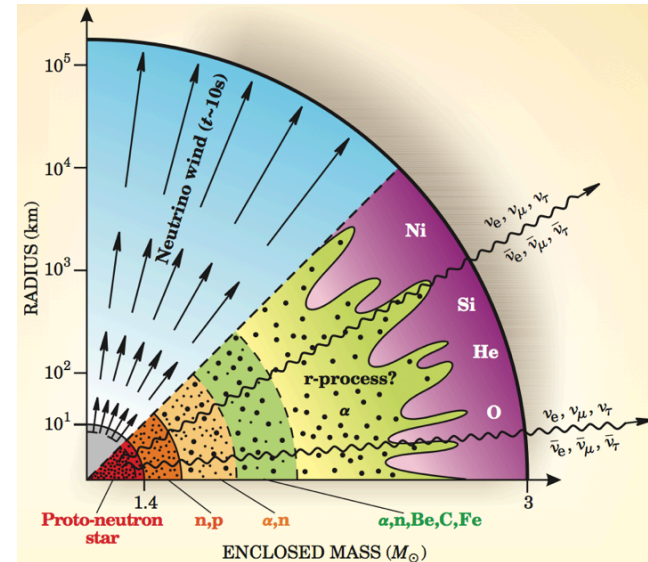
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 - proton and alpha-rich freeze-out produces neutron-deficient nuclei in the inner ejecta but terminates around ^{64}Ge ($T_{1/2} = 64\text{s}$)



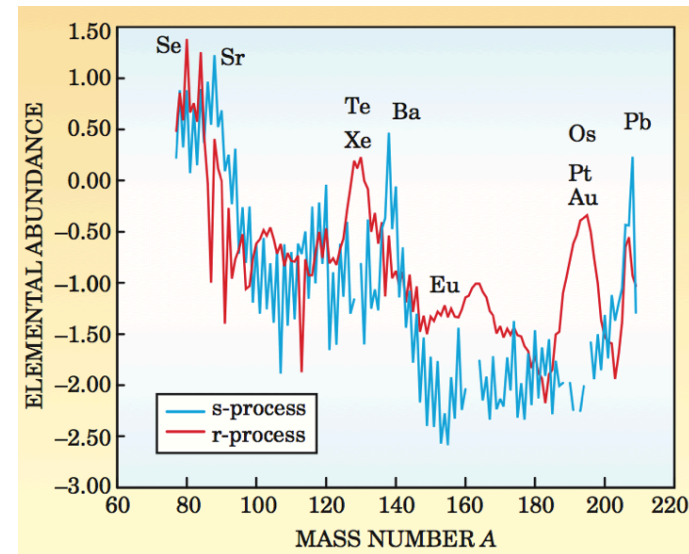
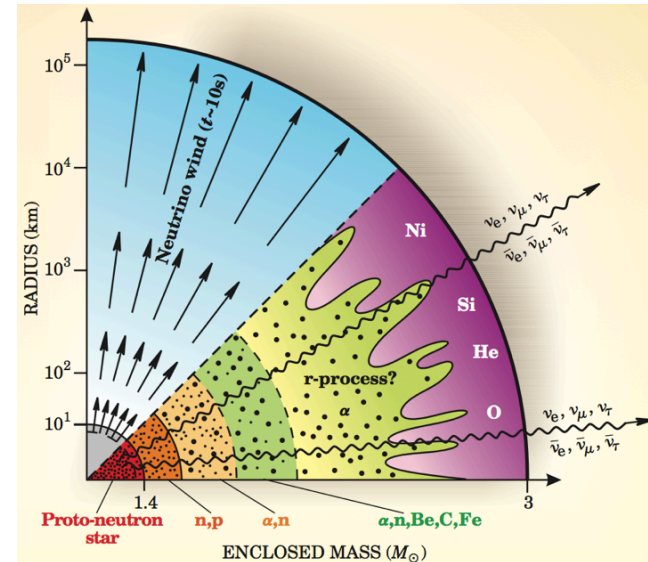
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 - proton and alpha-rich freeze-out produces neutron-deficient nuclei in the inner ejecta but terminates around ^{64}Ge ($T_{1/2} = 64\text{s}$)
 - vp-process: in the strong neutrino-wind these neutron-deficient nuclei capture neutrinos on the time-scale of seconds



Weak interactions and groß properties for supernovae

- Weak interactions in supernovae:
 - gravitational collapse boosted by electron-capture on protons and iron-group nuclei: $p(e^-, \nu_e)n$
 - neutrinos from the neutron star are trapped and revives the stalled shock-wave: $n(\nu_e, e^-)p$ and $p(\bar{\nu}_e, e^+)n$
 - proton and alpha-rich freeze-out produces neutron-deficient nuclei in the inner ejecta but terminates around ^{64}Ge ($T_{1/2} = 64\text{s}$)
 - νp -process: in the strong neutrino-wind these neutron-deficient nuclei capture neutrinos on the time-scale of seconds
 - Prime-candidate site for rapid neutron-capture (r-process) nucleosynthesis (outer ejecta).



Stellar Enhancement Factors

- Stellar Enhancement Factor (SEF)

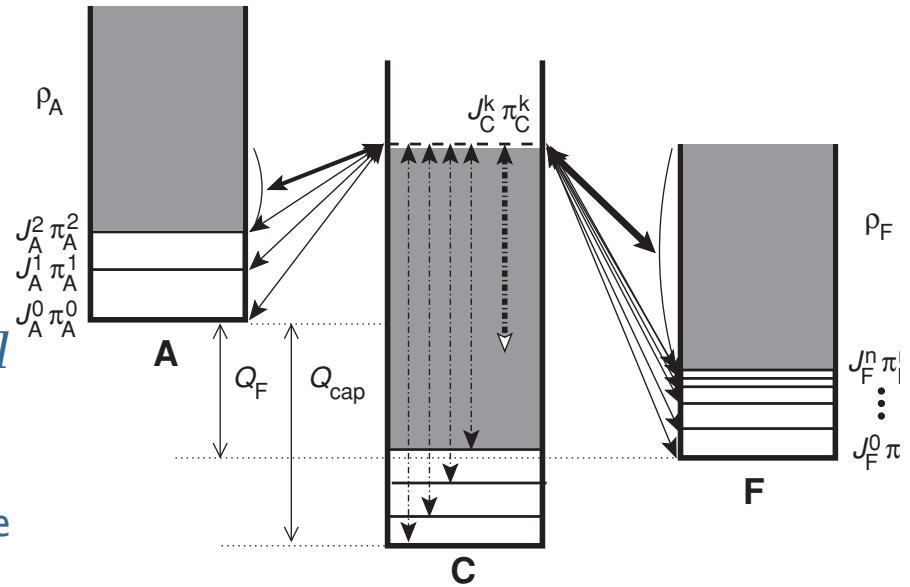
defined as:

$$f = \frac{r^*}{r^{\text{g.s.}}} = \frac{r^*}{r^{\text{lab}}}$$

- Assuming a similar level structure in all involved nuclei, it is expected that the SEF of a given reaction will be smaller for the exothermic direction f_{forw} than for the endothermic f_{rev} . [Forward direction here

defined as positive Q value, Rauscher 2009]

- However: Coulomb suppression of the SEF found for charged-particle reactions with $Q < 0$ but low $|Q|$
- 1200 reactions: including (α, γ) for the p process and (p, γ) for the rp process; as well as (p, n) reactions



- Strong suppression for charged particles due to Coulomb barrier:
 - $A(n, p)F$ or $A(p, \alpha)F$ reactions with $Q > 0$
 - Suppress transitions to/from final state nucleus (higher Coulomb barrier)
 - SEF suppressed the most for the reverse reaction ($Q < 0$) with a larger SEF in the forward direction ($Q > 0$).

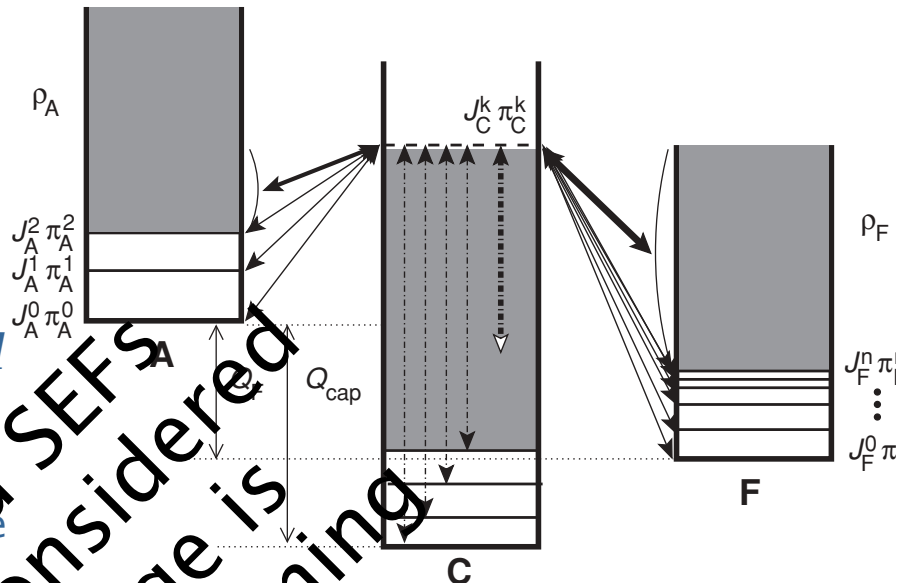
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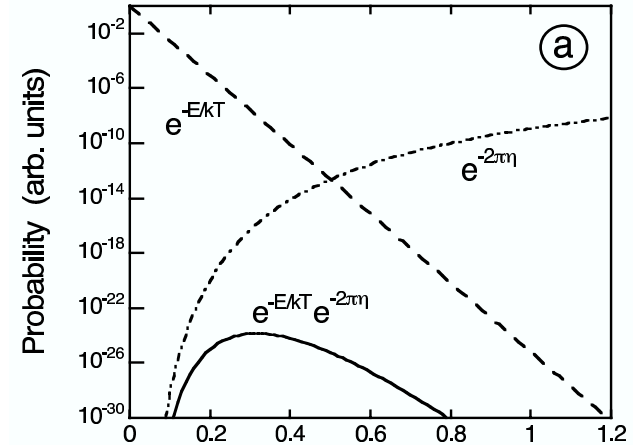
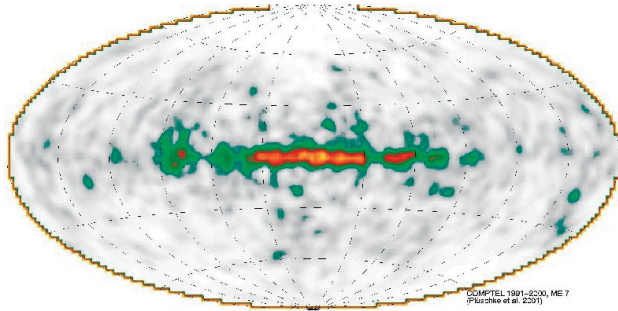
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Rates at high level density: ^{26}Al destruction

- COMPTTEL/INTEGRAL: ^{26}Al decay spectroscopy survey, ESA



- Next-generation satellite missions: observation of ^{26}Al from individual stellar explosions
- ^{26}Al creation via proton capture: $^{25}\text{Mg}(p,\gamma)^{26}\text{Al}$
- ^{26}Al destruction via β -decay and neutron induced reactions: $^{26}\text{Al}(n,p)^{26}\text{Mg}$, $^{26}\text{Al}(n,\alpha)^{26}\text{Mg}$

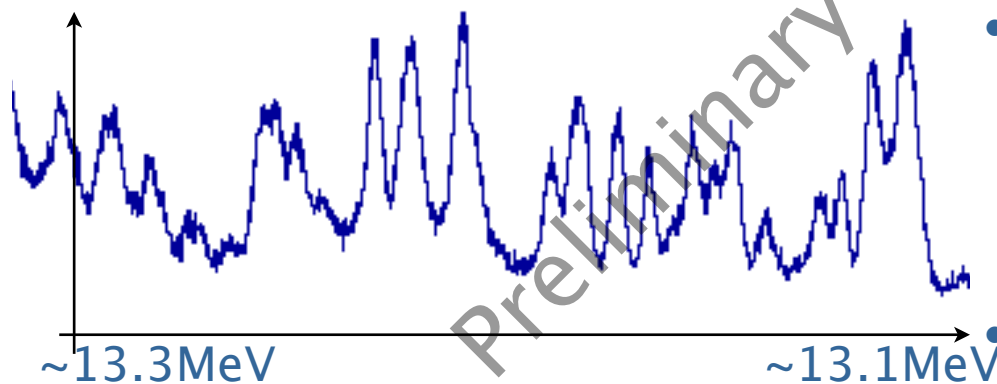
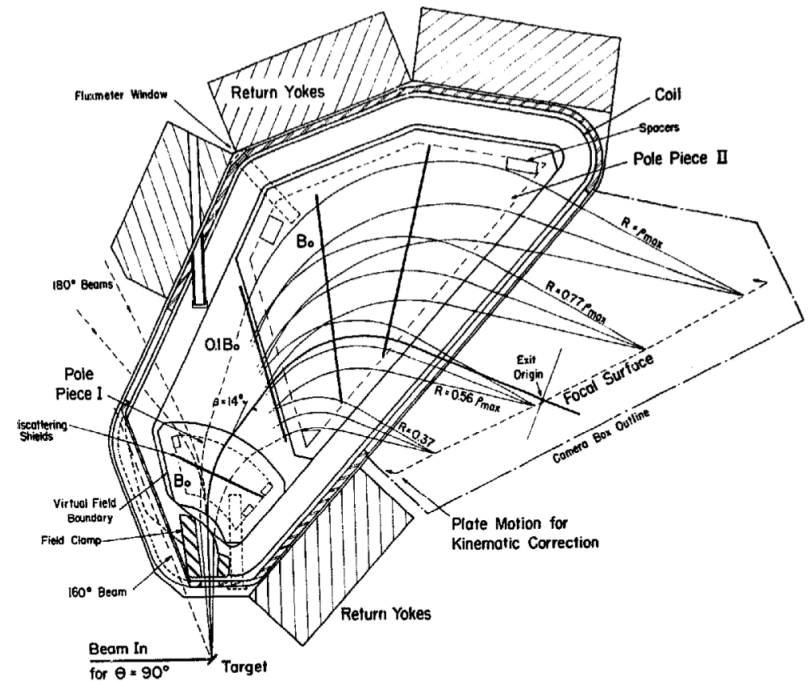
- Resonant reaction rate: velocity-weighted cross section:

$$(2J + 1) \frac{\Gamma_\alpha \Gamma_p}{\Gamma_{tot}} \exp\left(-\frac{E_r}{k_B T}\right)$$

- Gamow-window: 0.7–2.0 MeV resonance energy for alpha-induced reactions at temperatures of 0.5–1.5 GK
- Significant corrections for neutron induced reactions but still dependent on spin-parity and partial widths

Indirect measurement of ^{26}Al destruction

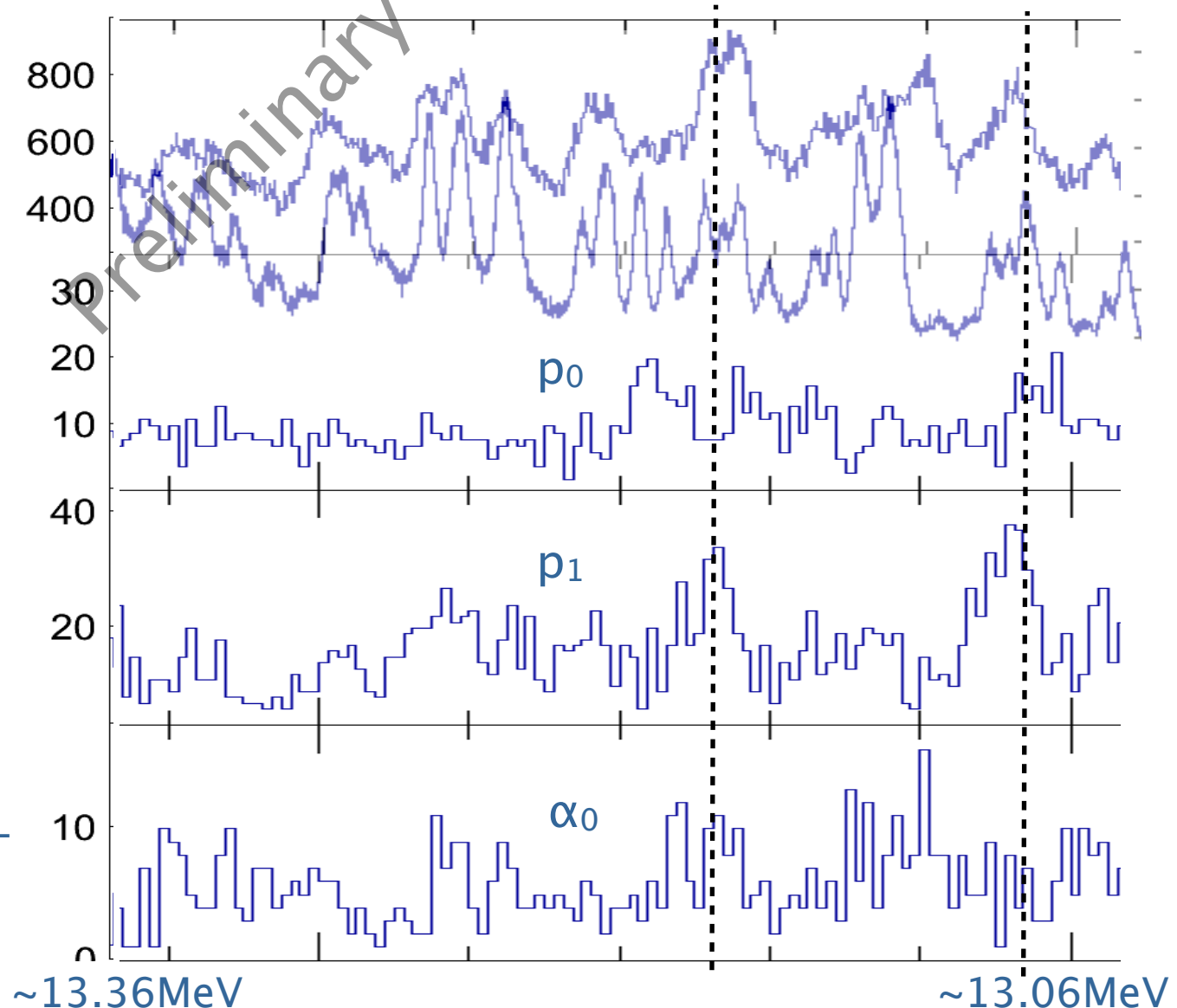
- ^{26}Al destruction via β -decay and neutron induced reactions:
 $^{26}\text{Al}(n,p)^{26}\text{Mg}$, $^{26}\text{Al}(n,\alpha)^{26}\text{Mg}$
- Observables for ^{26}Al destruction:
- States in the region immediately above the 13.06MeV n-threshold
- High level density (\sim one per 10keV observed, more predicted)
- Spin-parities
- Proton- alpha- and neutron widths



- Measurements of the states in question using the Orsay Enge spectrometer and the Munich Q3D (spin parities from angular distributions).
- Coincident silicon array for proton and alpha branching ratios

Indirect measurement of ^{26}Al destruction

- Branching ratios from secondary channel coincidences:
- $\Gamma_{\alpha}/\Gamma_{\text{tot}}$ and $\Gamma_{\text{p}}/\Gamma_{\text{tot}}$
- Separation of decays to individual (excited) states, e.g. ^{26}Mg first excited:
- $^{27}\text{Al}(,p_0)^{26}\text{Mg}(\text{gs})$
- $^{27}\text{Al}(,p_1)^{26}\text{Mg}(1^{\text{st}})$
- $^{27}\text{Al}(,\alpha_0)^{23}\text{Na}(\text{gs})$
- Compare to high-resolution spectroscopy



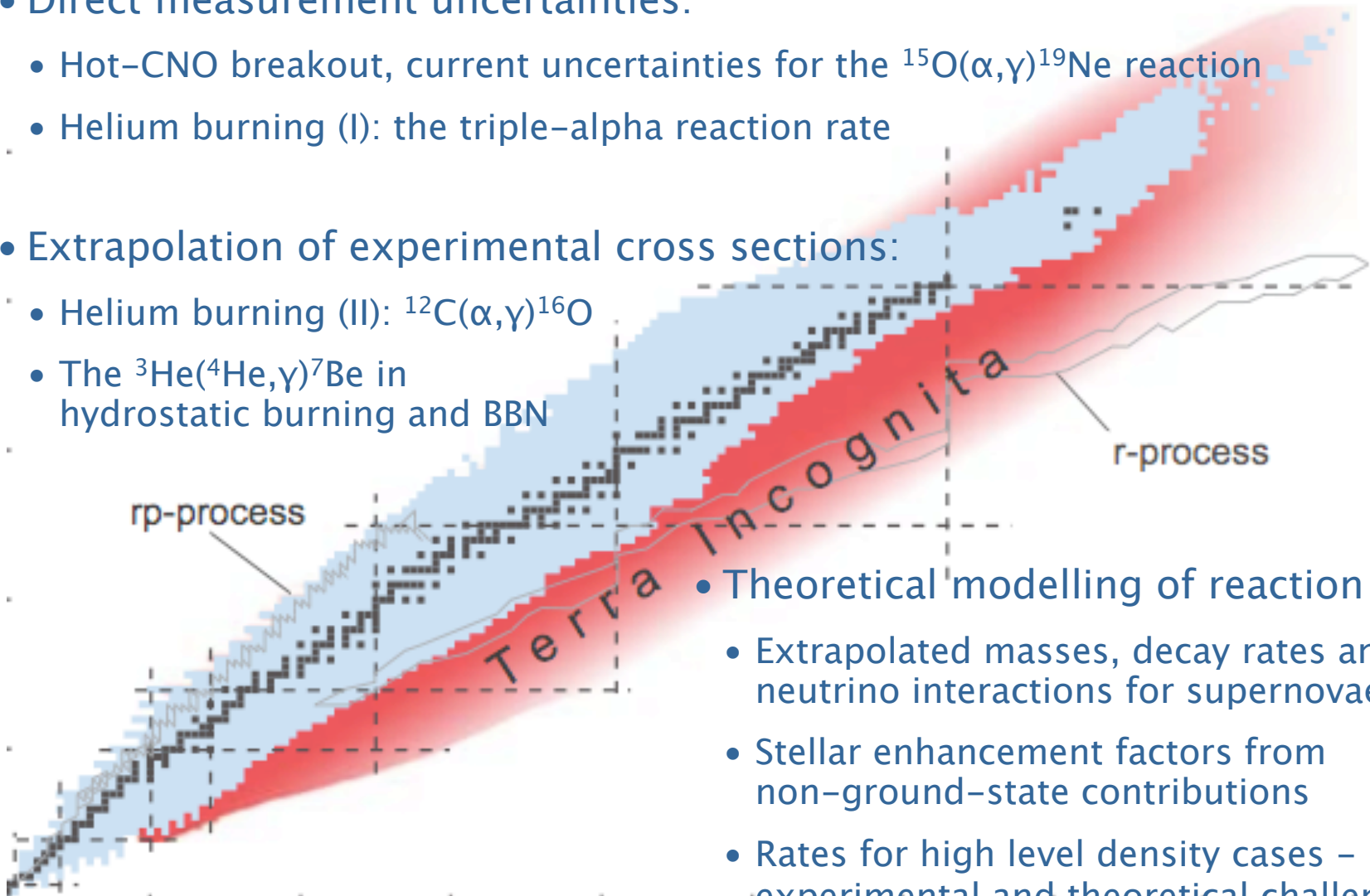
Key Nuclear Uncertainties for Origins and Impact

- Direct measurement uncertainties:

- Hot-CNO breakout, current uncertainties for the $^{15}\text{O}(\alpha,\gamma)^{19}\text{Ne}$ reaction
- Helium burning (I): the triple- α reaction rate

- Extrapolation of experimental cross sections:

- Helium burning (II): $^{12}\text{C}(\alpha,\gamma)^{16}\text{O}$
- The $^3\text{He}(^4\text{He},\gamma)^7\text{Be}$ in hydrostatic burning and BBN



- Theoretical modelling of reaction rates

- Extrapolated masses, decay rates and neutrino interactions for supernovae
- Stellar enhancement factors from non-ground-state contributions
- Rates for high level density cases – experimental and theoretical challenges