

r-process nucleosynthesis and chemical evolution in the early Galaxy

Yong-Zhong Qian
University of Minnesota

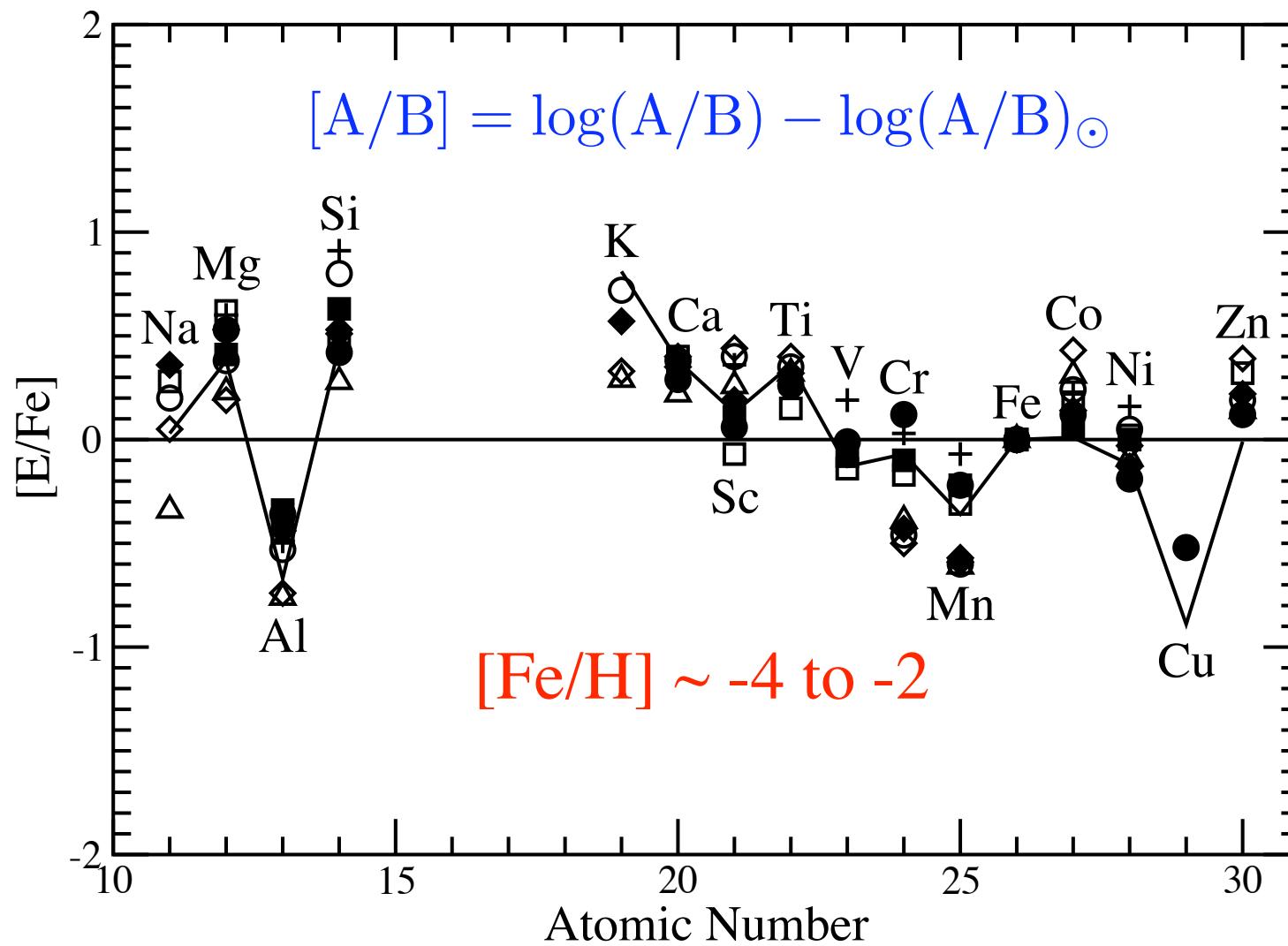
OMEG Institute
National Astronomical Observatory of Japan
November 18, 2011

Elemental abundances in metal-poor stars

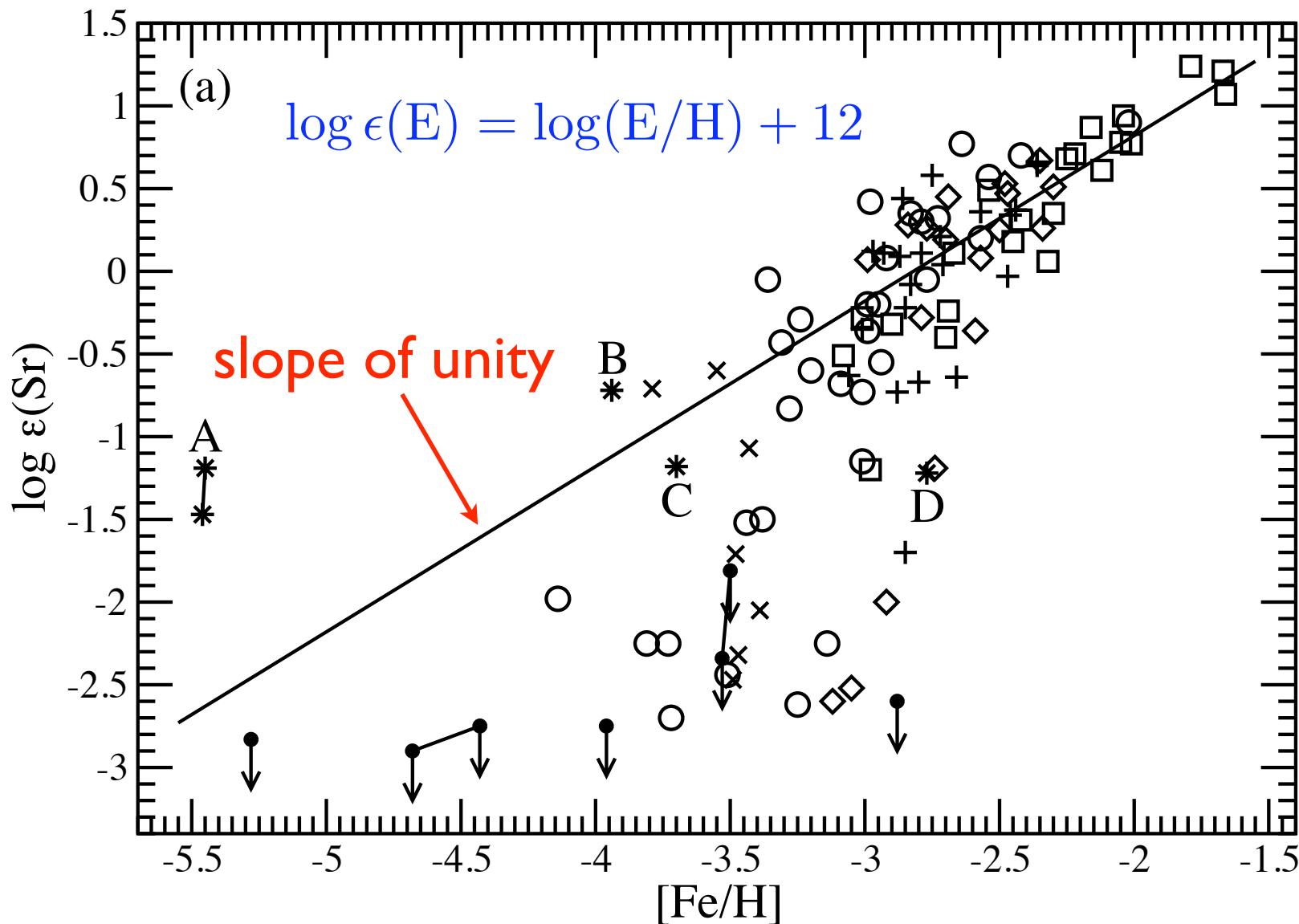
(Johnson 2002; Honda et al. 2004; Aoki et al. 2005;
Francois et al. 2007; Cohen et al. 2007)

- Fe-like elements ($A \sim 23$ to 70)
Na, Mg, Al, Si, ..., Fe, ..., Zn
- Sr-like elements ($A \sim 88$ to 110)
Sr, Y, Zr, ..., Ag
- Ba-like elements ($A > 130$)
Ba, ..., Eu, ..., Pt, ..., Th, ..., U, ...

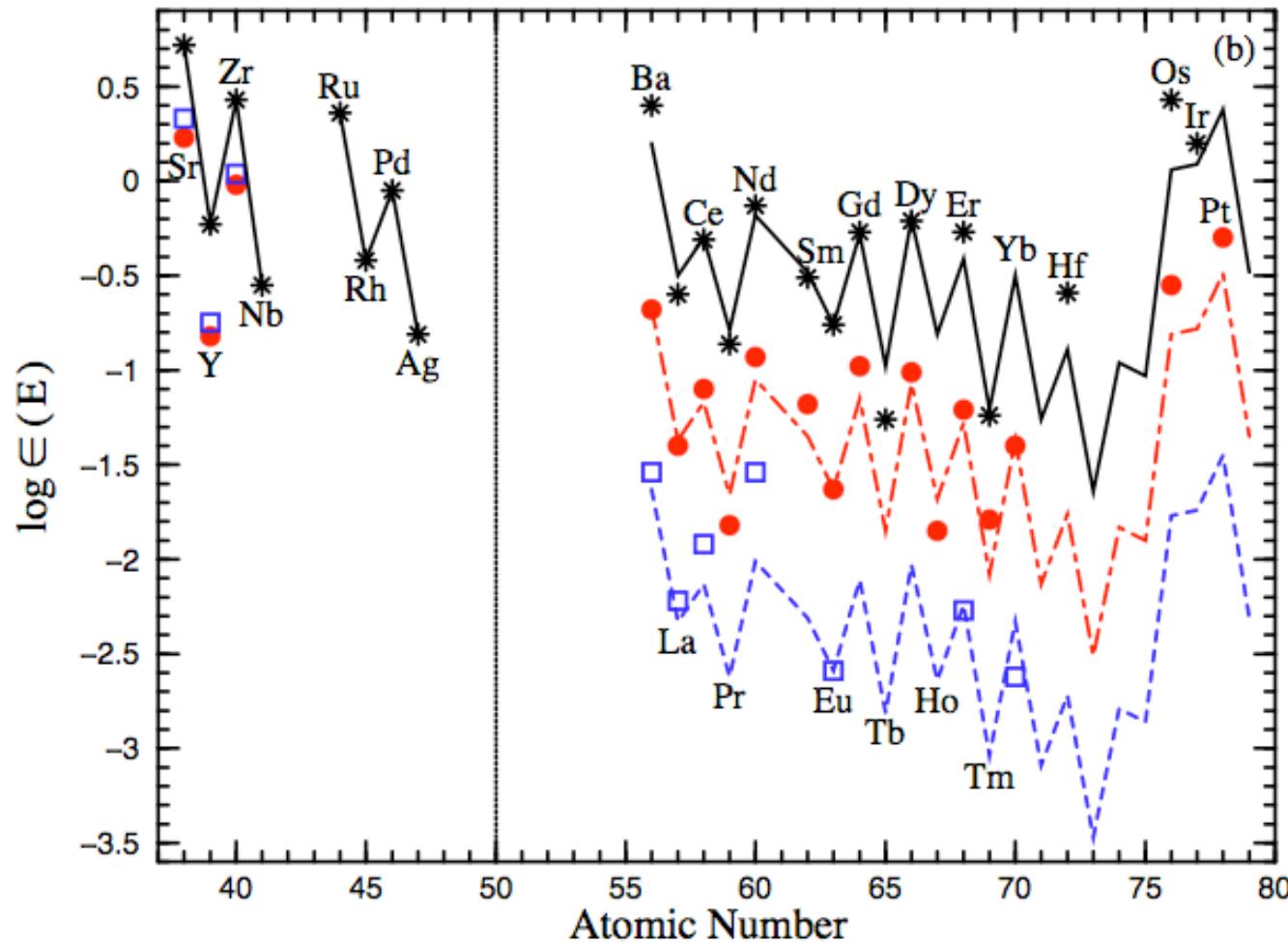
Quasi-uniform pattern of Fe-like elements

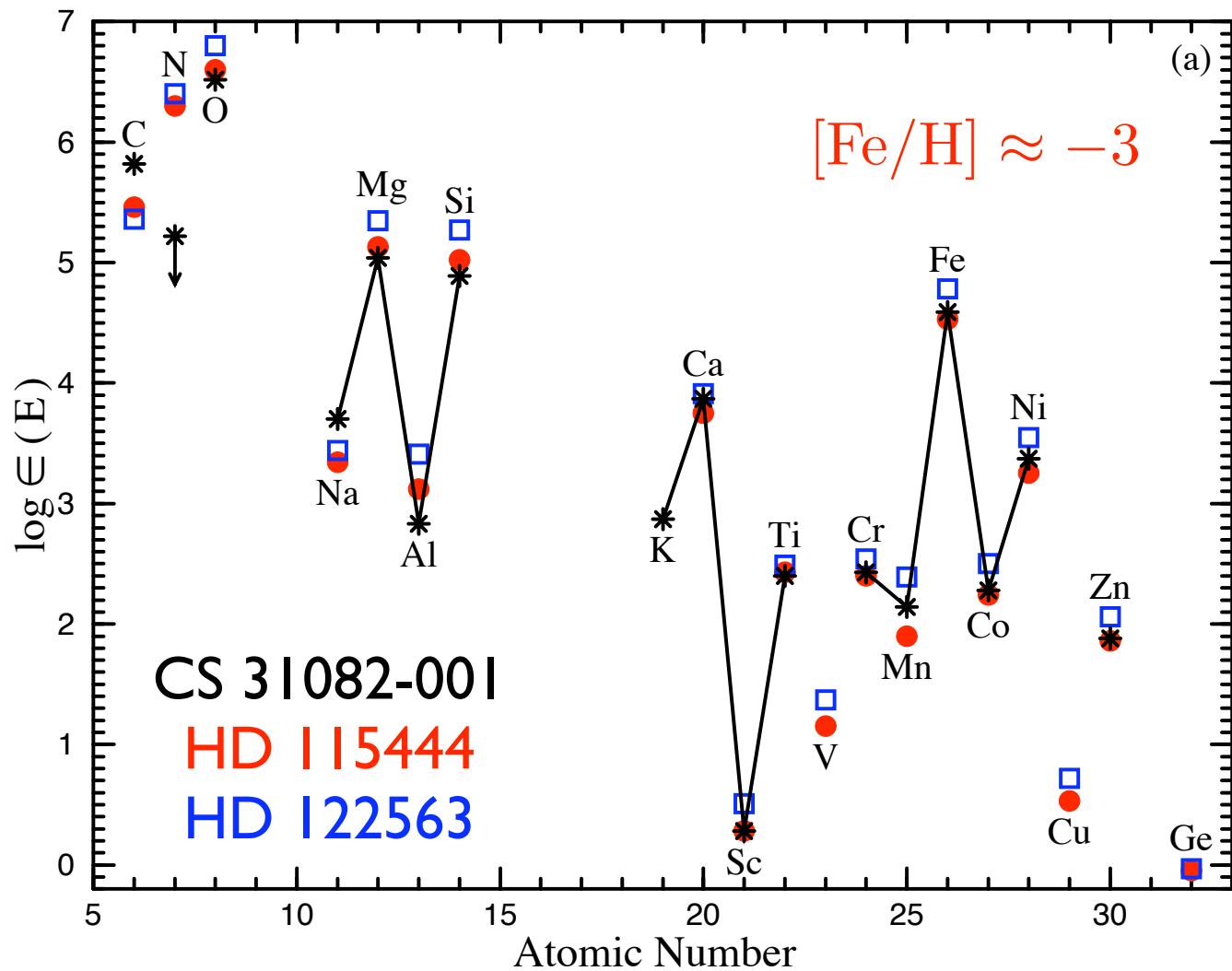


Evolution of Sr with Fe



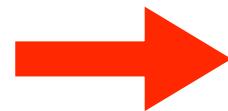
Observations of Sr- & Ba-like elements (Westin et al. 2000; Hill et al. 2002)





Summary of observations

- nearly fixed pattern for elements within each of the 3 groups
- wide variations in the ratio of elements between any 2 groups
- Ba-like elements decoupled from Fe-like elements



three distinct types of sources

three areas of r-process study

properties of neutron-rich nuclei far from stability

→ detailed production pattern

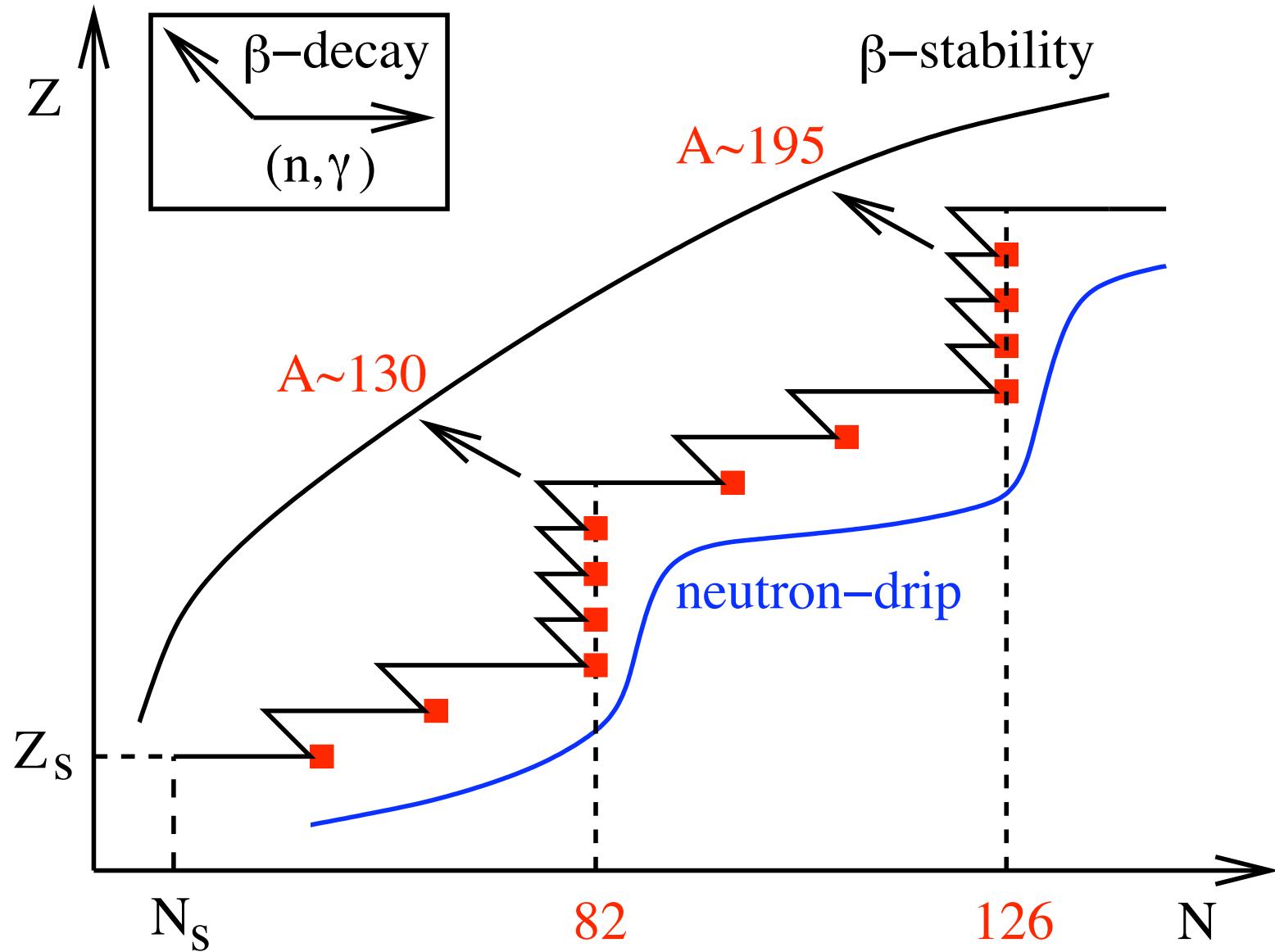
conditions in astrophysical sites

→ n_n, T , neutron-to-seed ratio

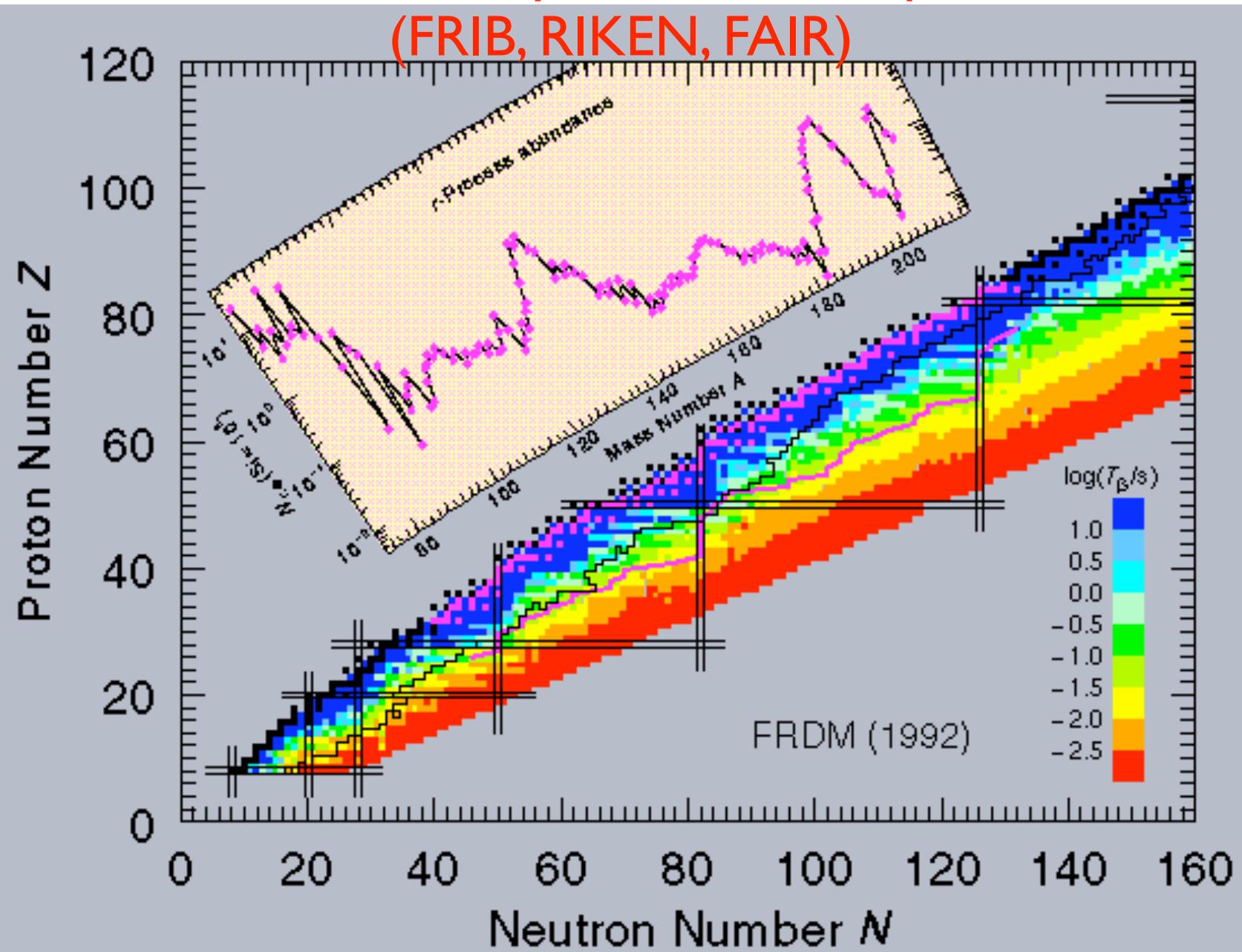
rates & other characteristics of r-process sources

→ chemical evolution of the Galaxy

Rapid neutron capture: the r-process



r-Process & Facility for Rare Isotope Beams (FRIB, RIKEN, FAIR)



r-Process in Neutrino–driven Wind
(e.g., Woosley & Baron 1992; Meyer et al. 1992; Woosley et al. 1994)

$n, \text{seeds} \longrightarrow r\text{-process nuclei}$

$T \sim 0.25 \text{ MeV}$

$n, {}^4\text{He} \longrightarrow \text{seeds } (A \sim 90)$

$T \sim 0.5 \text{ MeV}$

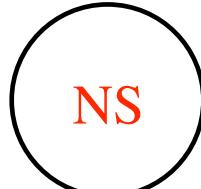
$n, p \longrightarrow {}^4\text{He}$

$T \sim 1 \text{ MeV}$

$n/p > 1$

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

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



summary of neutrino-driven wind results

Witti, Janka, & Takahashi 1994;
Qian & Woosley 1996;
Wanajo, Kajino, Mathews, & Otsuki 2001;
Thompson, Burrows, & Meyer 2001;
Fischer et al. 2010;
Roberts, Woosley, & Hoffman 2010

$$Y_e \sim 0.4\text{--}0.5$$



$$S \lesssim 100$$

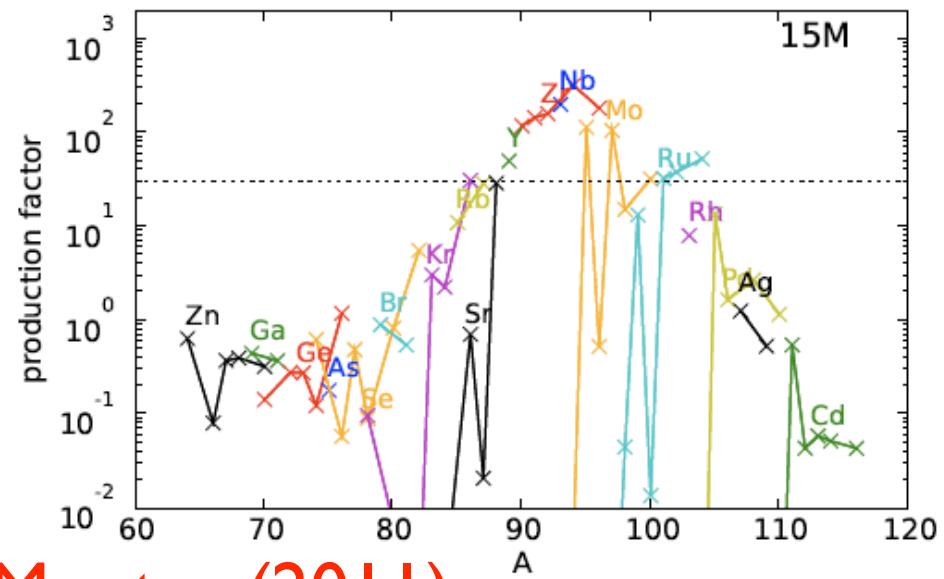
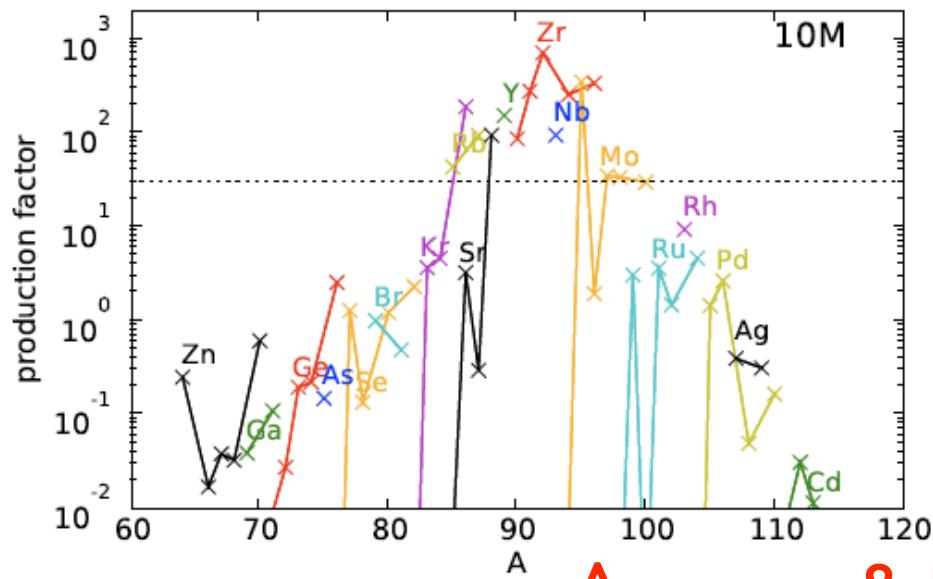
$$\tau_{\text{dyn}} \sim 0.01\text{--}0.1 \text{ s}$$

recent neutrino transport results
(Hudepohl et al. 2010; Fischer et al. 2010)

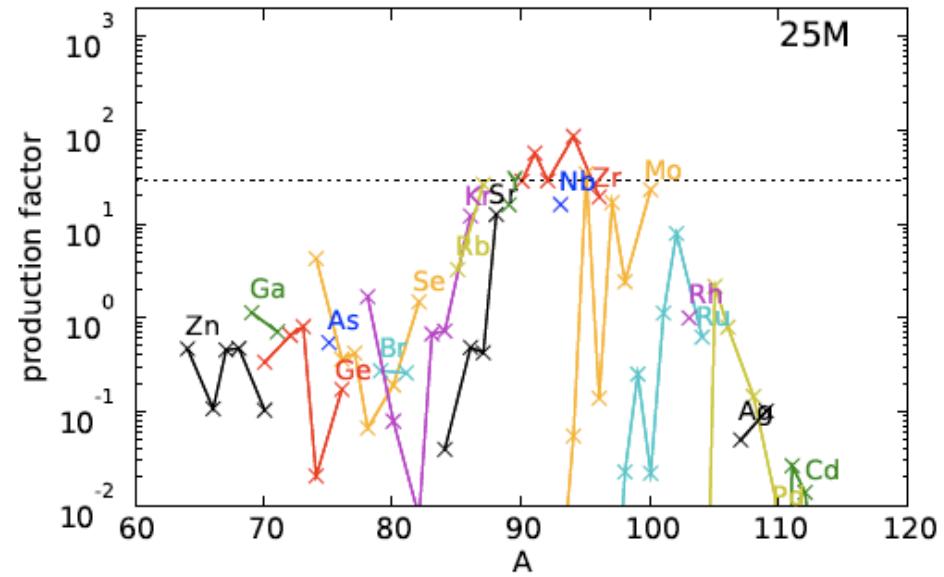
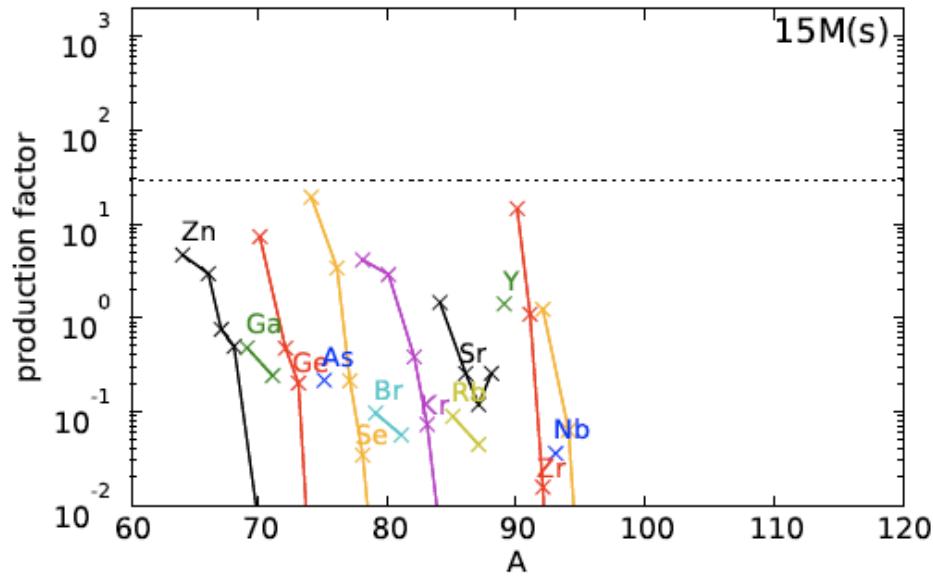


$$Y_e \gtrsim 0.5$$

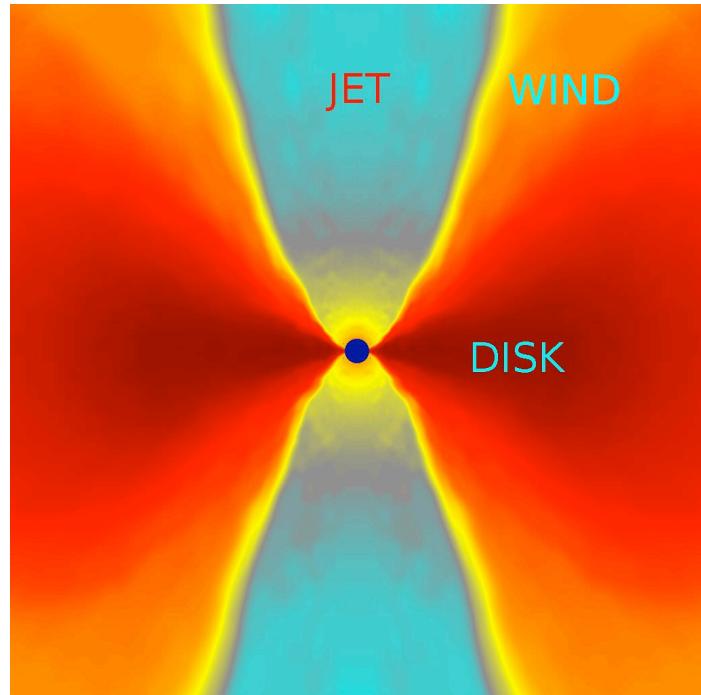
p-rich winds: Pruet et al. 2005; Frohlich et al. 2006



Arcones & Montes (2011)



r-process in winds from accretion disks surrounding black holes?



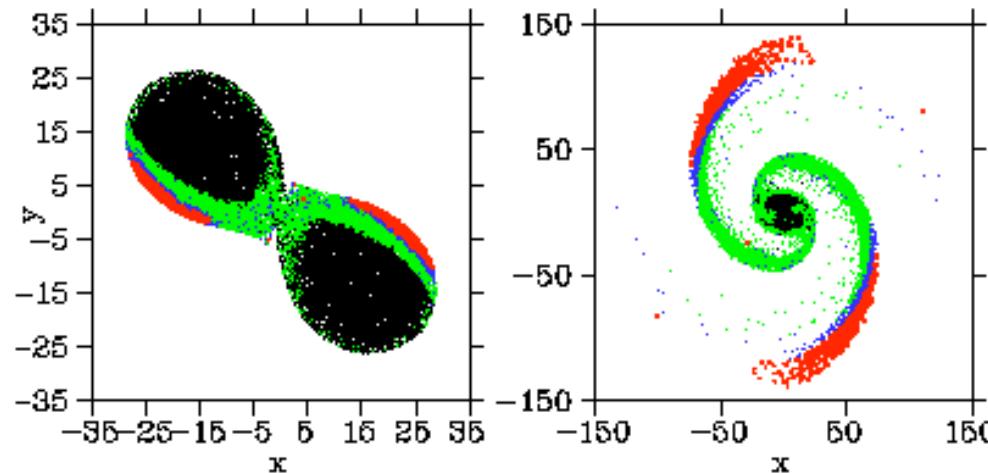
Pruet, Woosley, & Hoffman 2003;
Surman, McLaughlin, & Hix 2006;
Surman et al. 2008;
Wanajo & Janka 2011

accretion disks form around
BHs from core-collapse SNe
(GRBs), NS-NS & NS-BH mergers

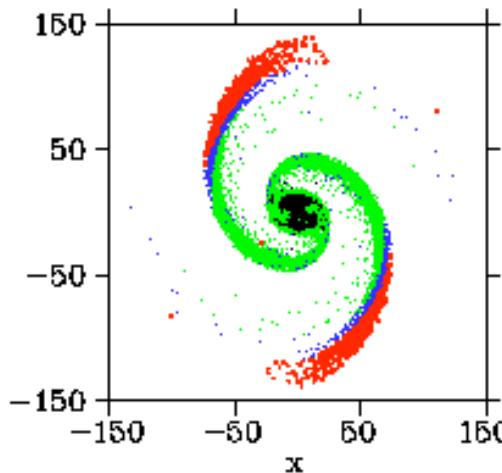
low Y_e in winds → r-process

Neutron Star Mergers

$t = 0.968 \text{ ms}$

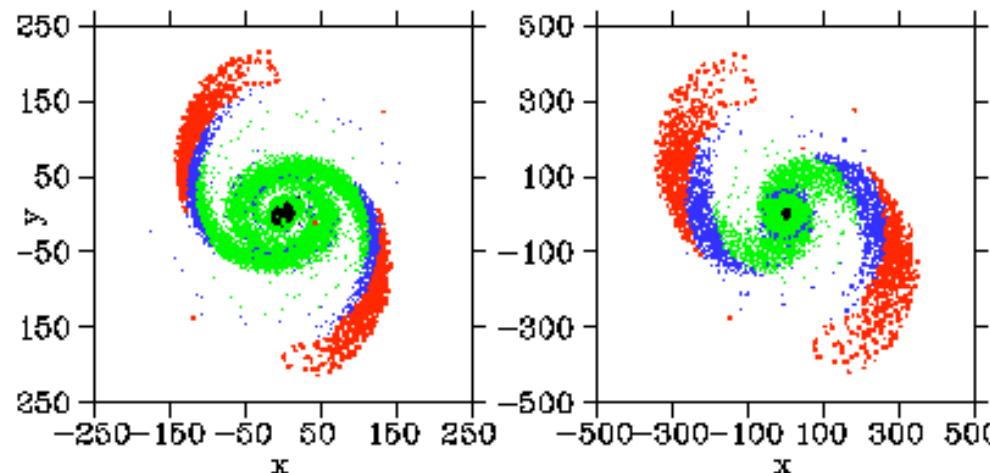


$t = 3.226 \text{ ms}$

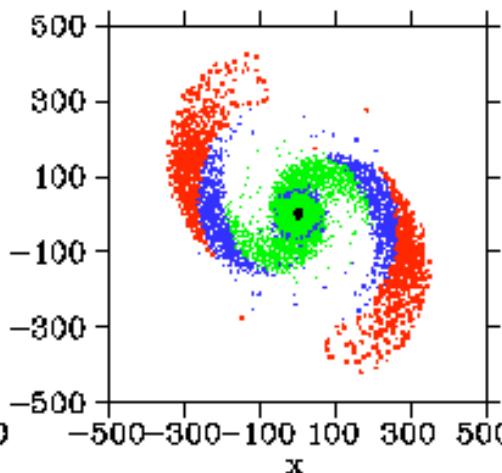


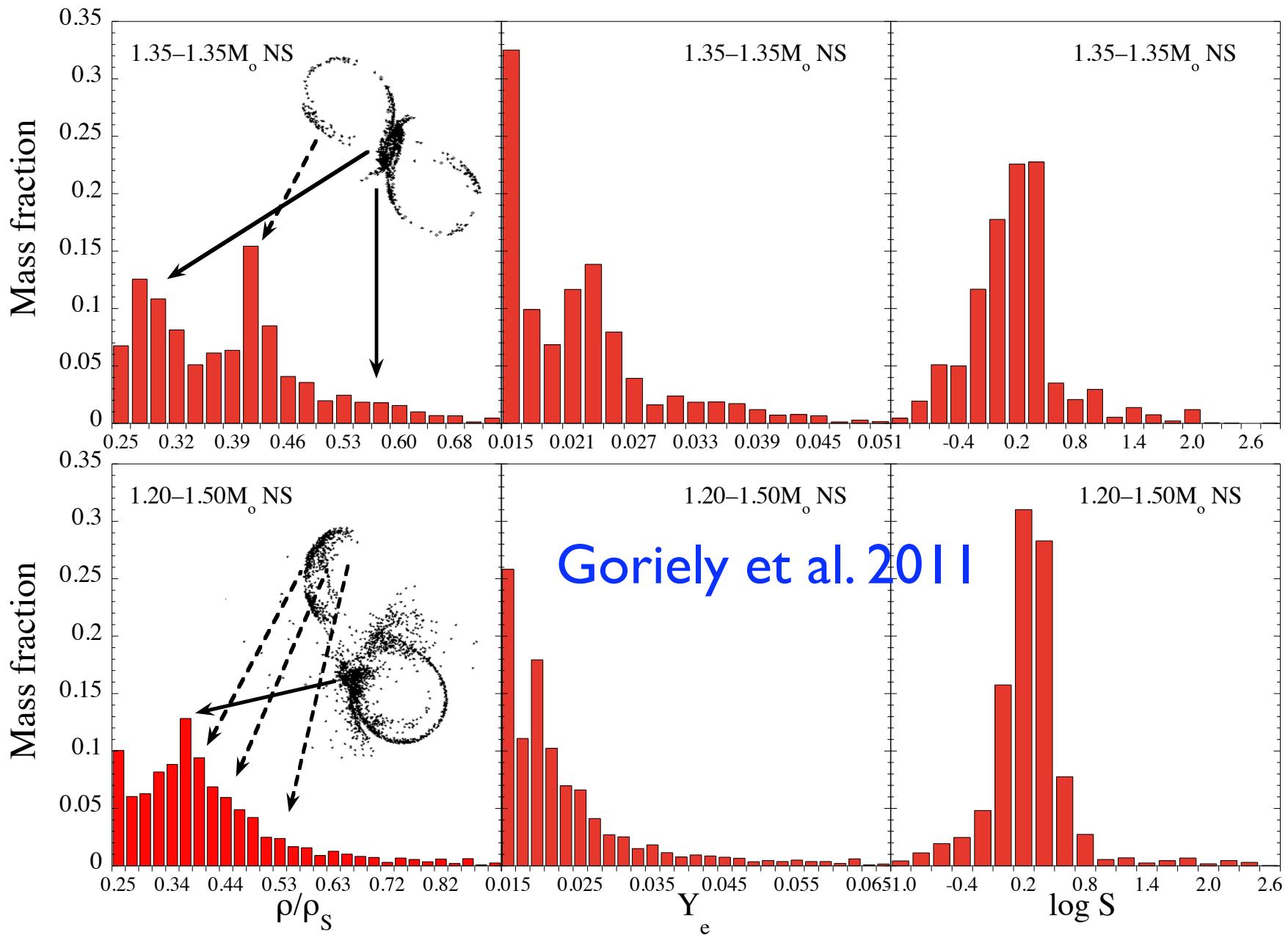
Freiburghaus et al. 1999; Rosswog et al. 2001

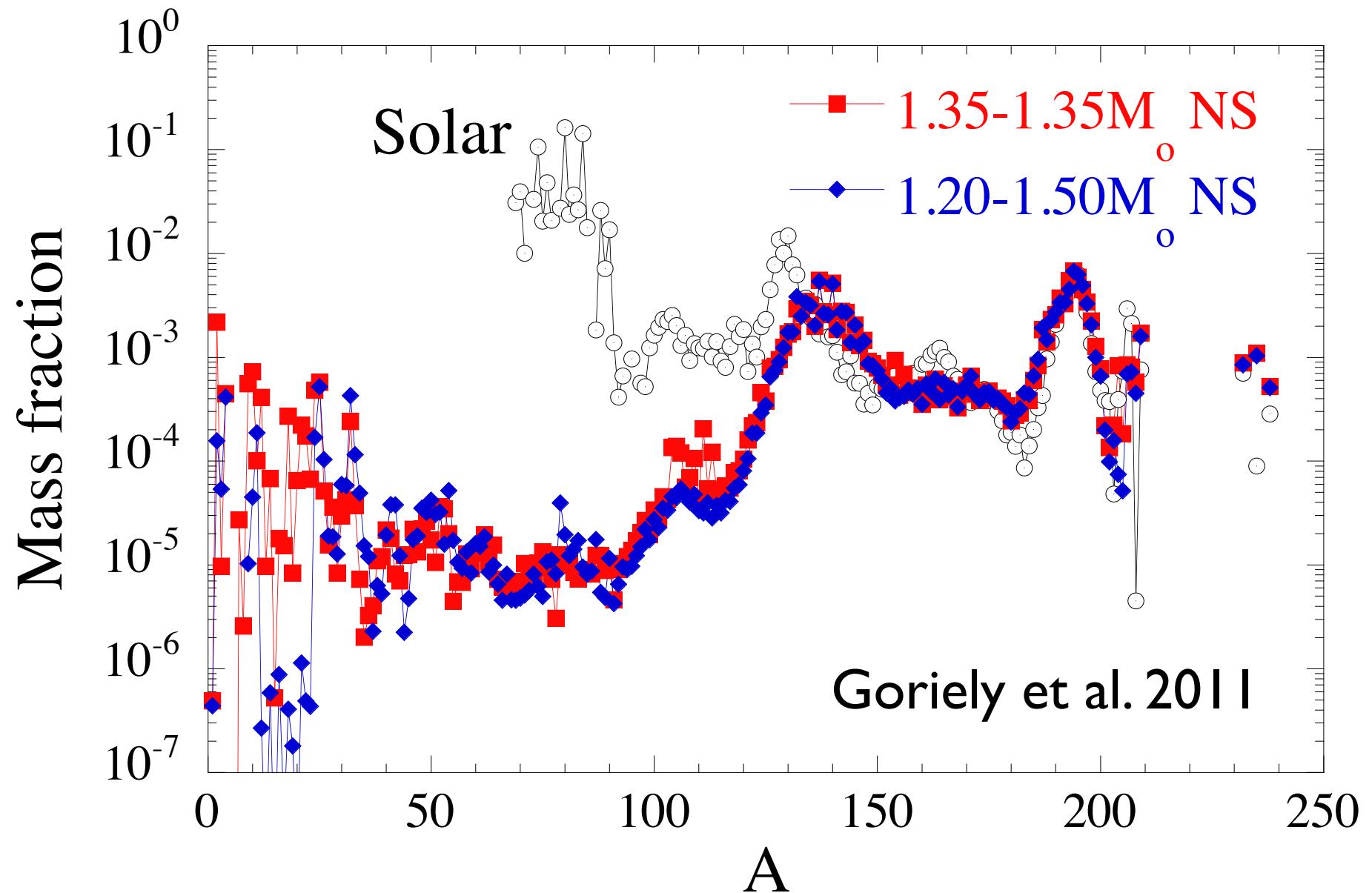
$t = 4.032 \text{ ms}$

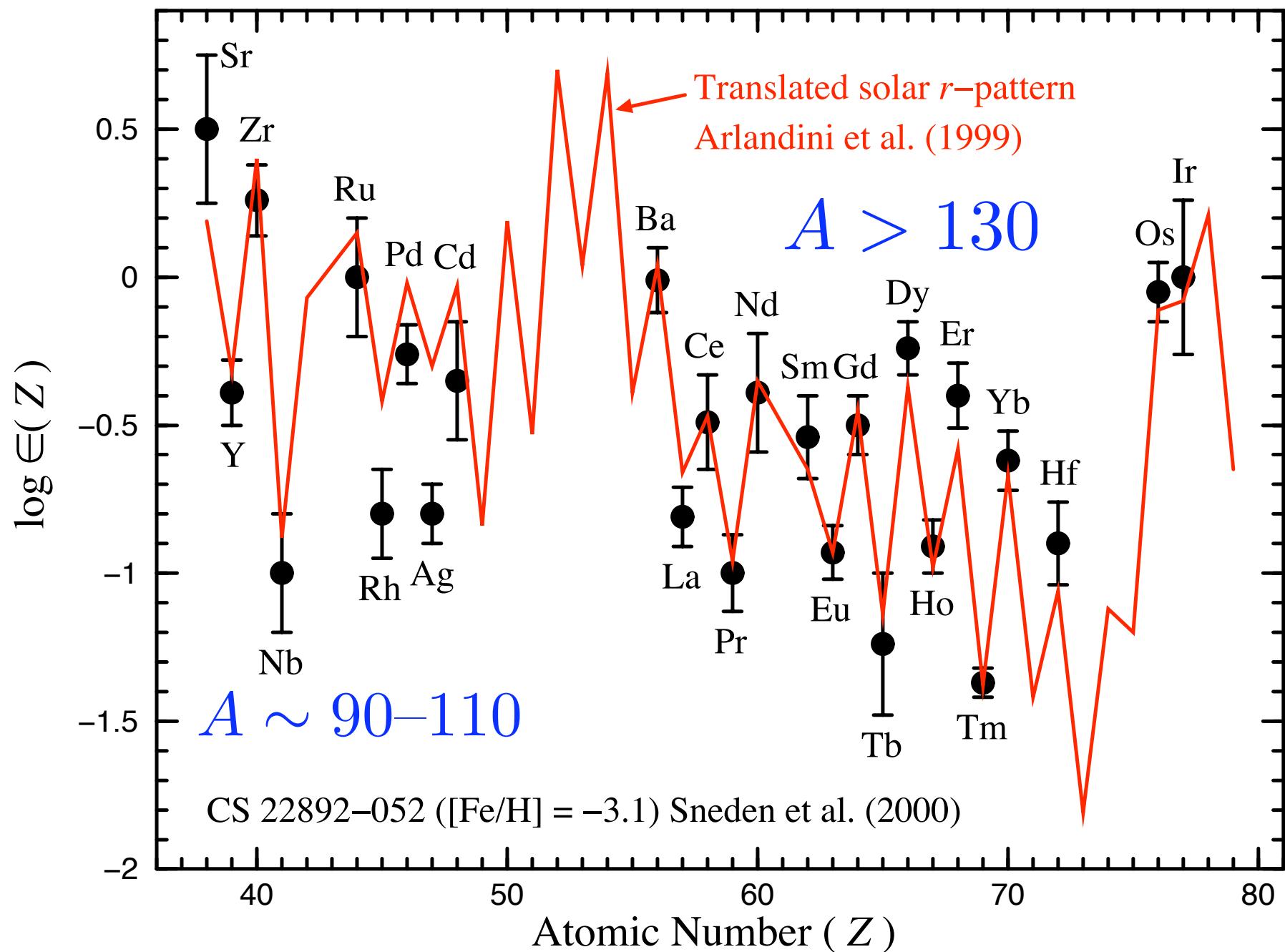


$t = 6.451 \text{ ms}$





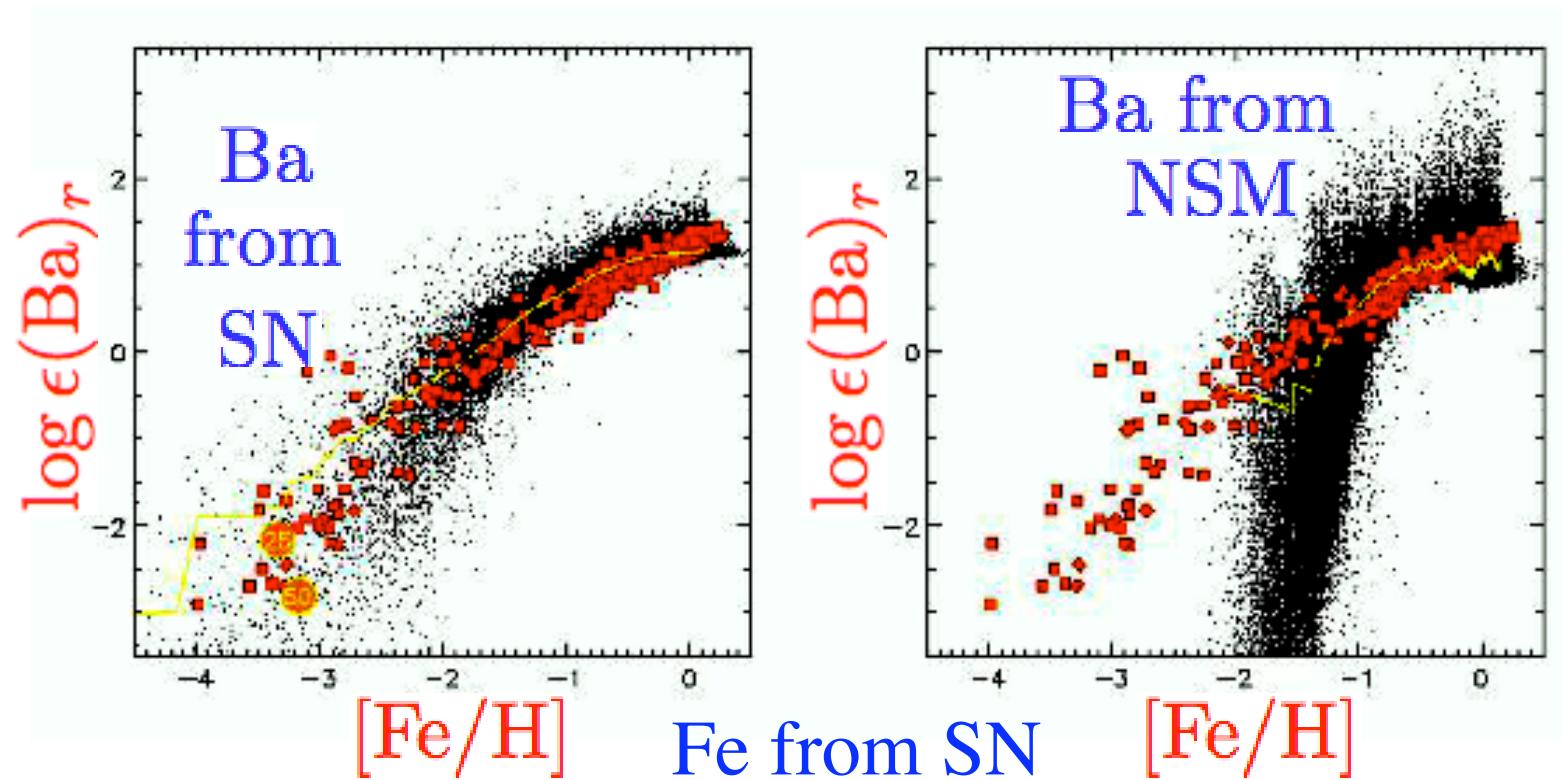




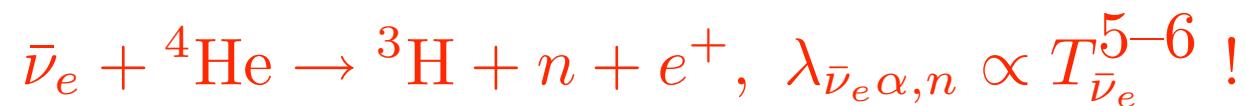
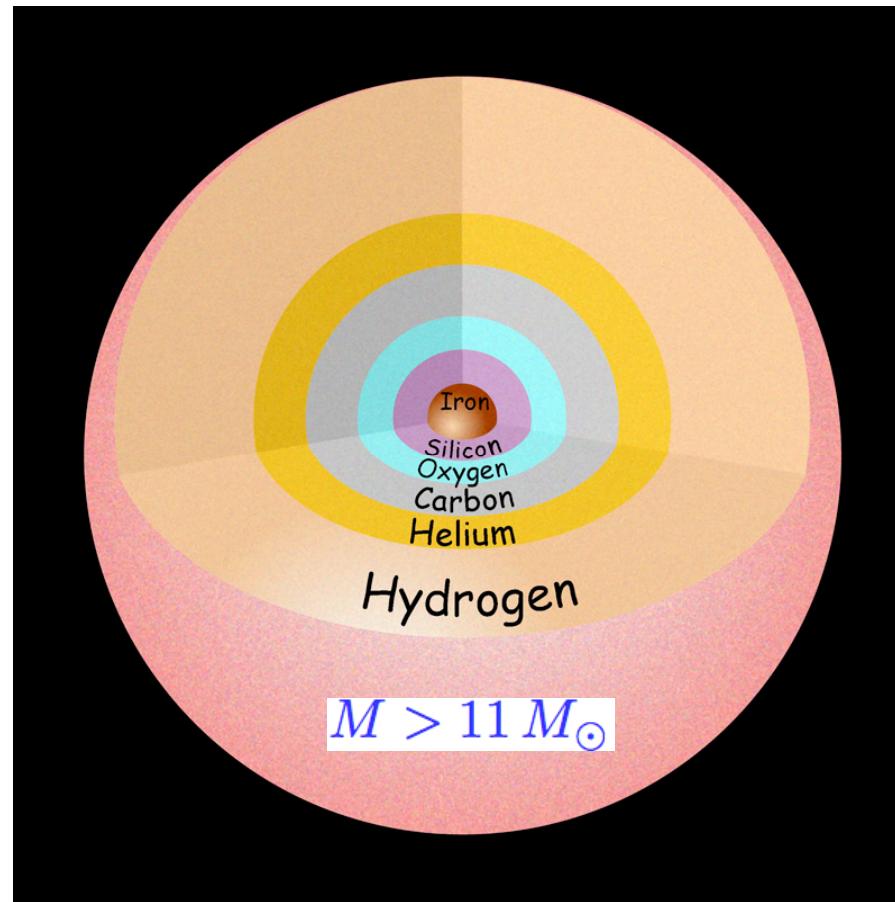
Supernovae vs. Neutron Star Mergers

(Qian 2000; Argast et al. 2004)

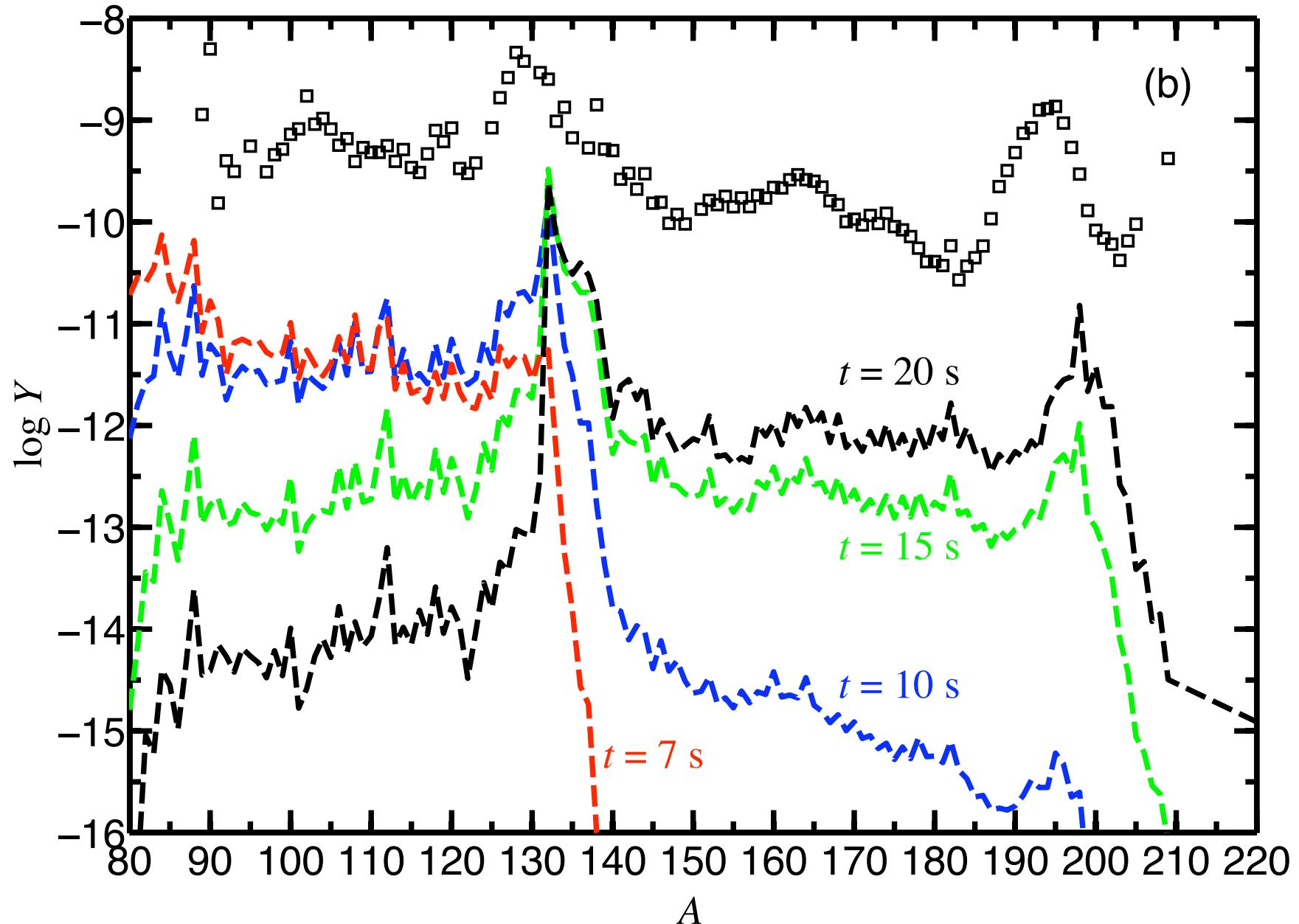
$$f_{\text{SN}} \sim 10^{-2} \text{ yr}^{-1}, f_{\text{NSM}} \sim 10^{-5} \text{ yr}^{-1}$$

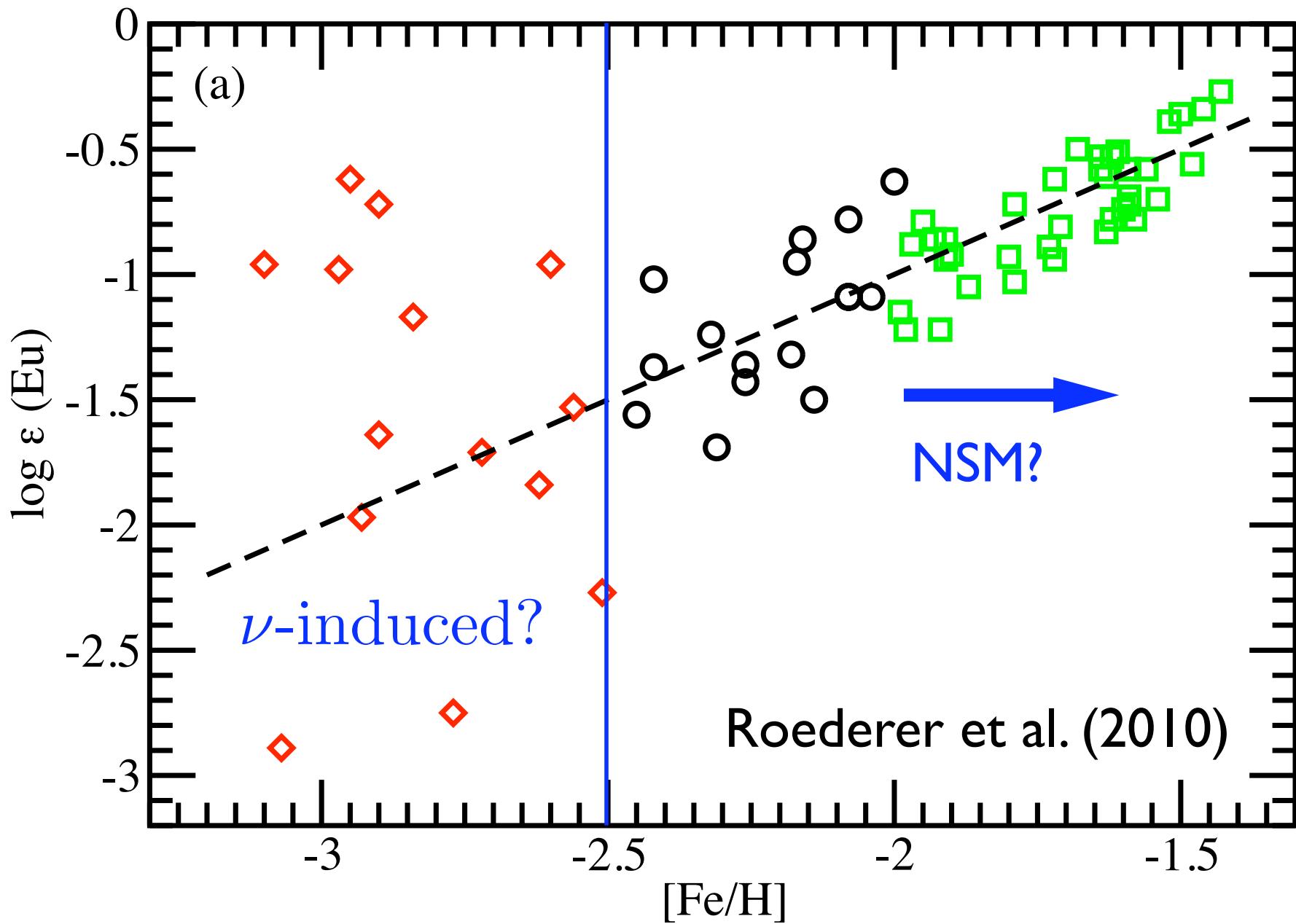


Neutrino-induced r-process in He shell (Epstein, Colgate, & Haxton 1988)



Banerjee, Haxton, & Qian (2011)





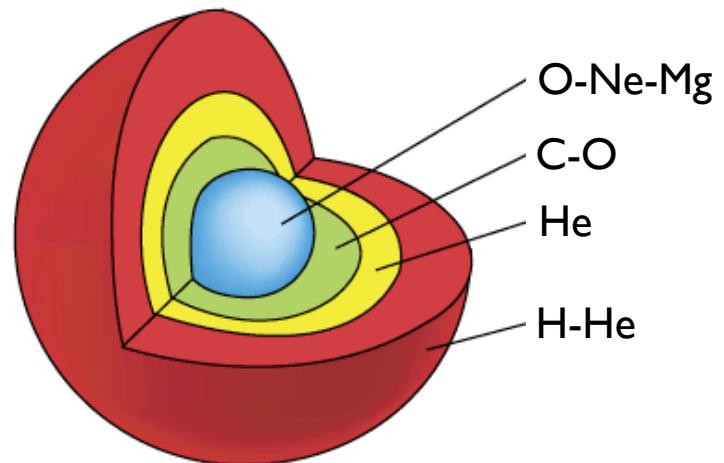
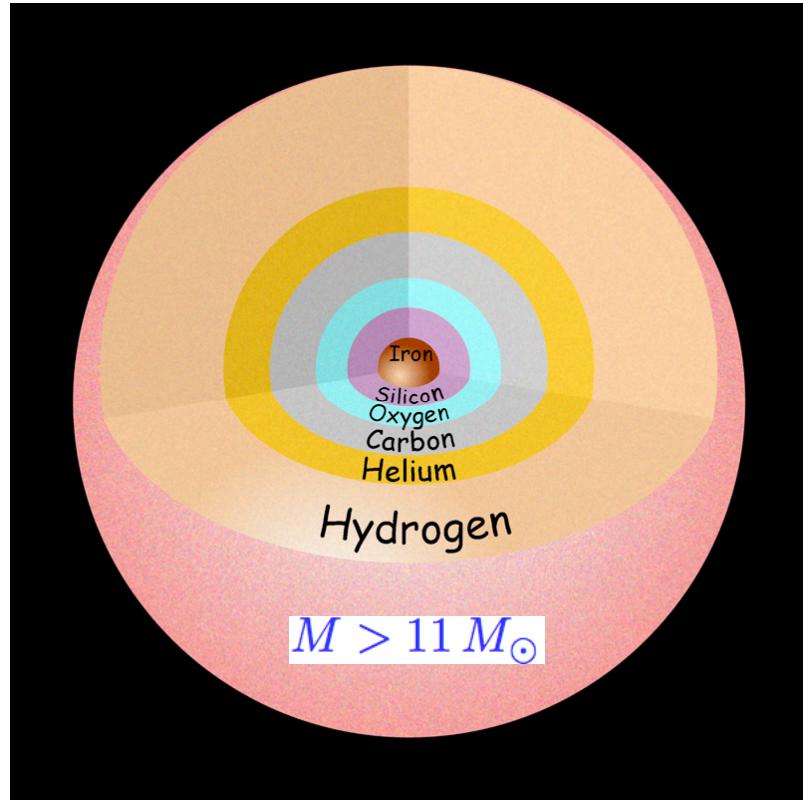
Summary

neutrino-driven winds from neutron stars are very likely sources of Sr,Y,Zr,...,Pd,Ag ($A \sim 88$ to 110), but not likely sources for heavy r-process nuclei ($A > 130$)

winds from black hole accretion disks & ejecta from neutron star mergers are likely sources of heavy r-nuclei, but have difficulty accounting for such nuclei at $[Fe/H] < -2.5$

depending on neutrino spectra and flavor oscillations, neutrino-induced r-process in supernova He shells can produce r-process nuclei at $[Fe/H] < -3$ only

Three types of core-collapse SNe



$M \sim 8\text{--}11 M_{\odot}$

Low-mass SNe: NS

$M \sim 12\text{--}25 M_{\odot}$ normal SNe: NS

$M \sim 25\text{--}50 M_{\odot}$ hypernovae (HNe): BH

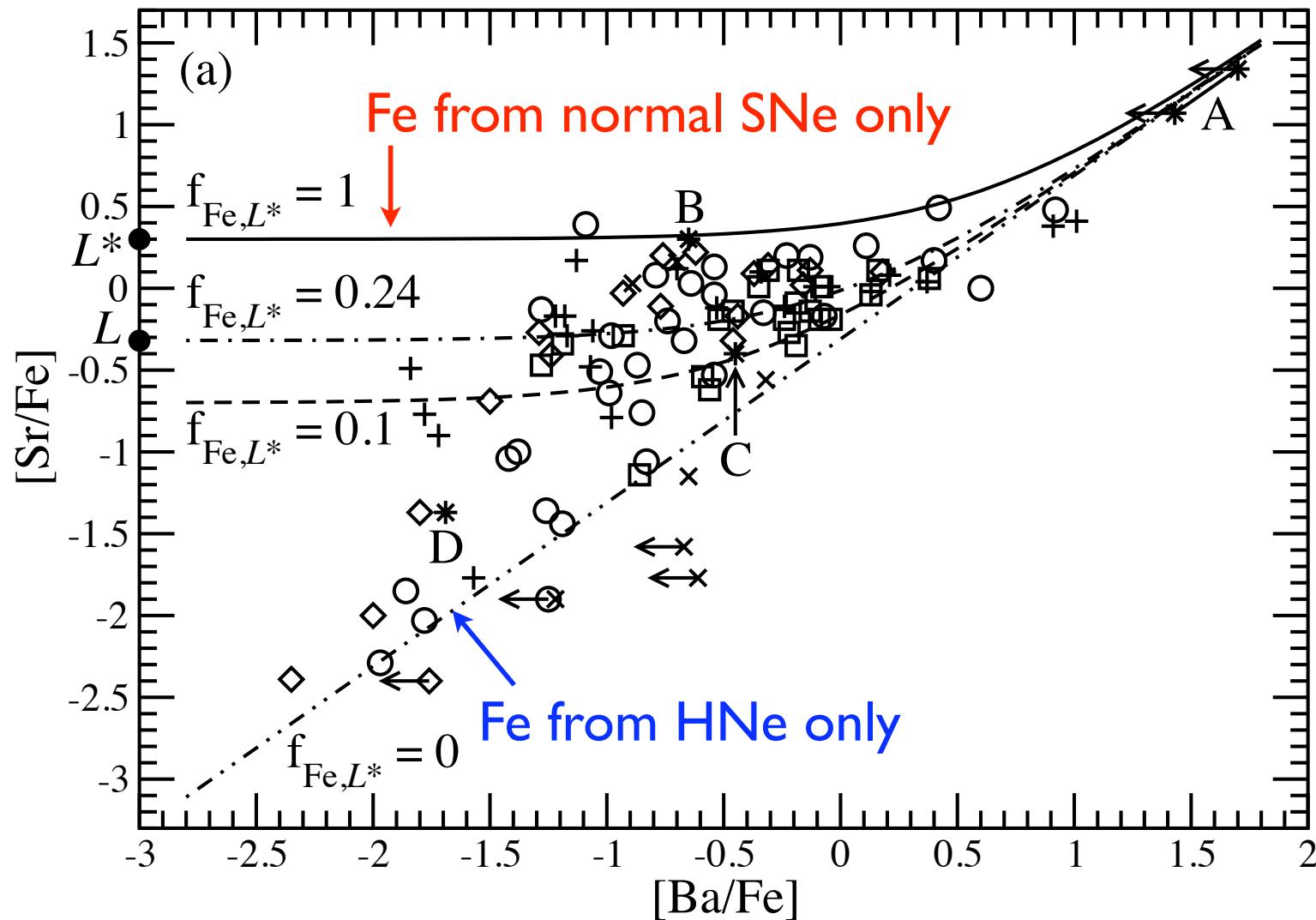
Characteristics of stellar sources

sources	nucleosynthesis	remnants
low-mass SNe	no Fe-like elements	NS
normal SNe	Fe-like elements	NS
HNe	Fe-like elements	BH

Stellar sources for elements

sources	Fe-like elements	Sr-like elements	Ba-like elements
low-mass SNe	No	Yes	Yes
normal SNe	Yes	Yes	No
HNe	Yes	No	No

3-component model (Qian & Wasserburg 2008)



唯有实验才可以裁决

真正的实证方法是这样的：先点亮蜡烛，让烛光指引方向；从适当整理编类过的而不是杂乱无章的经历出发，抽取原理，再在已经验证过的原理的基础上进行新的实验

..... the true method of experience first lights the candle, and then by means of the candle shows the way; commencing as it does with experience duly ordered and digested, not bungling or erratic, and from it educating axioms, and from established axioms again new experiments

Novum Organum (1620)

Francis Bacon