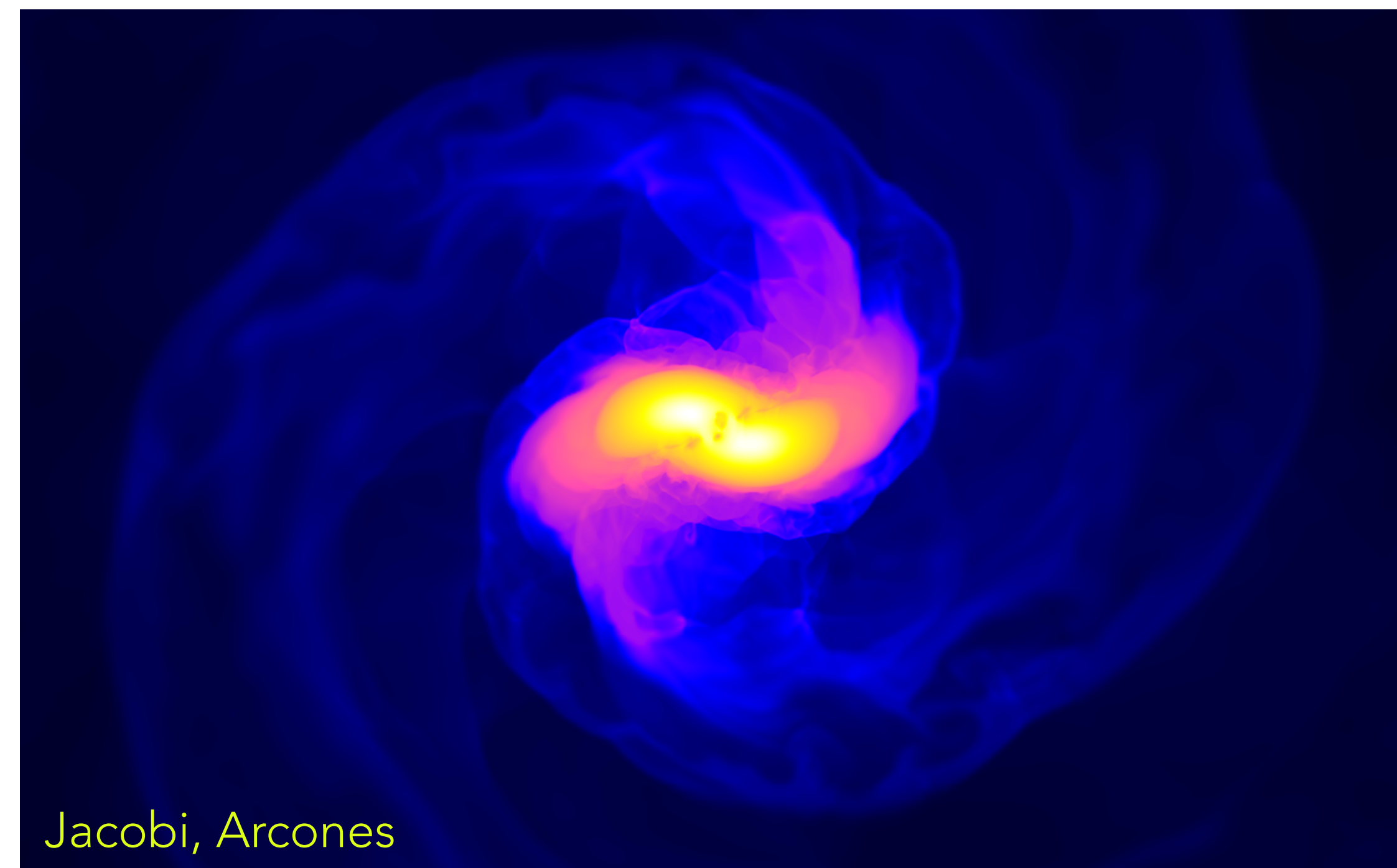
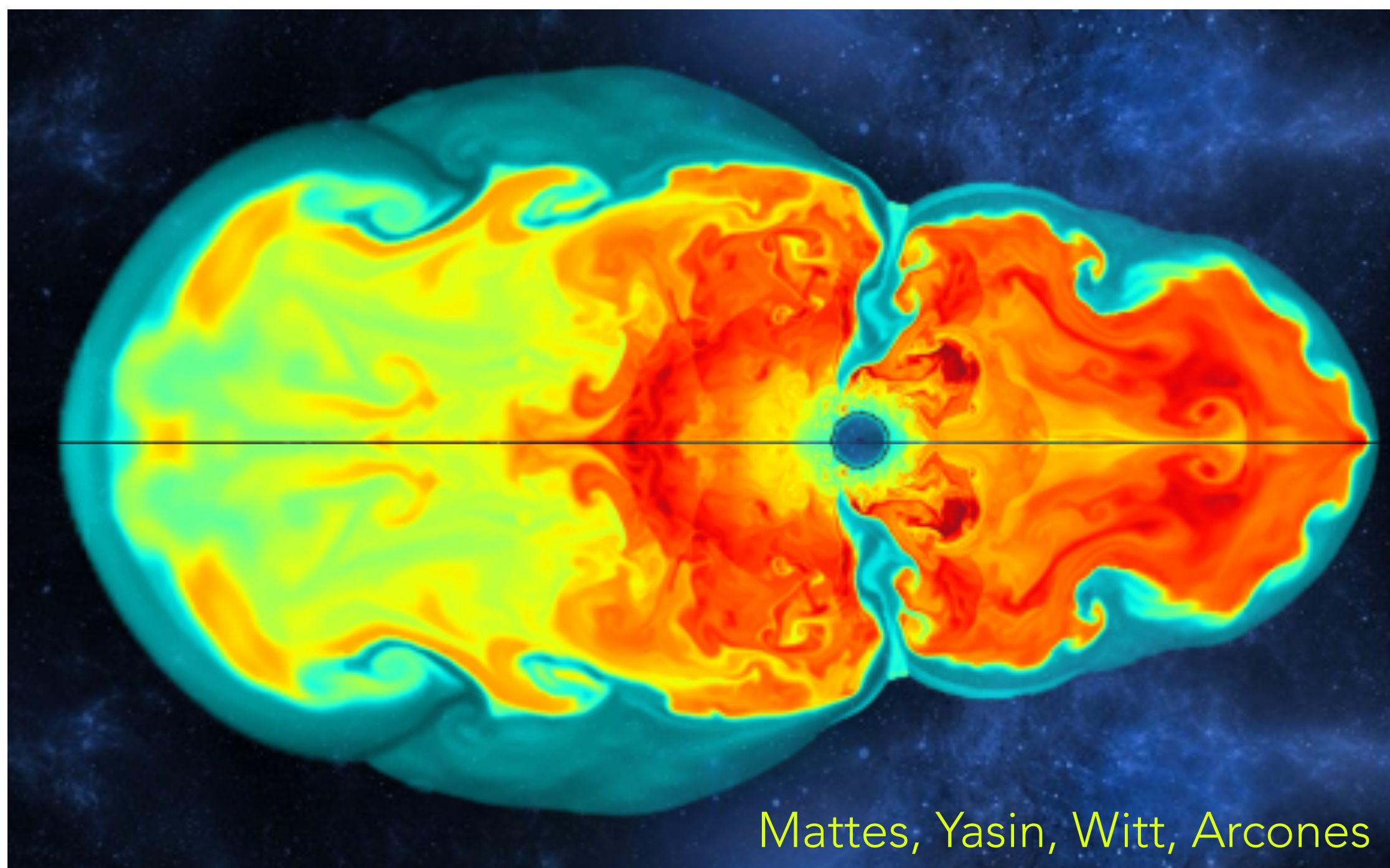


# 60th International Winter Meeting on Nuclear Physics

Bormio, 22 - 26 January 2024



## Core-collapse supernovae and neutron star mergers



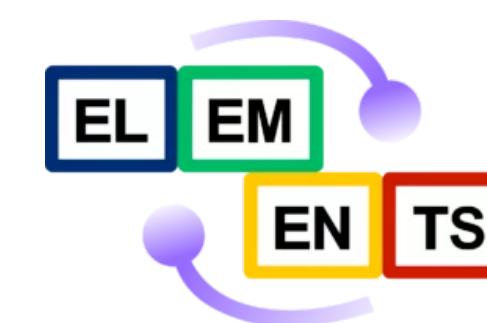
Almudena Arcones



European Research Council  
Established by the European Commission

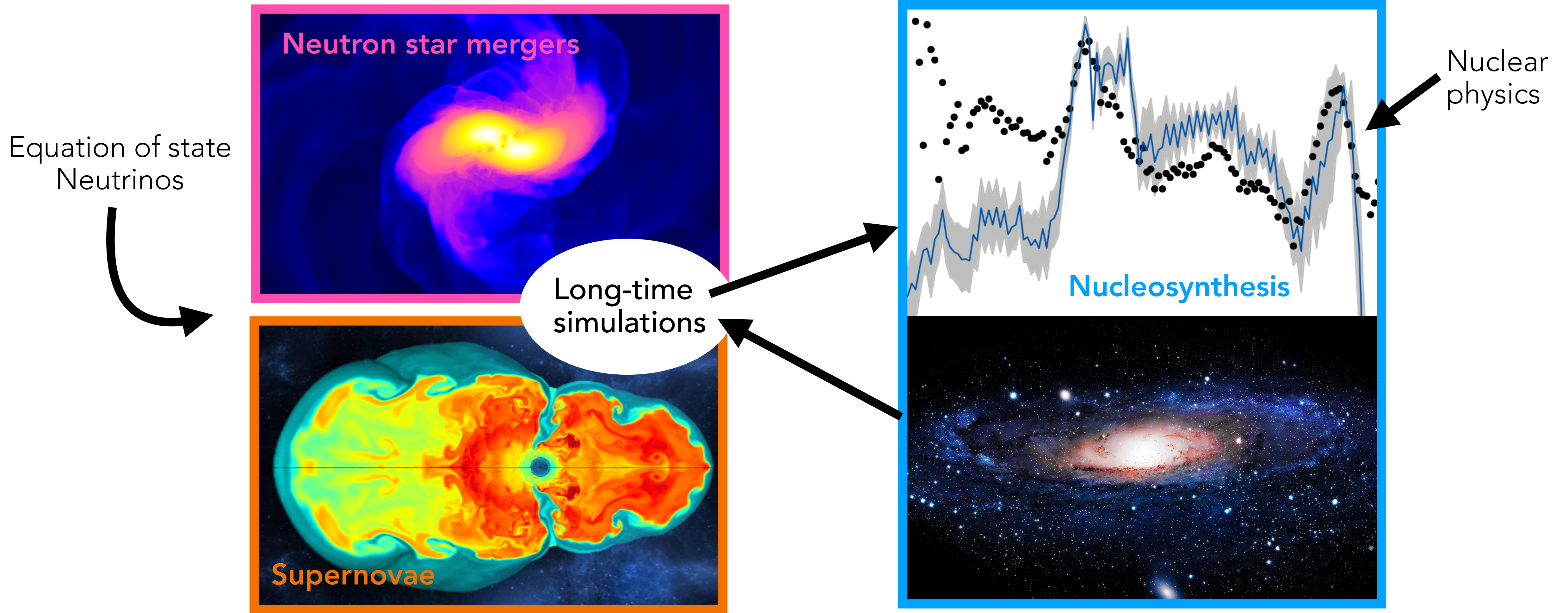


TECHNISCHE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
DARMSTADT





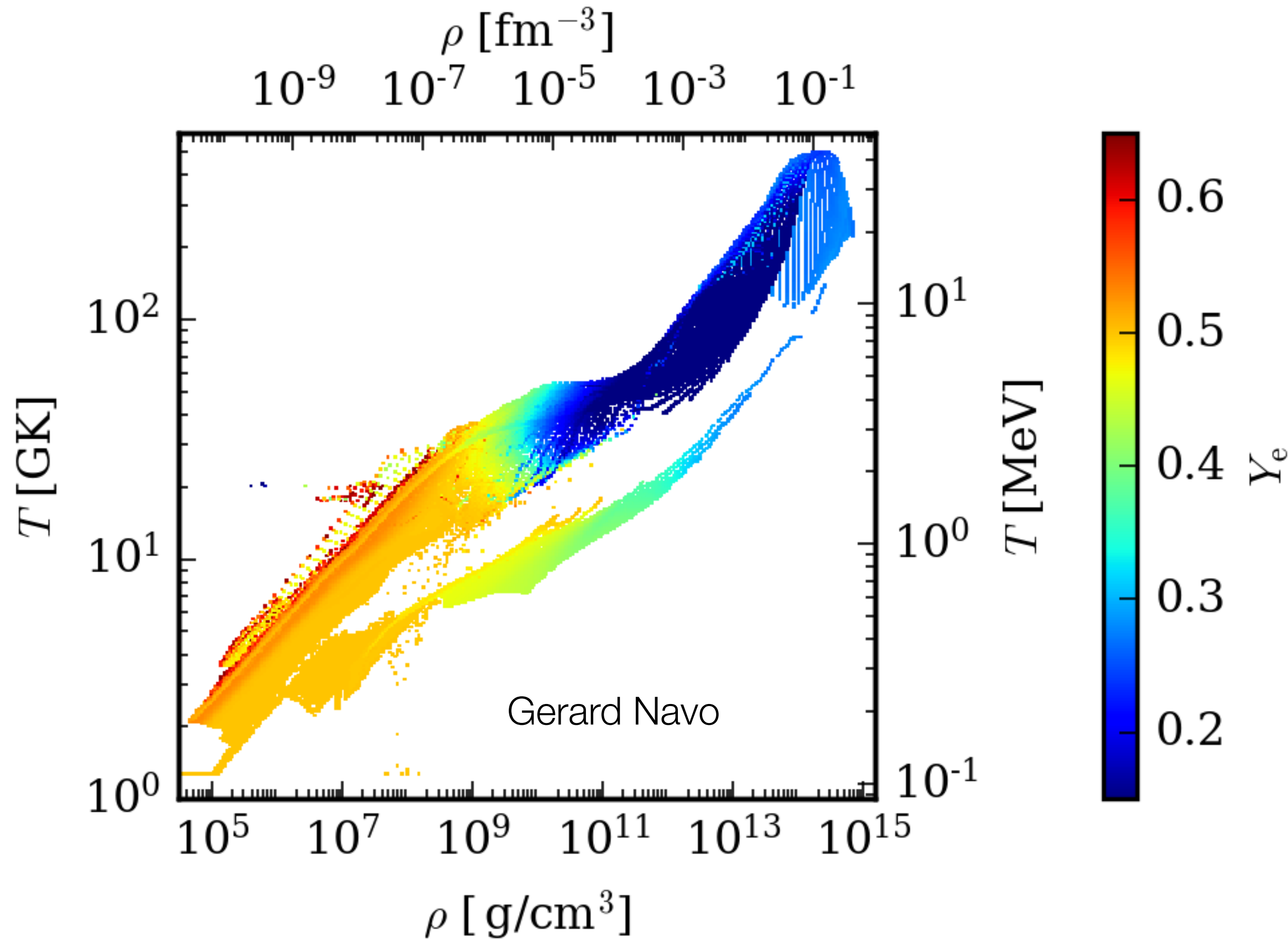
# Cosmic laboratories for nuclear physics



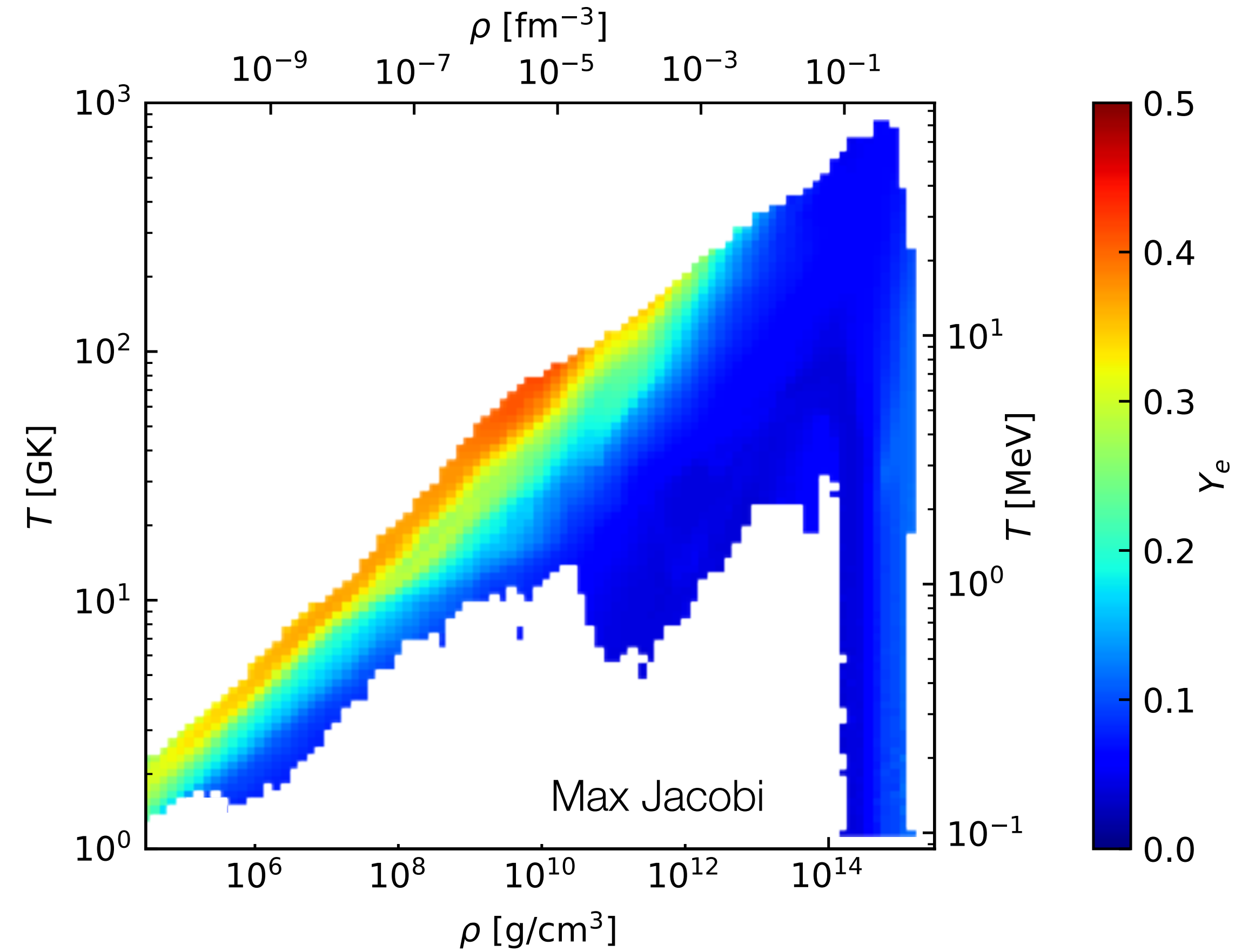


# Extreme conditions

Core-collapse supernovae



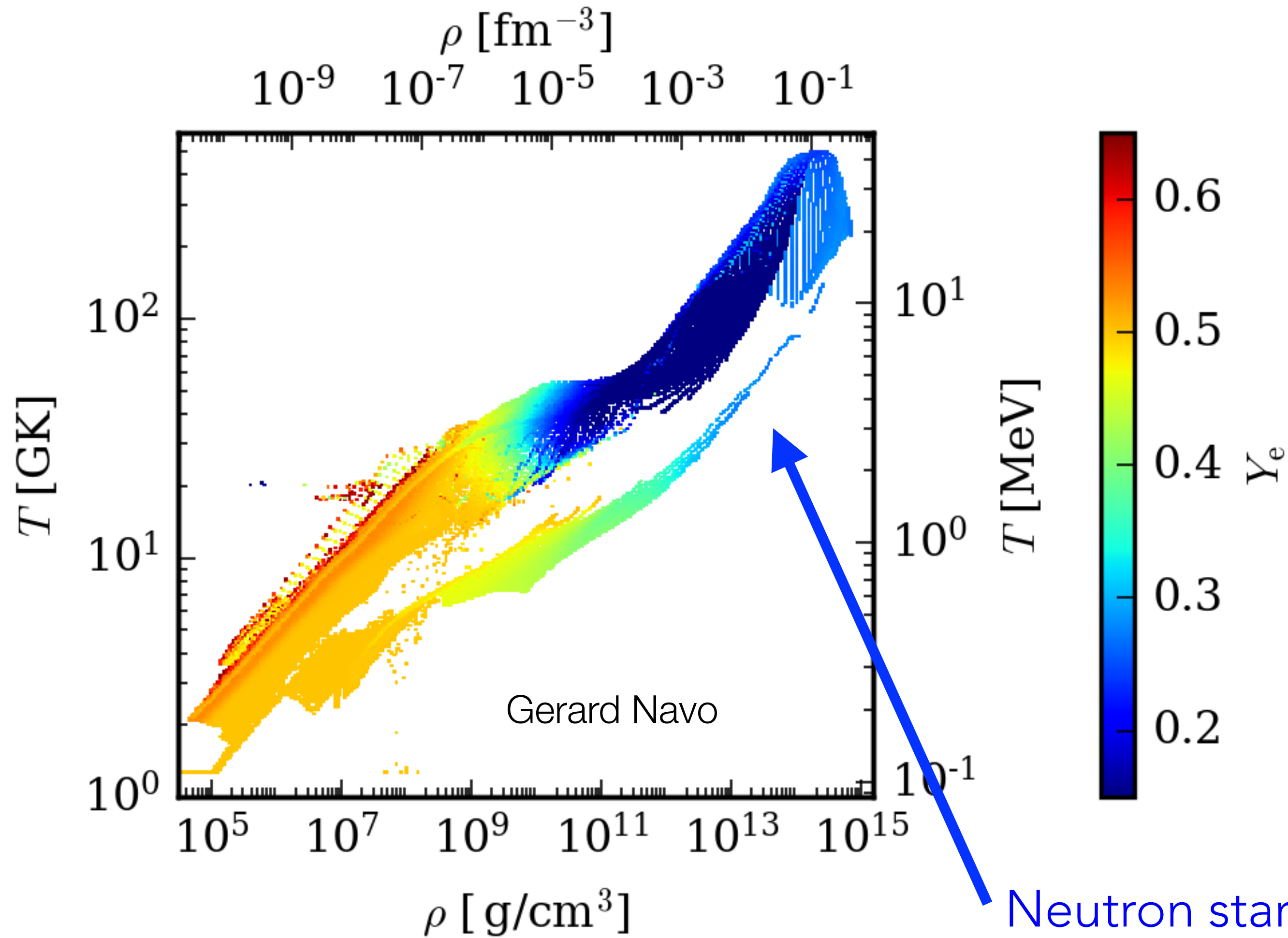
Neutron star mergers



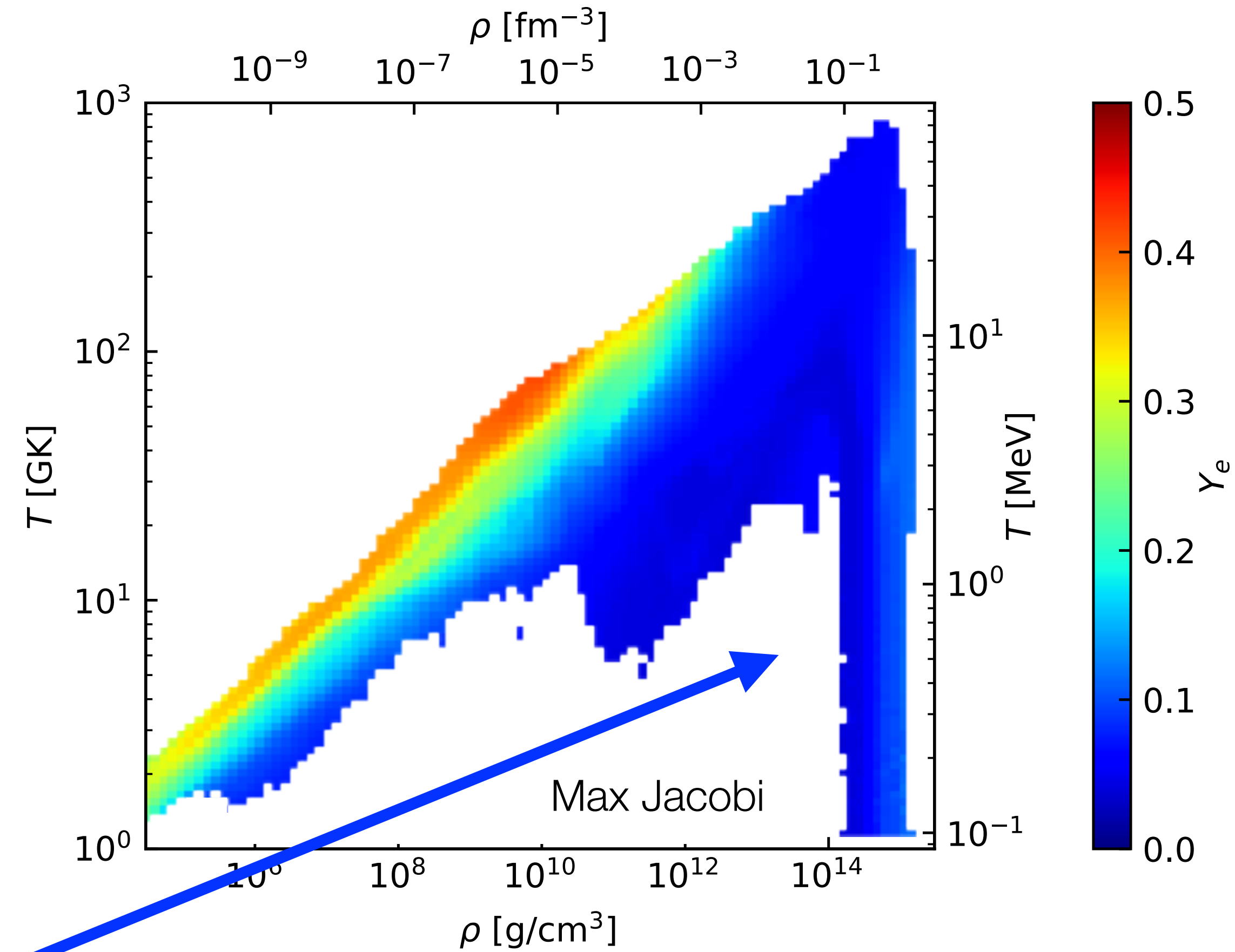


# Extreme conditions

Core-collapse supernovae



Neutron star mergers

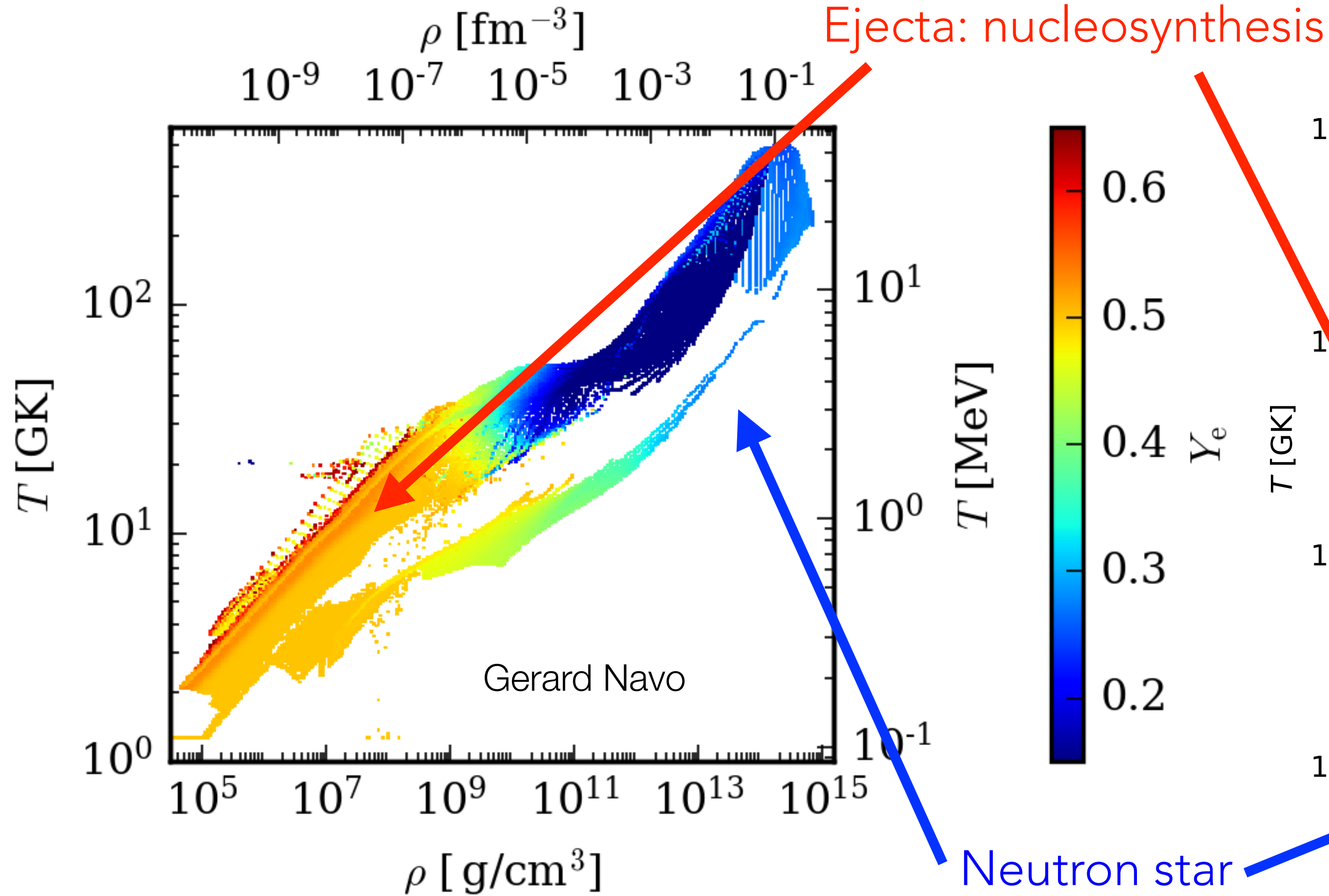


Neutron star

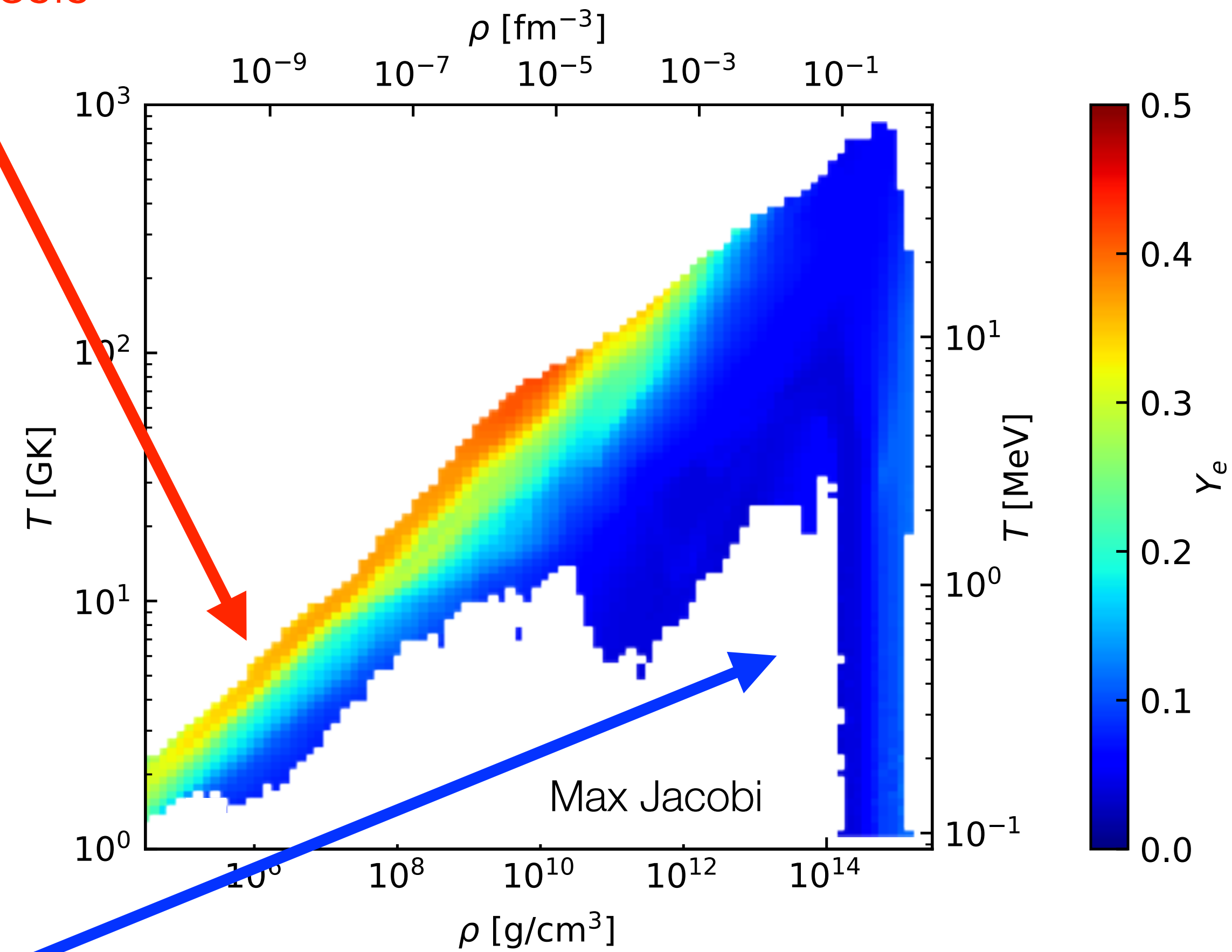


# Extreme conditions

Core-collapse supernovae

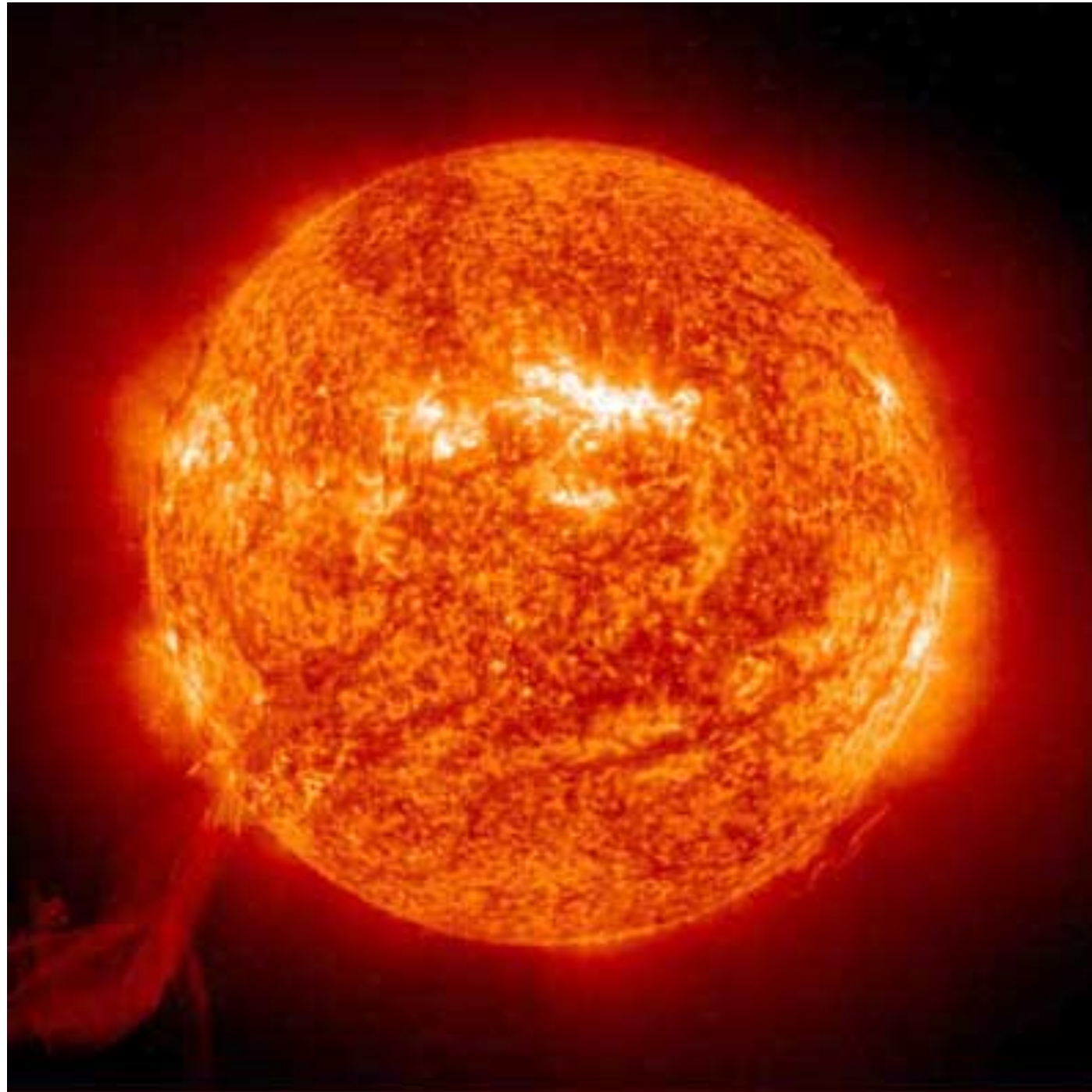


Neutron star mergers

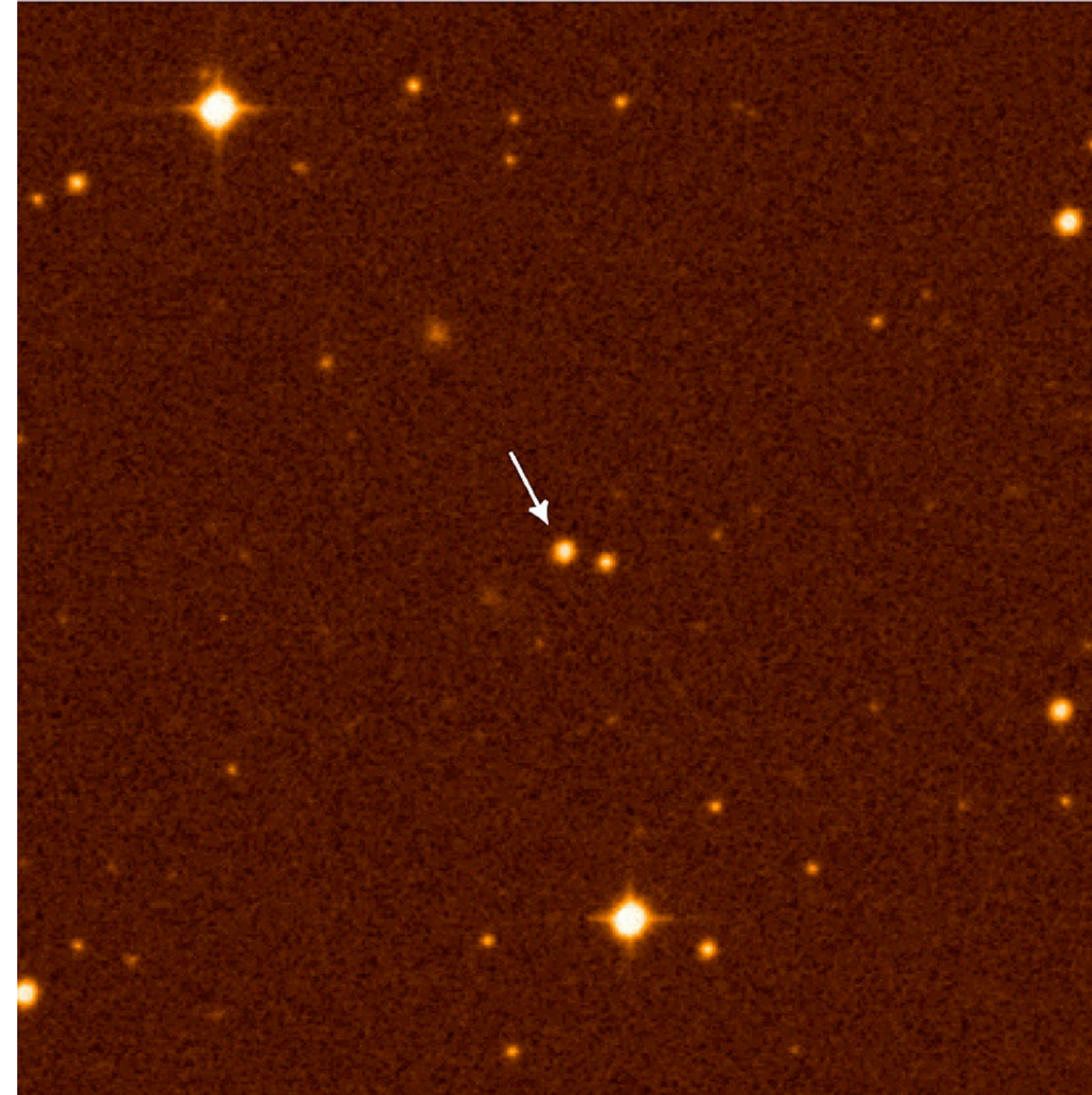




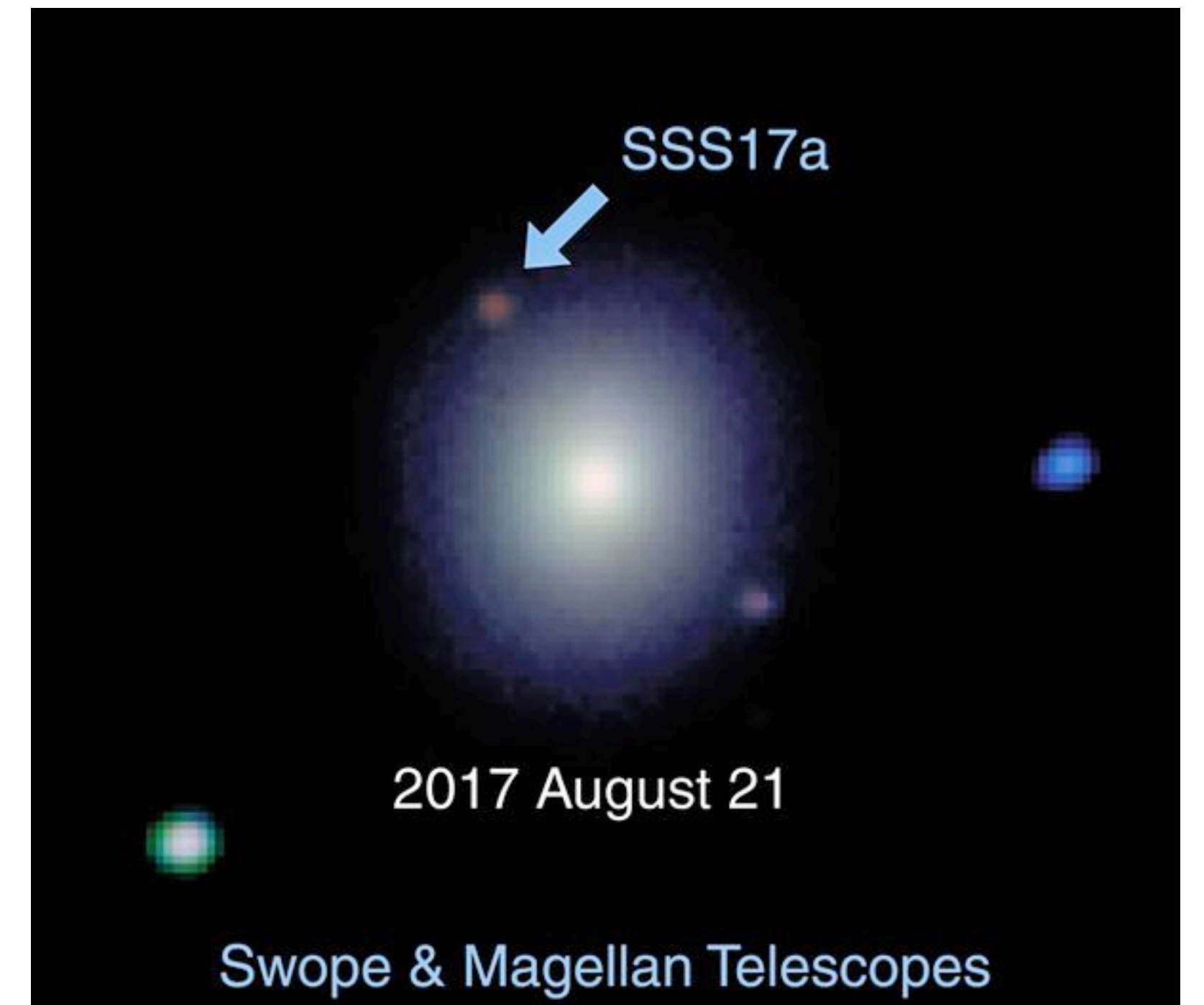
# Observable: heavy elements produced by the r-process



Solar system



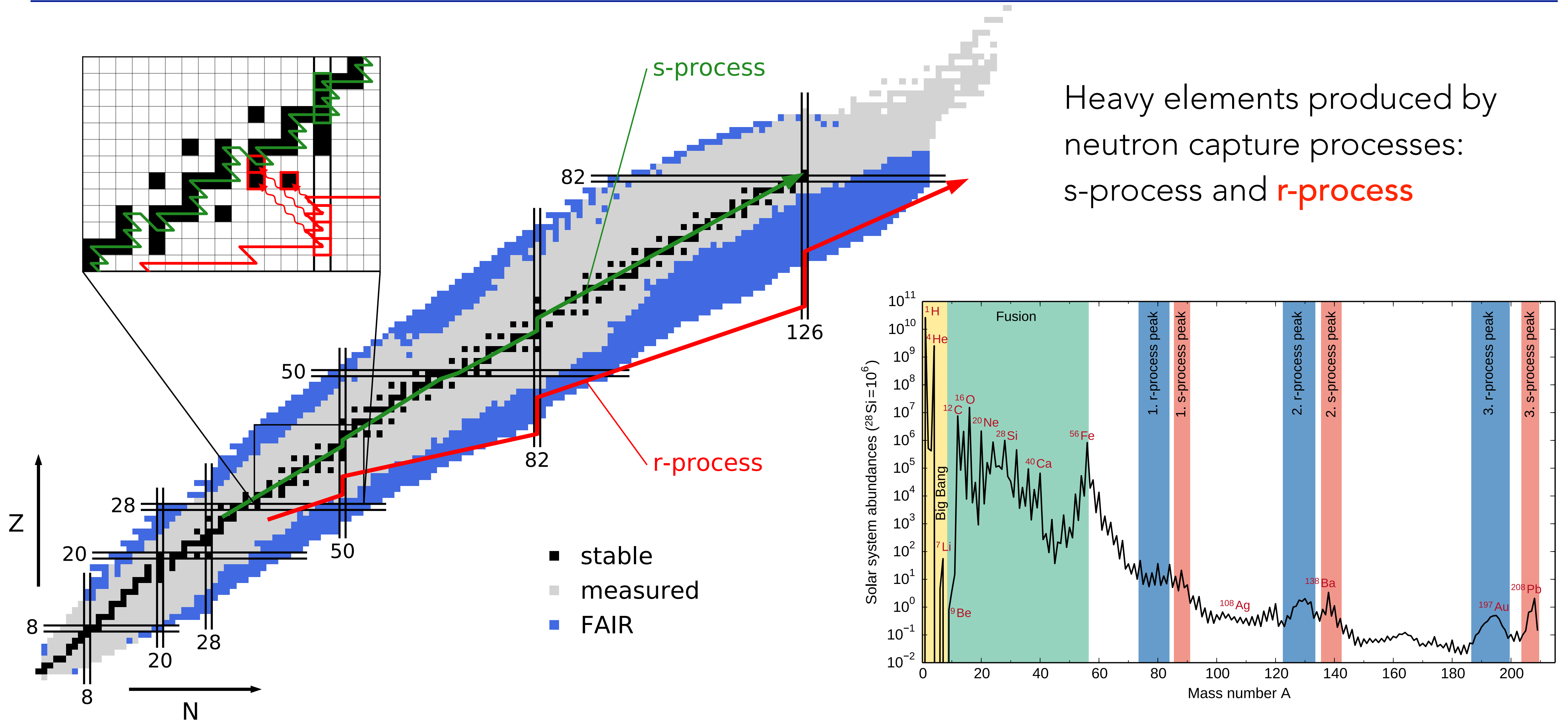
Oldest stars



Kilonova



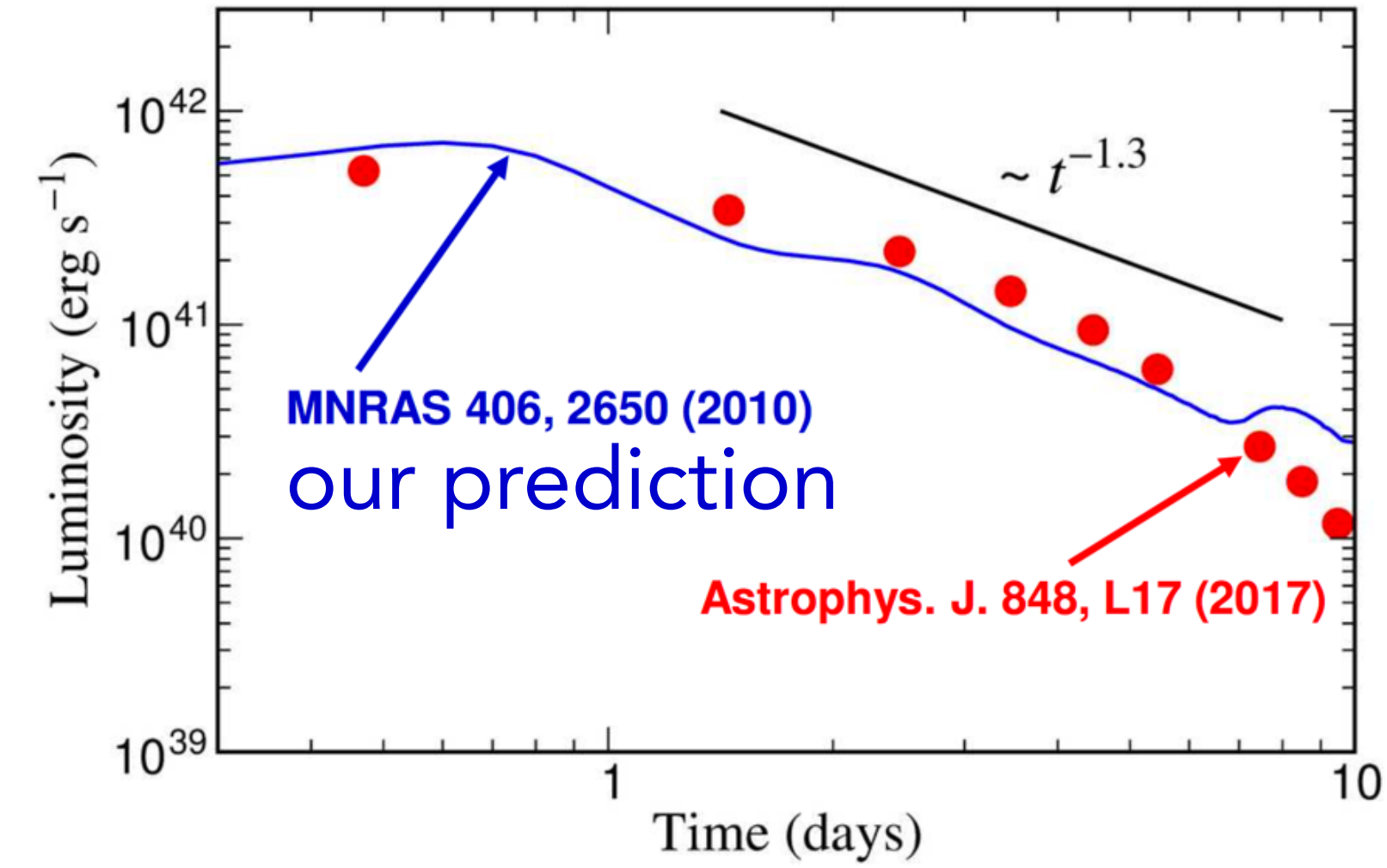
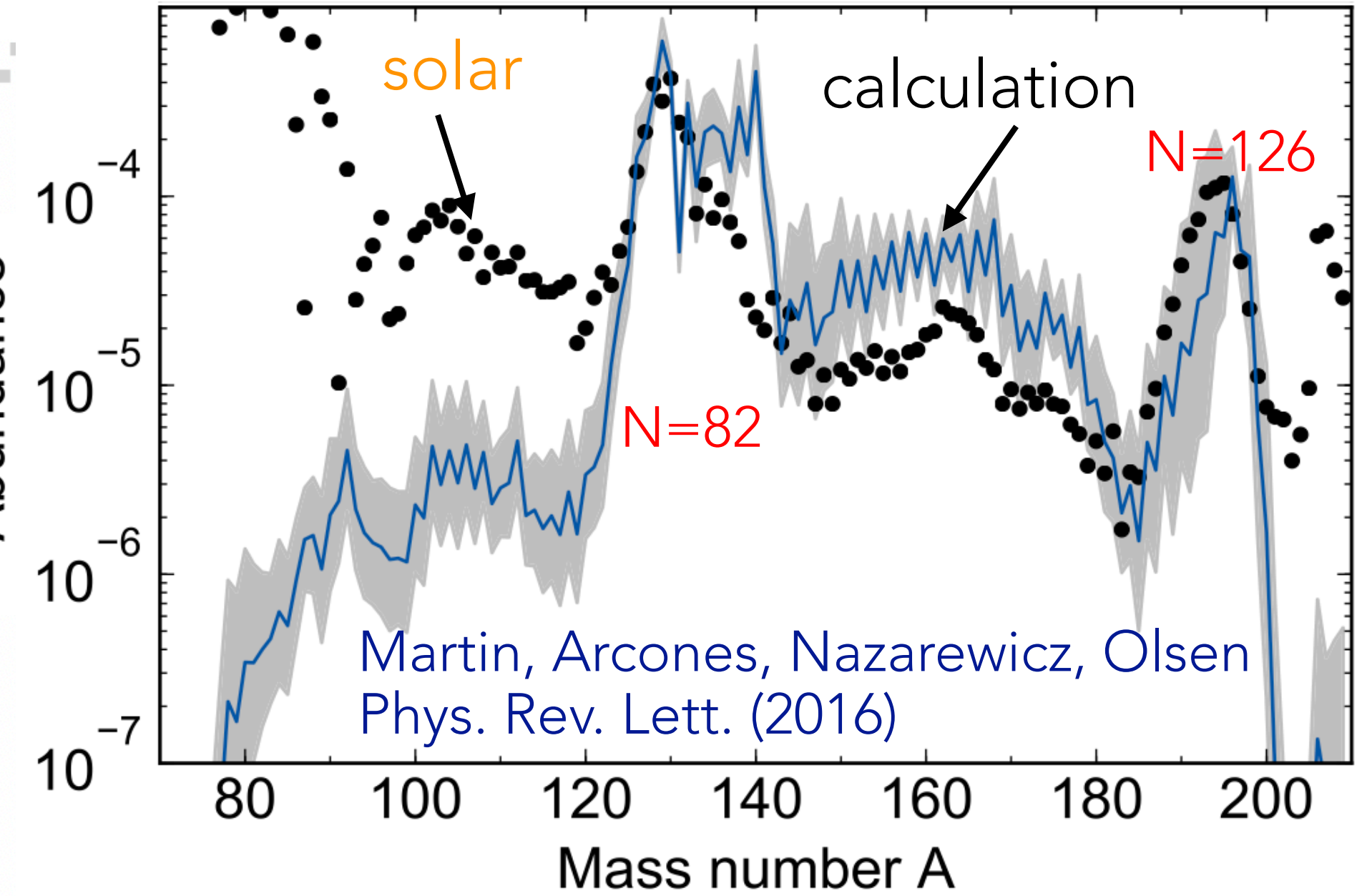
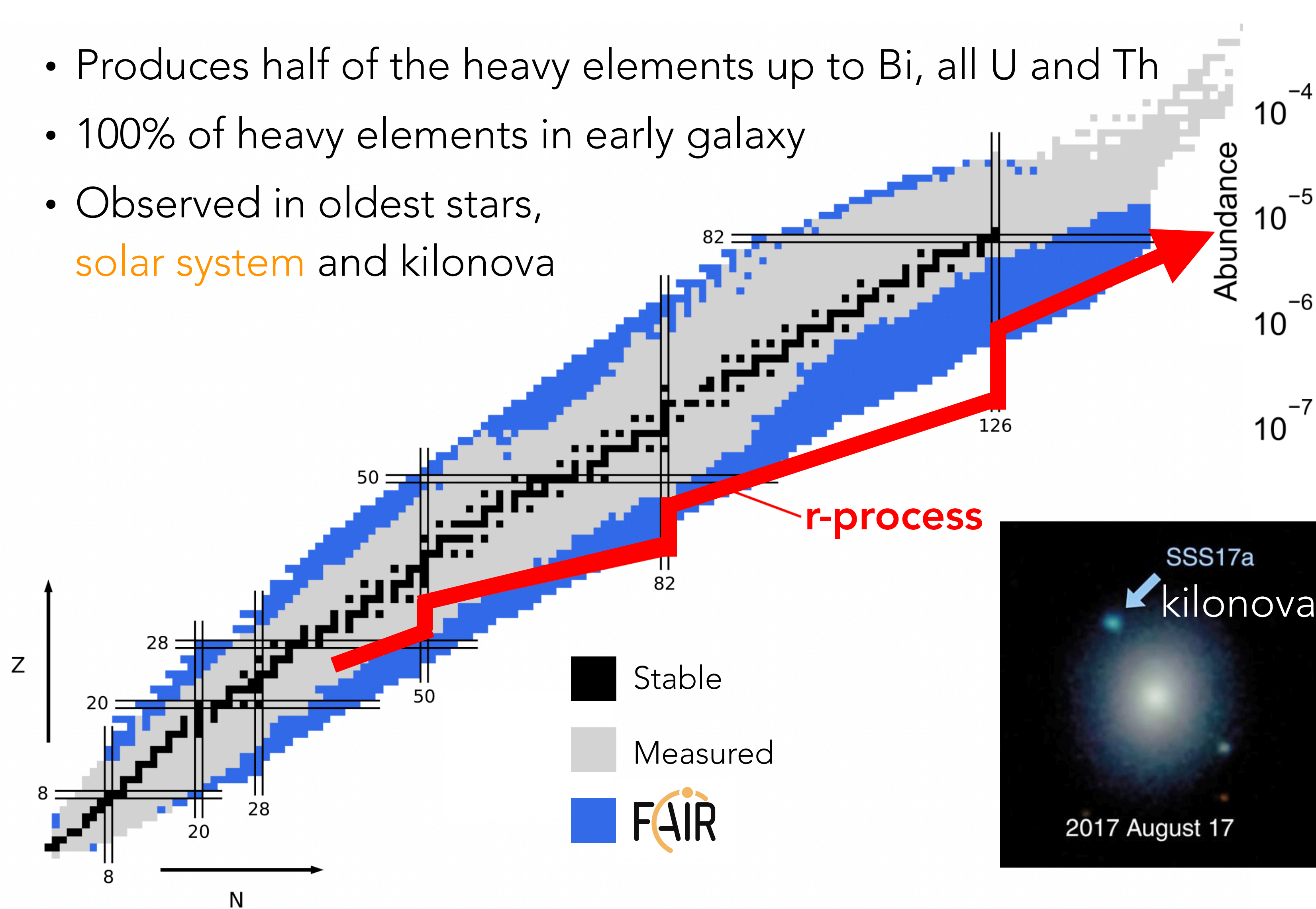
# Neutron capture processes





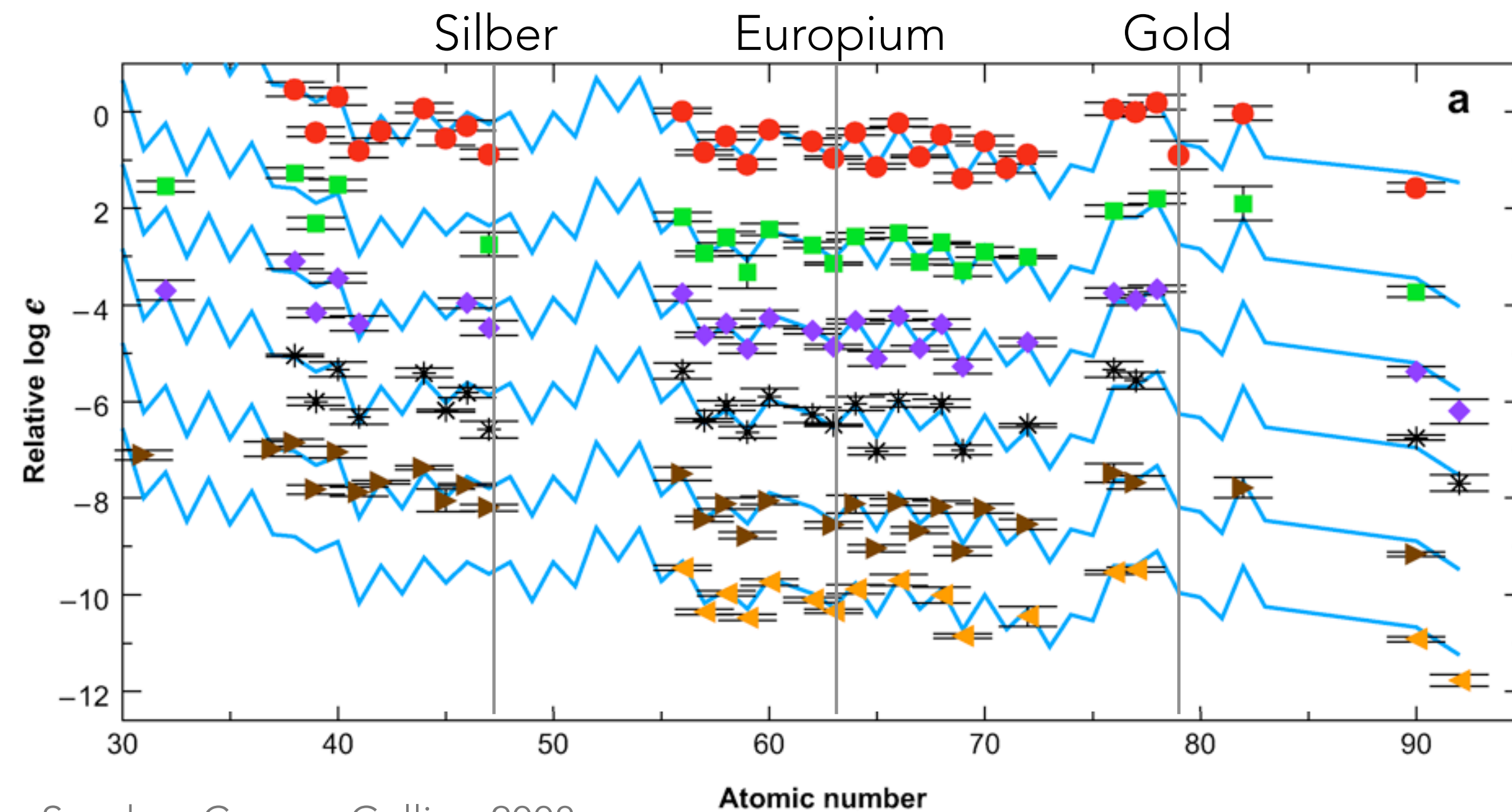
# Rapid neutron capture process

- Produces half of the heavy elements up to Bi, all U and Th
- 100% of heavy elements in early galaxy
- Observed in oldest stars, **solar system** and kilonova





# Oldest stars



Snedden, Cowan, Gallino 2008



r-process in oldest stars and in [Solar system](#) same relative abundances:

**Robust r-process**

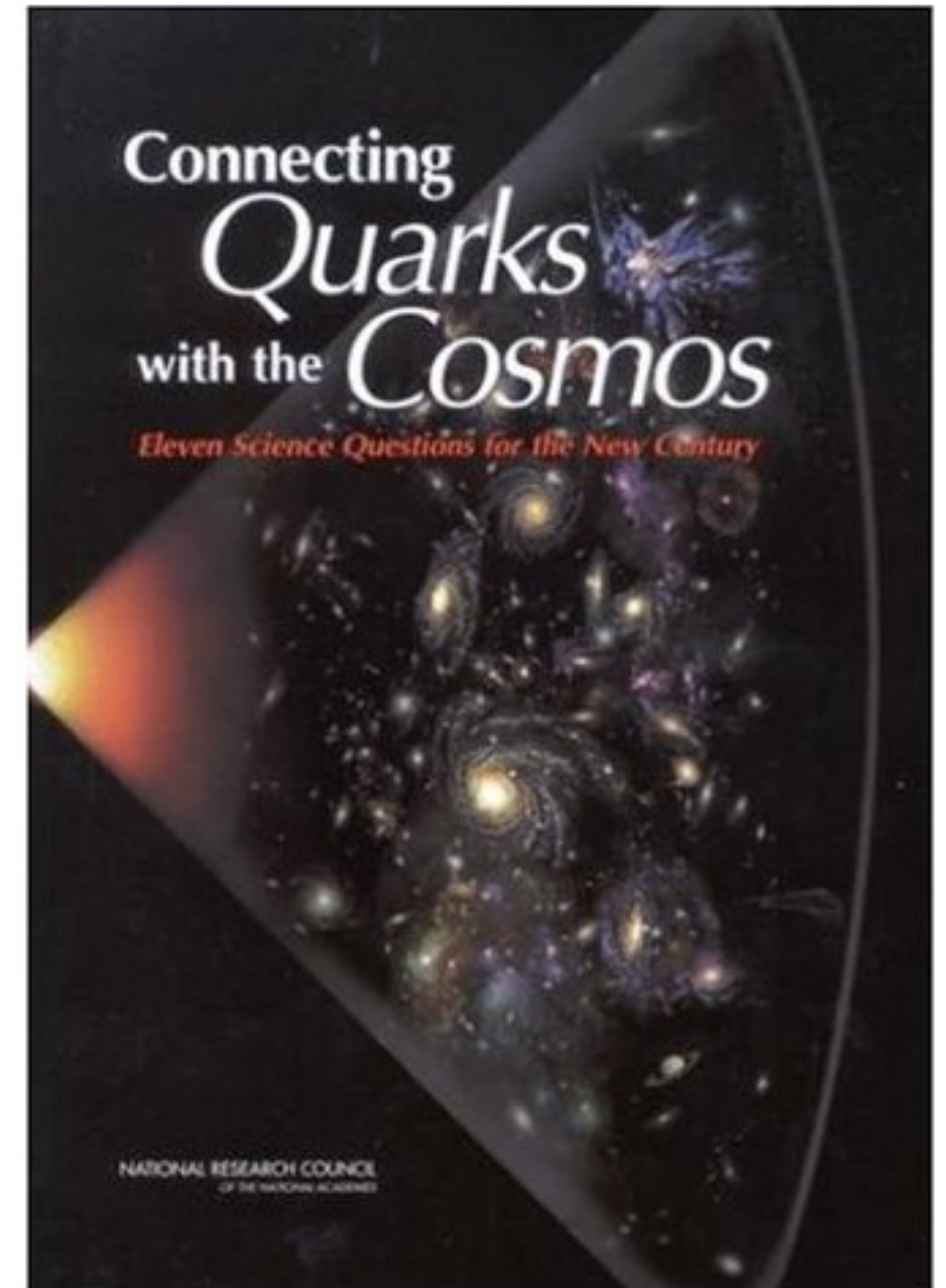


# R-process from observations

- Solar system: residual r-process  
r-process peaks and path → fast neutron capture
- Astrophysical environment: explosive and high neutron density
- Old stars: robust process from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> peak  
contribution from other process(es) below 2<sup>nd</sup> peak
- Chemical evolution: r-process rare and early

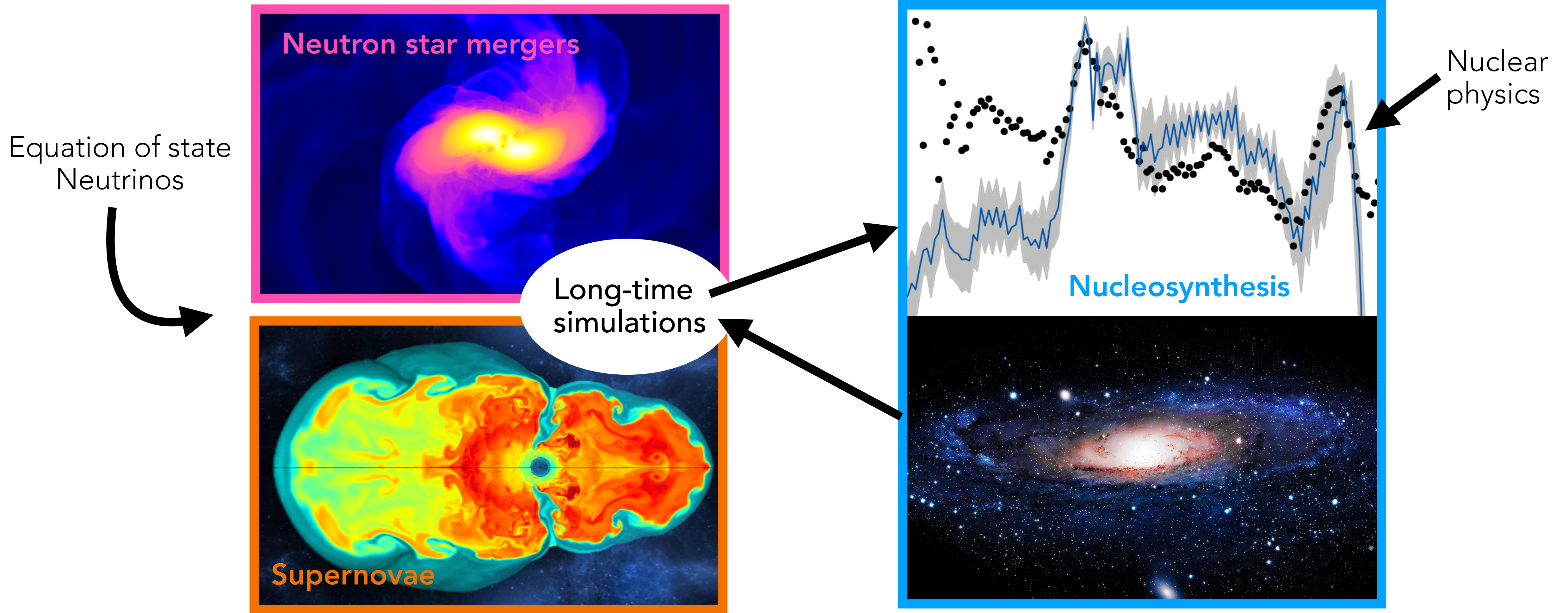
How were the elements from iron to uranium made in the universe?

**Several r-processes and several sites**





# R-process: from simulations to observations

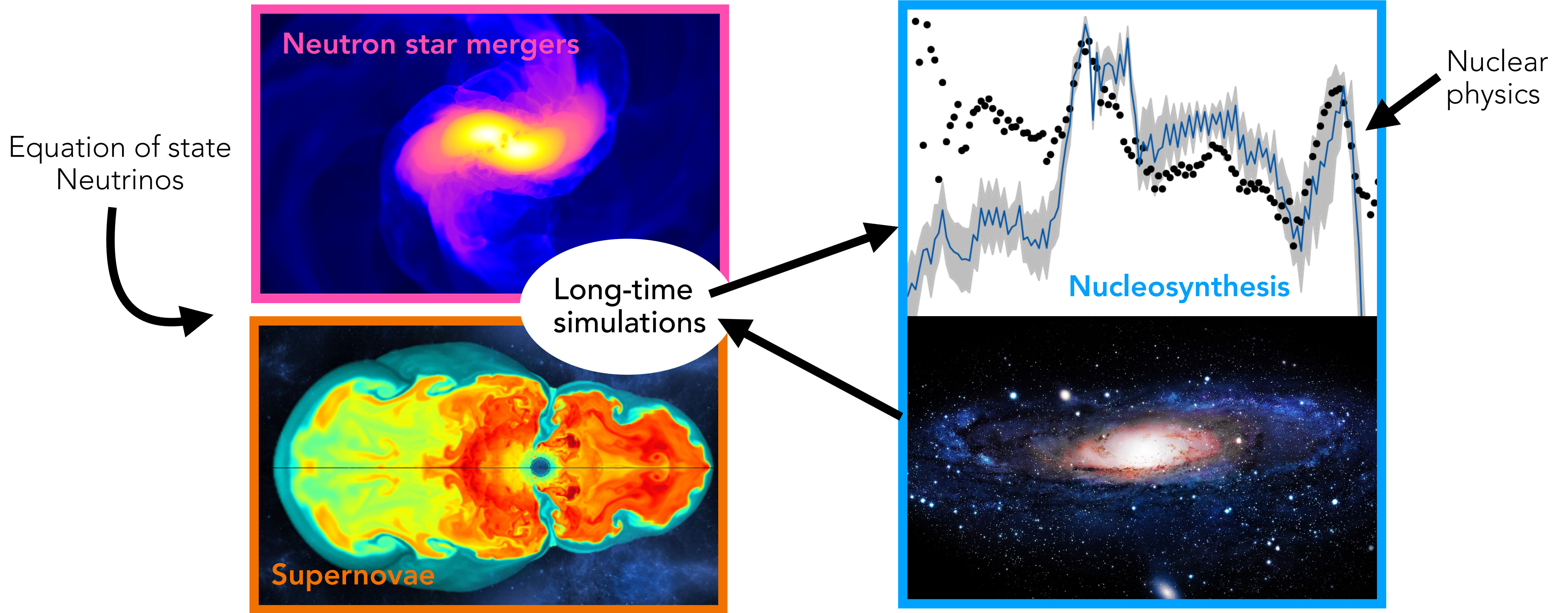




# R-process: from simulations to observations



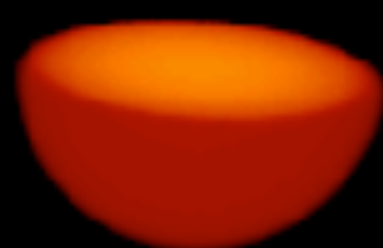
<https://github.com/nuc-astro> ApJS (2023)



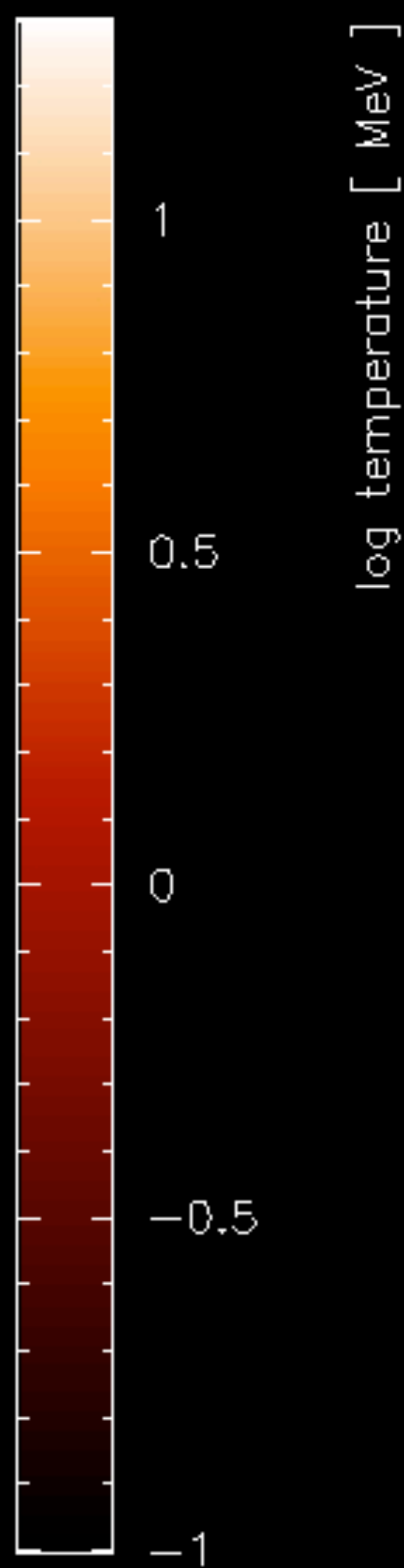


# Neutron star mergers

t=0 ms



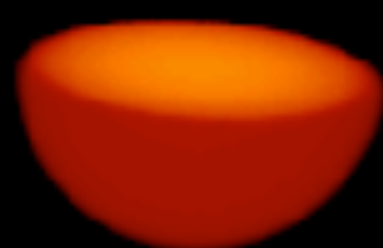
S. Rosswog



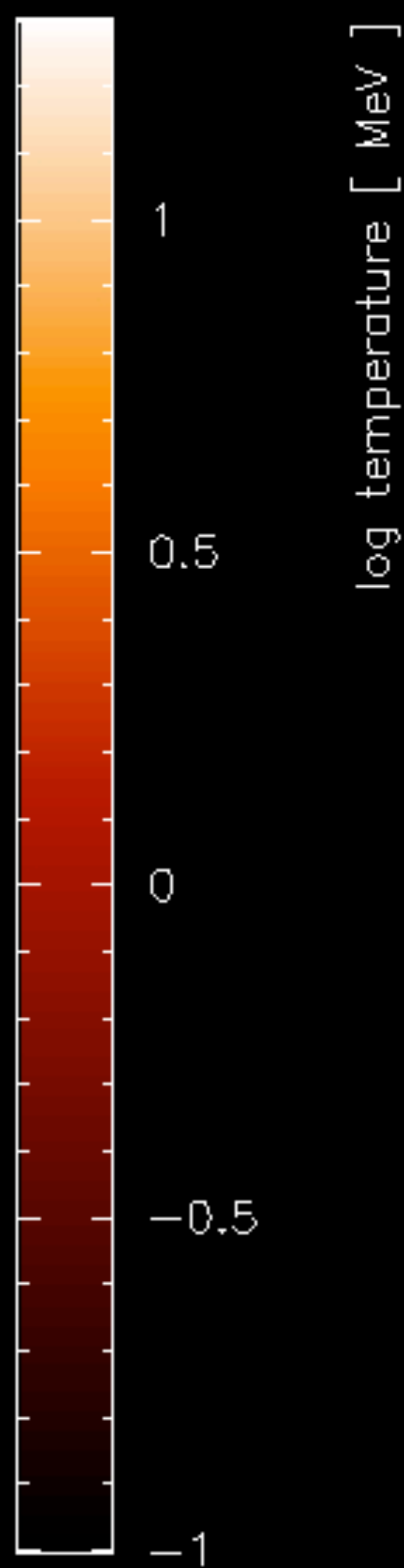


# Neutron star mergers

t=0 ms



S. Rosswog





# Neutron star merger: GW170817

17. August 2017 Virgo-LIGO-collaboration discovered a neutron star merger

LIGO-LIVINGSTON OBSERVATORY



Credit: LIGO Livingston

LIGO-HANFORD OBSERVATORY

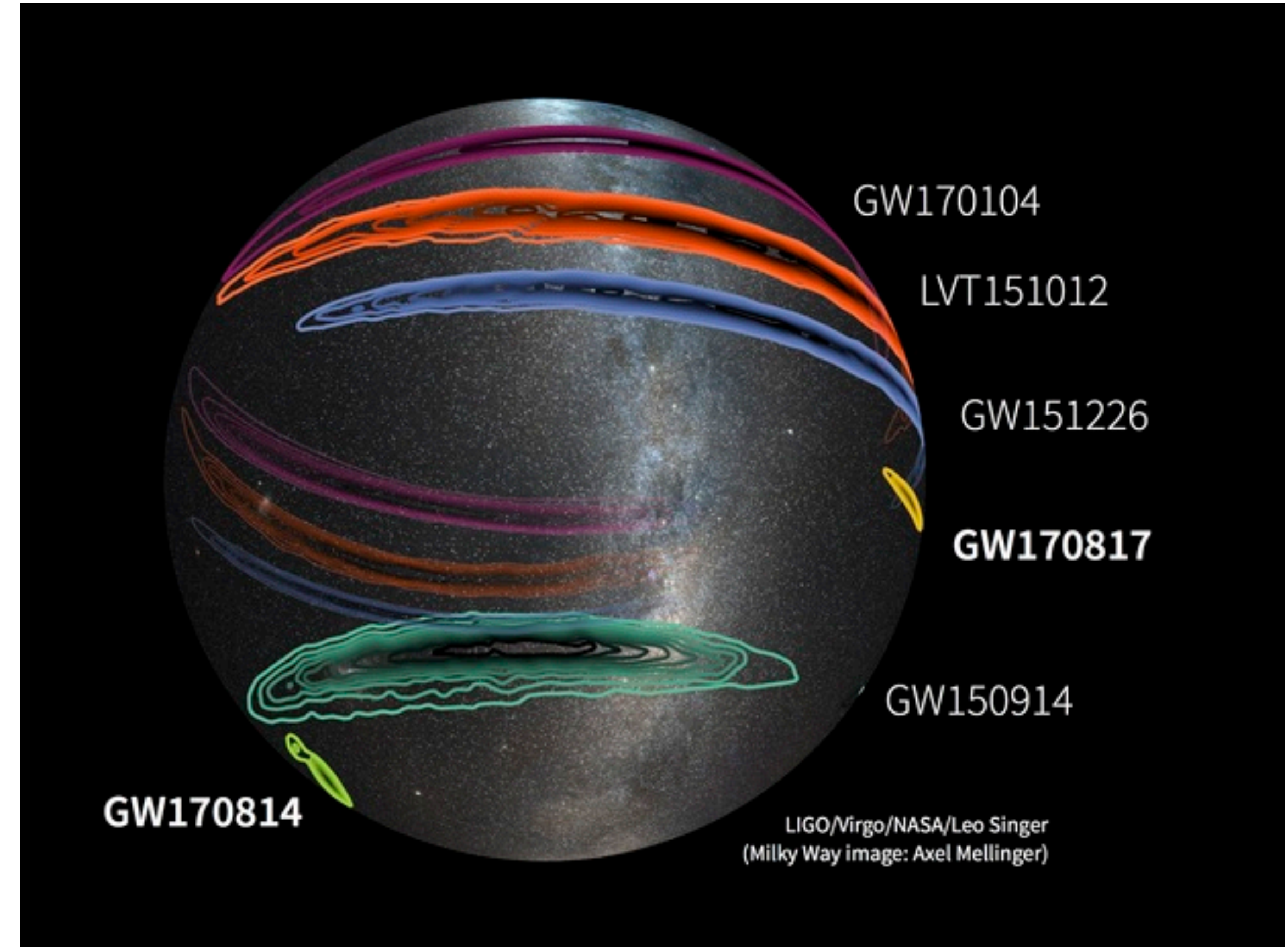
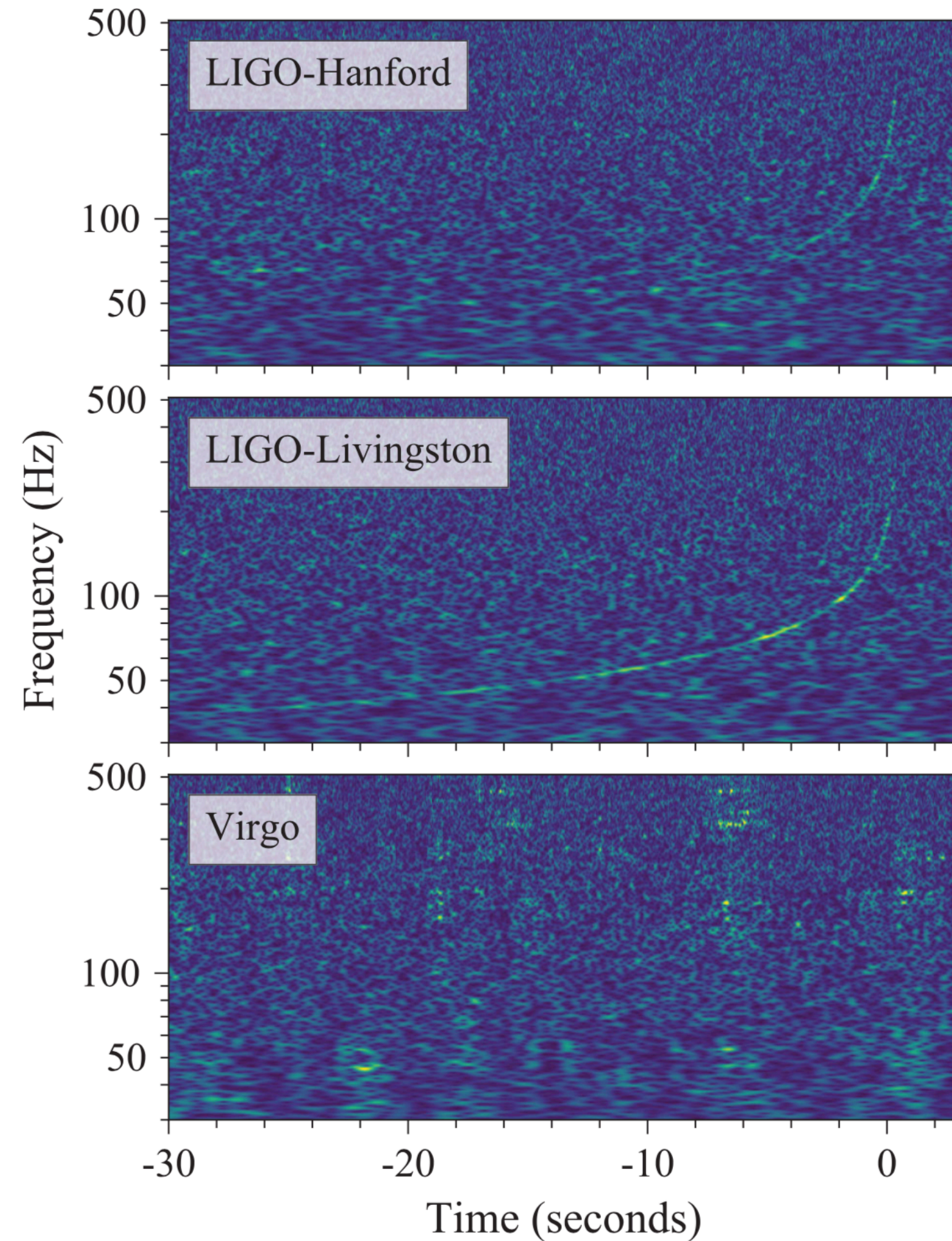


Credit: LIGO Hanford

VIRGO AT CASCINA, ITALY

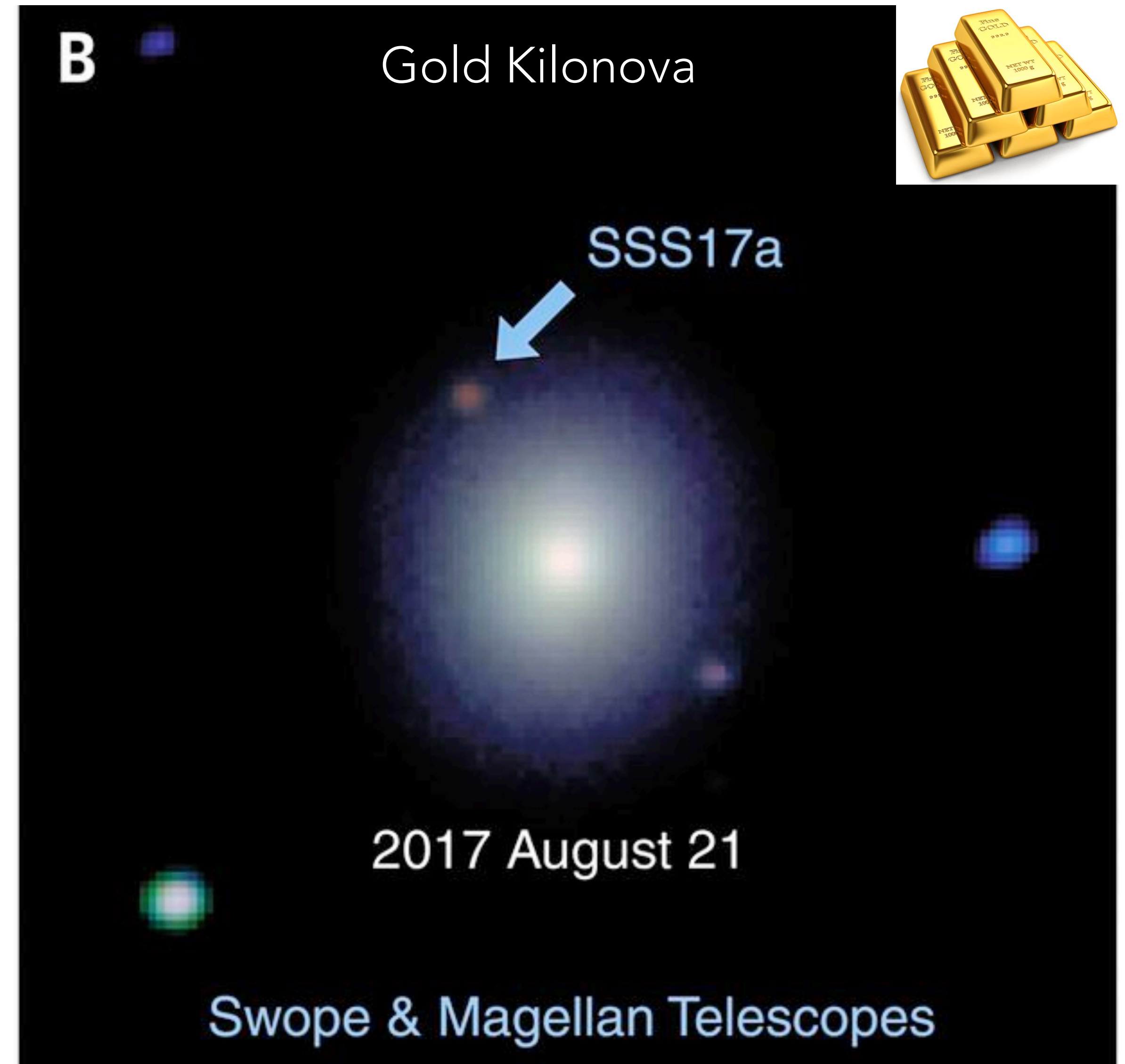
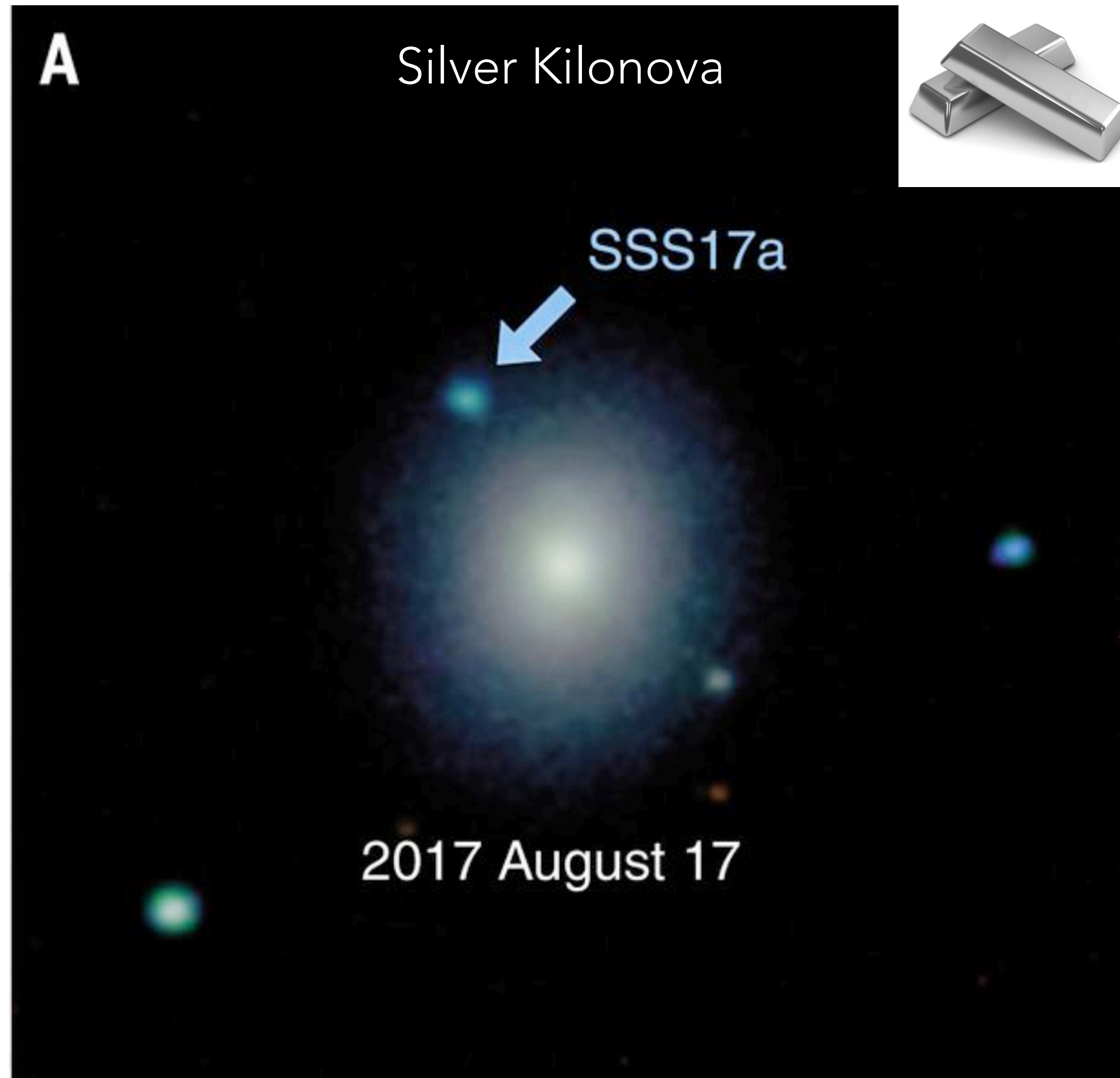


Credit: Virgo





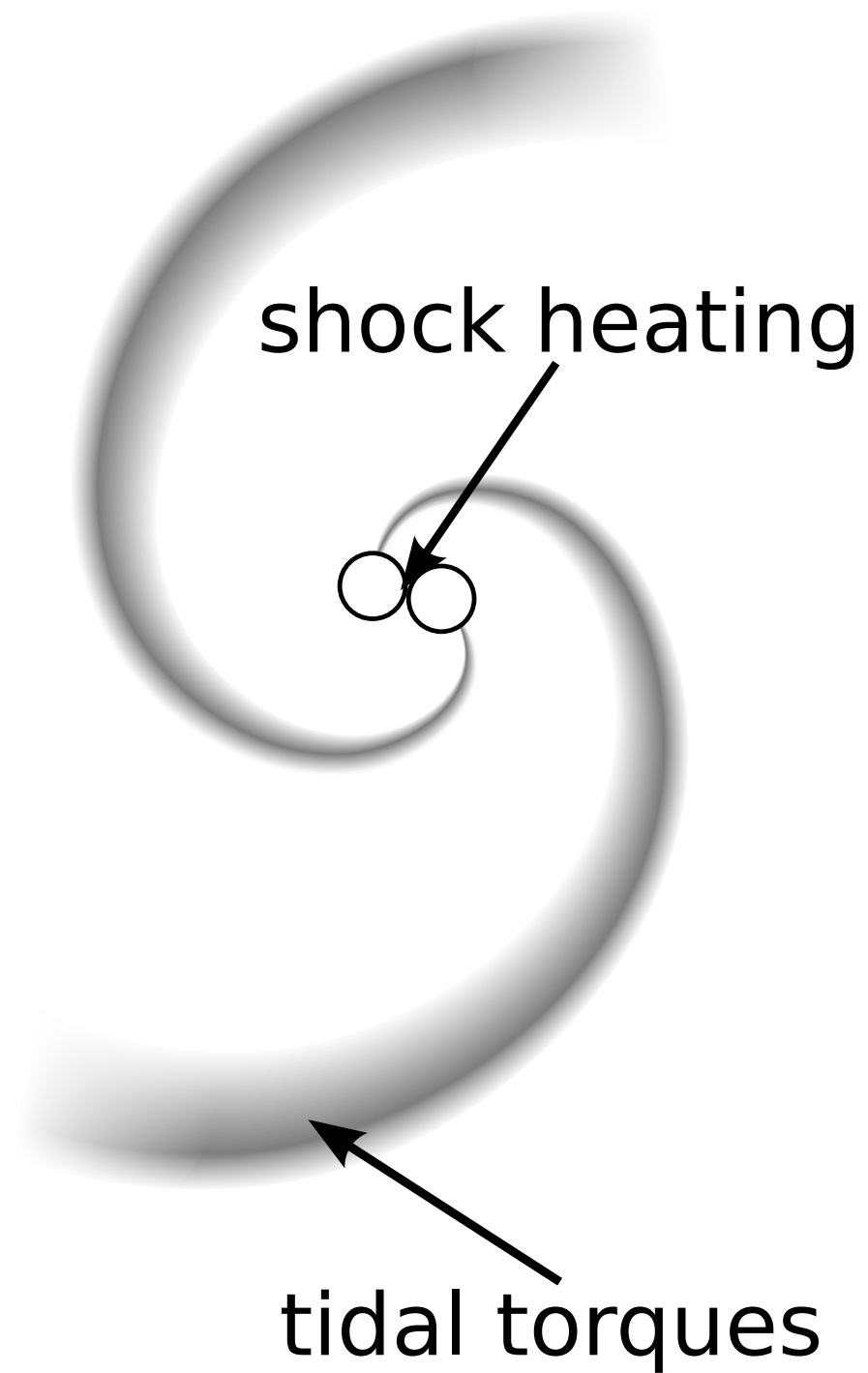
# Kilonova



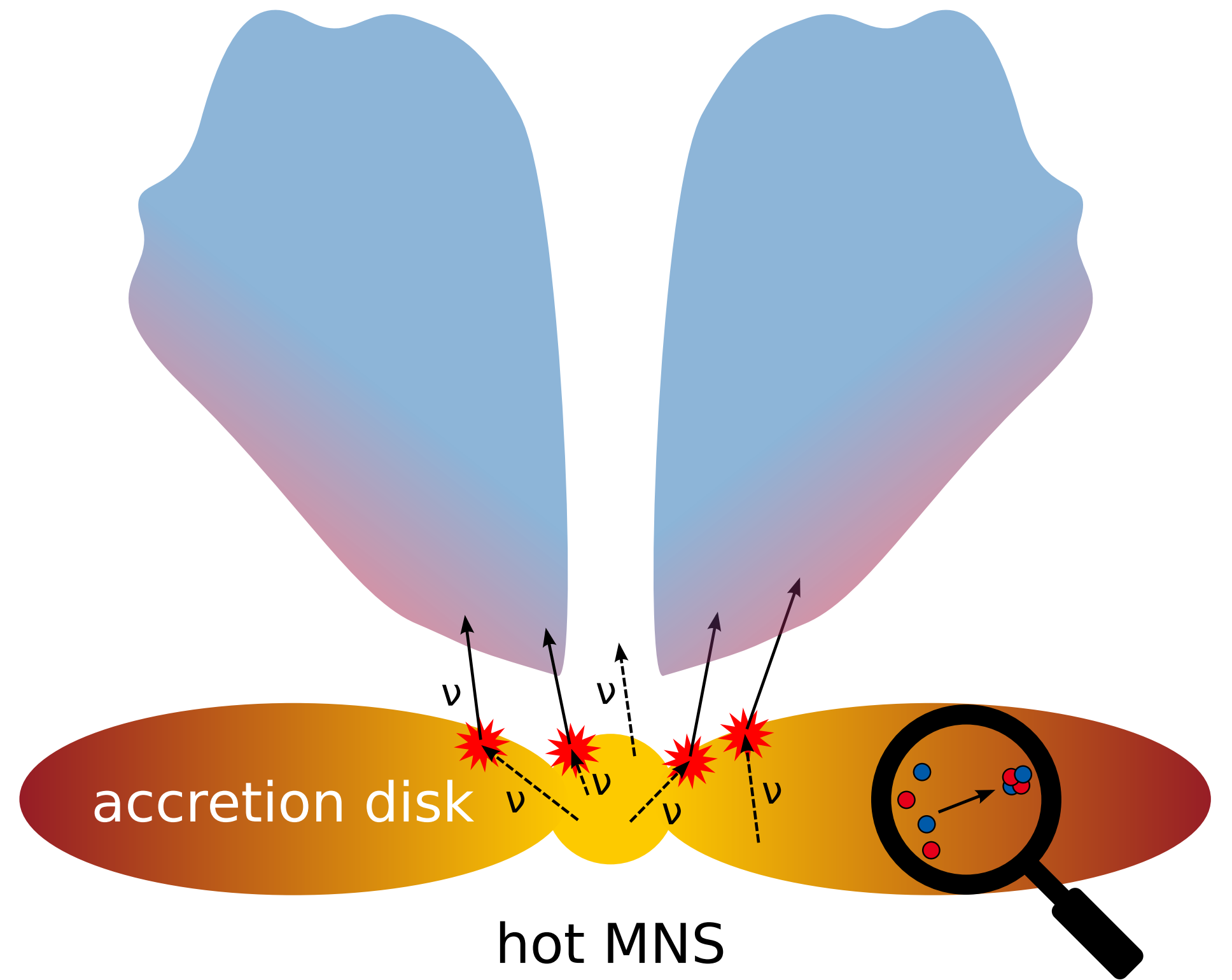


# Dynamical and disk ejecta

Top view:



Side view:



dynamic ejecta

1

neutrino-driven wind

10

viscous ejecta

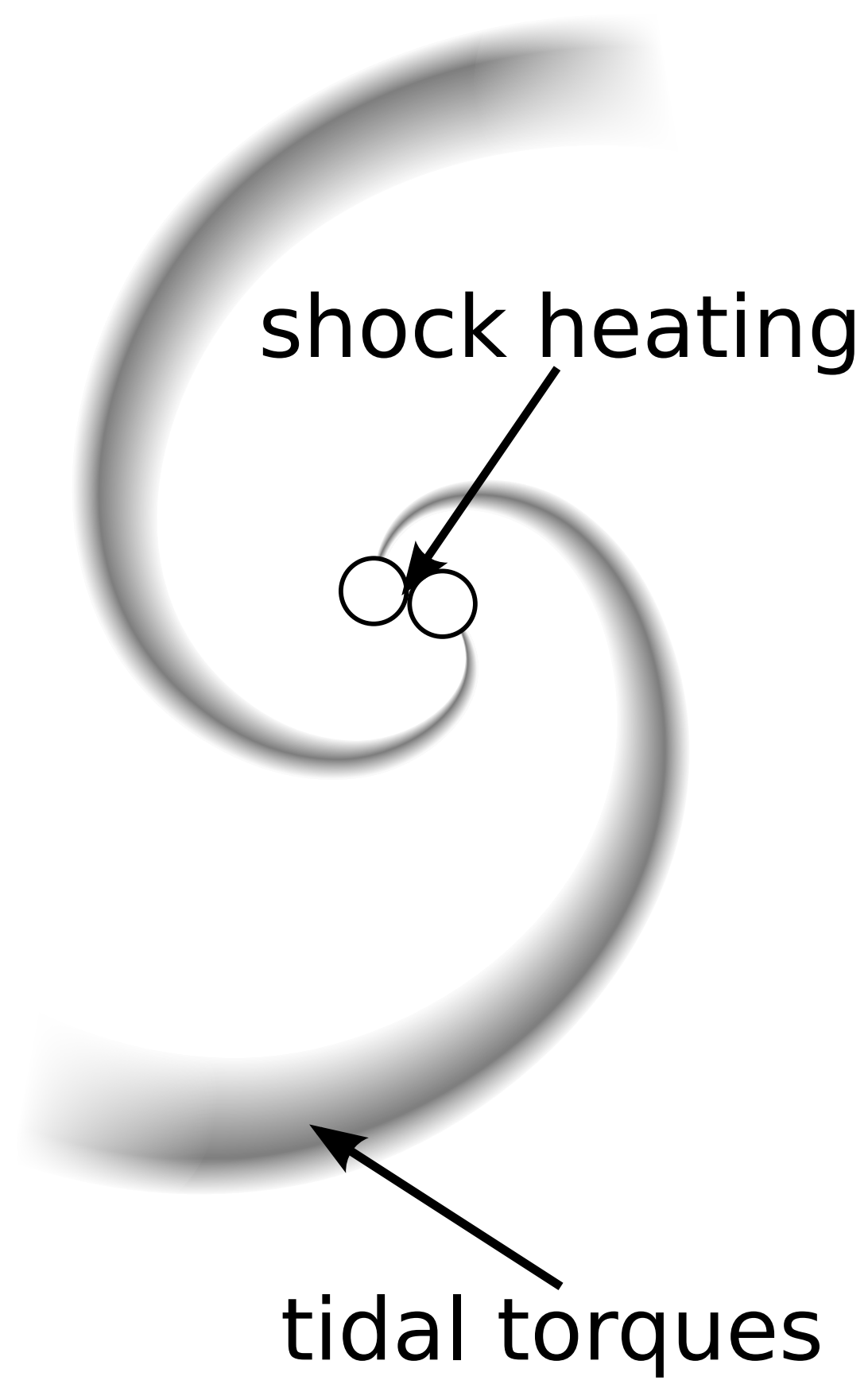
100

Approximate timescale [ms]

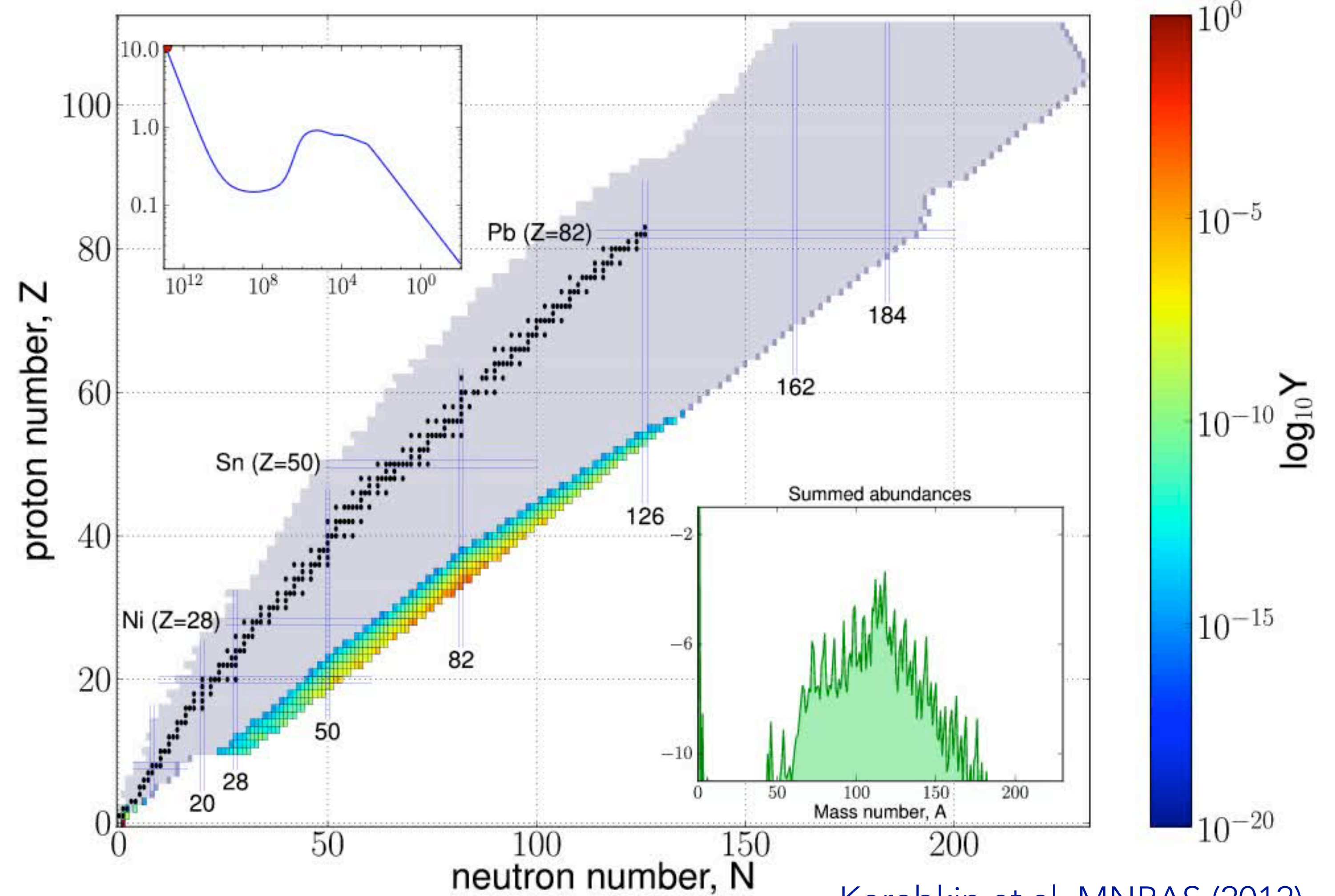


# Dynamical ejecta

Red kilonova



$t : 0.00e+00 \text{ s} / T : 10.96 \text{ GK} / \rho_b : 8.71e+12 \text{ g/cm}^3$

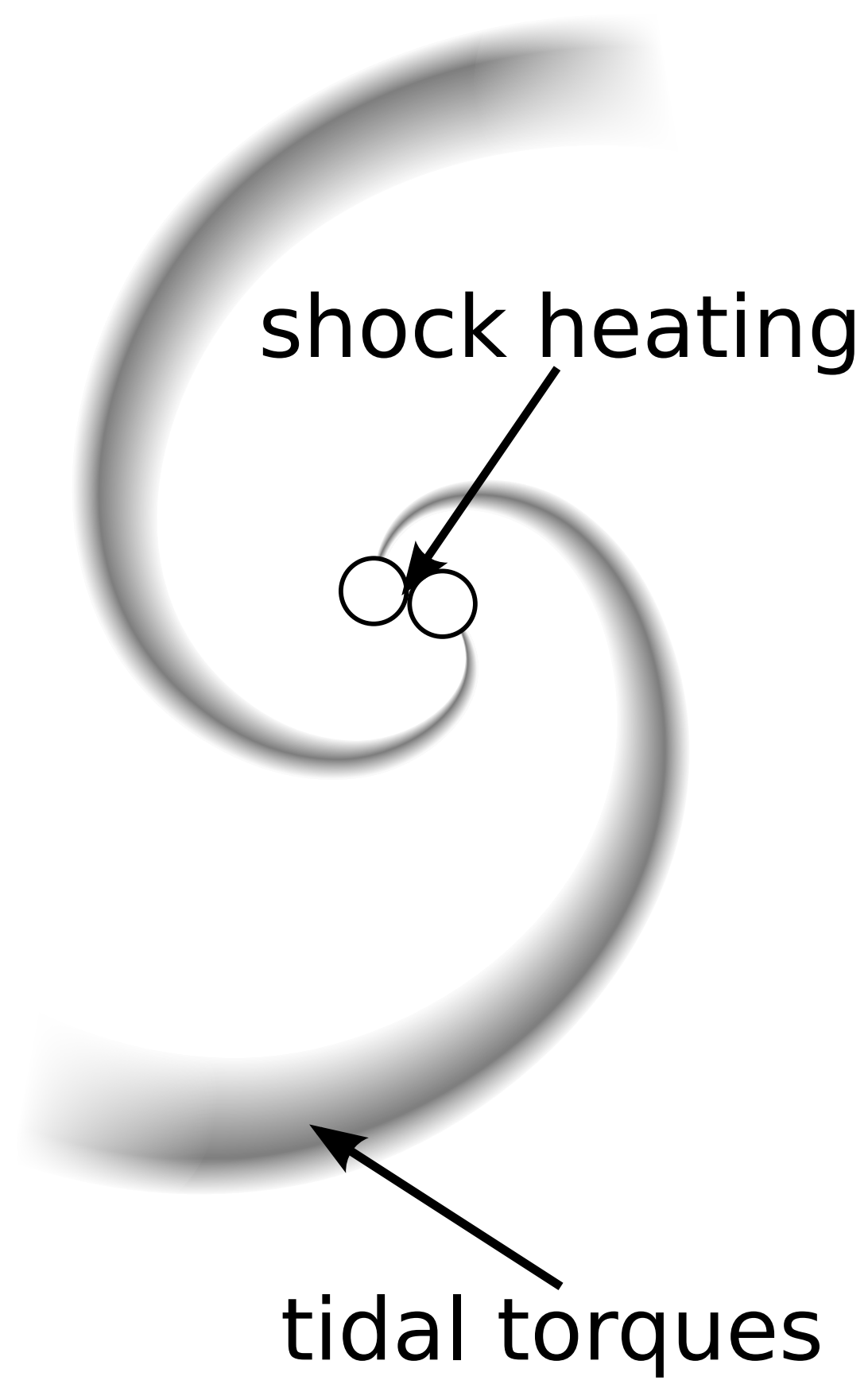


Korobkin et al. MNRAS (2012)

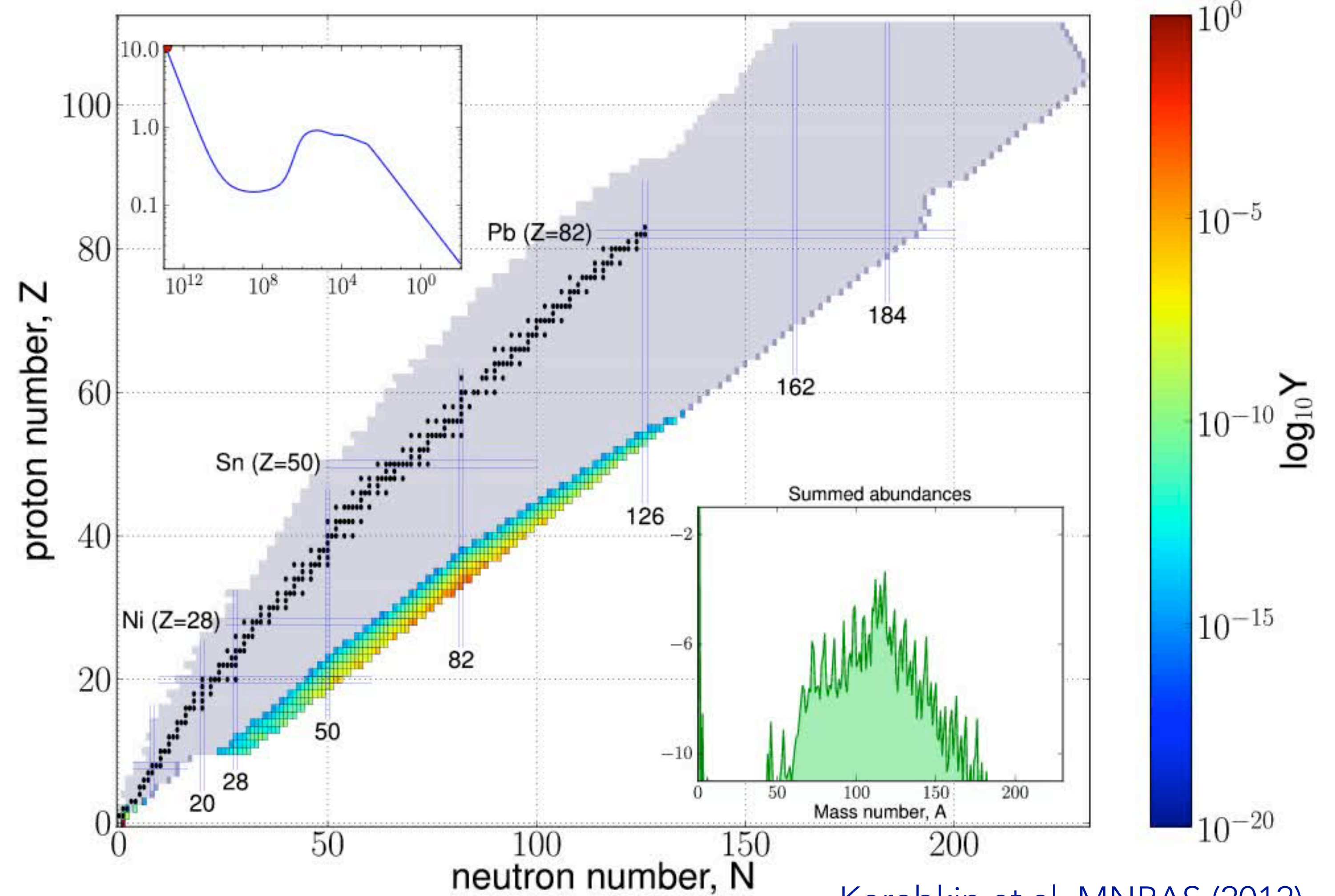


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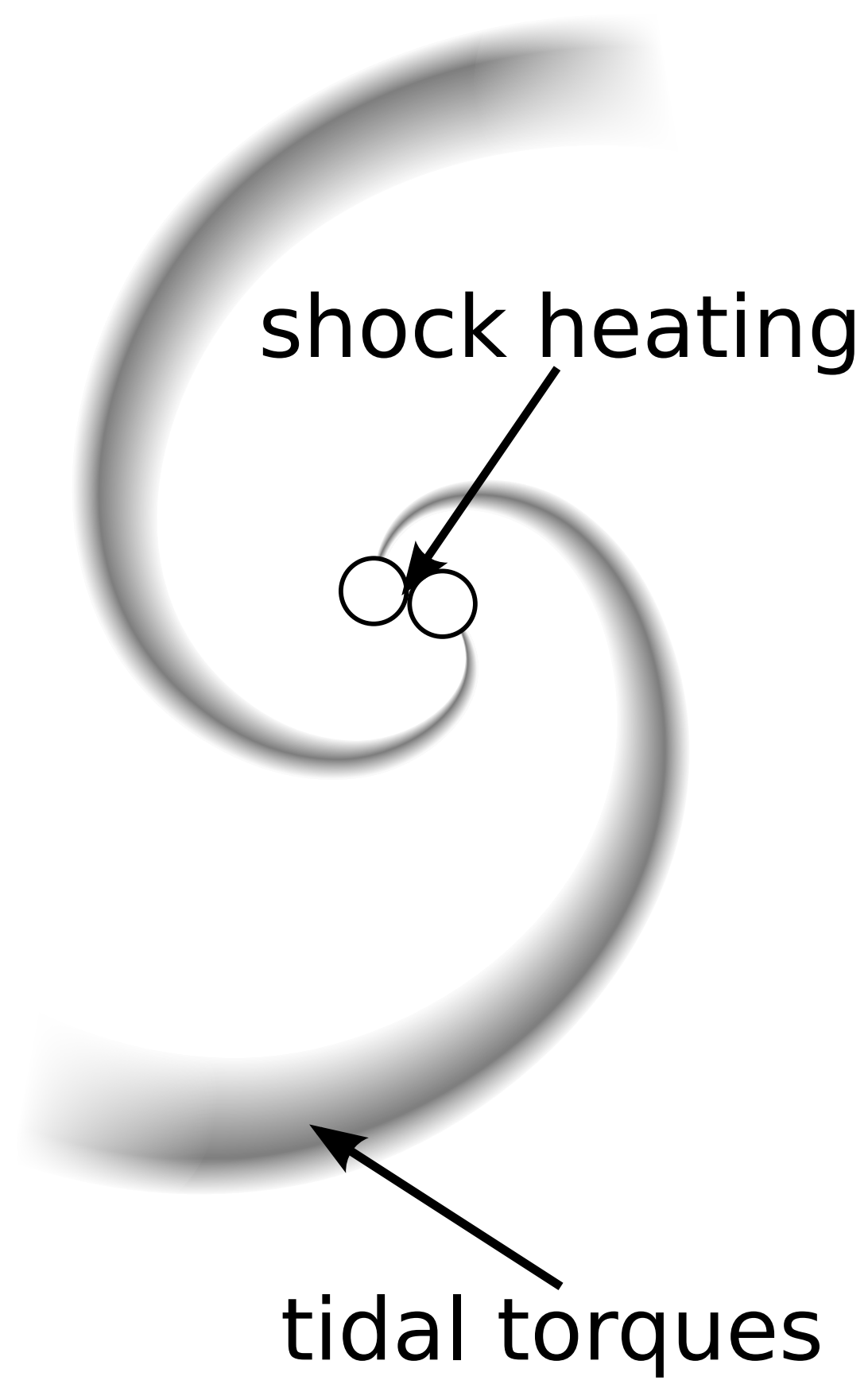


Korobkin et al. MNRAS (2012)

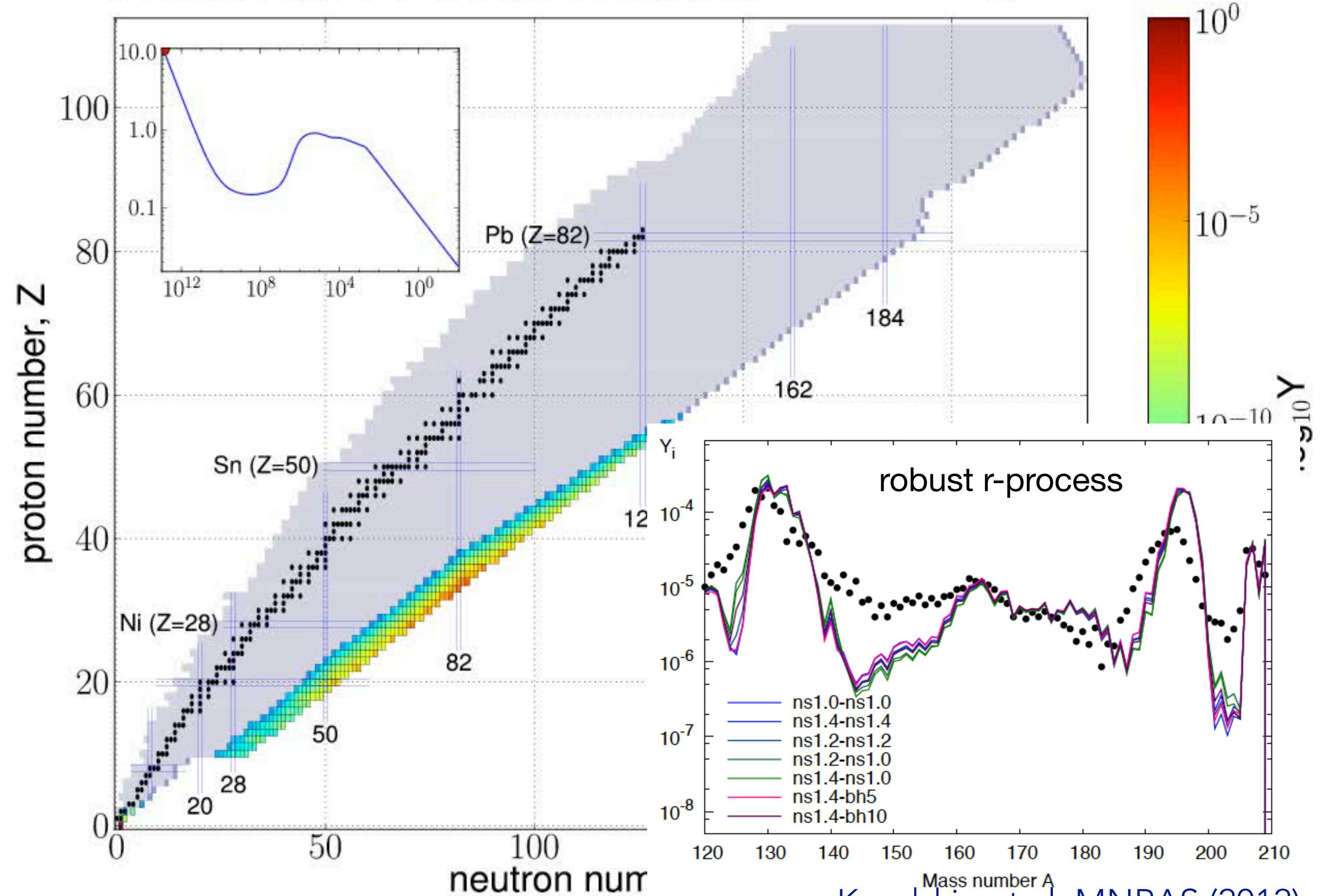


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$t : 0.00e+00 \text{ s} / T : 10.96 \text{ GK} / \rho_b : 8.71e+12 \text{ g/cm}^3$

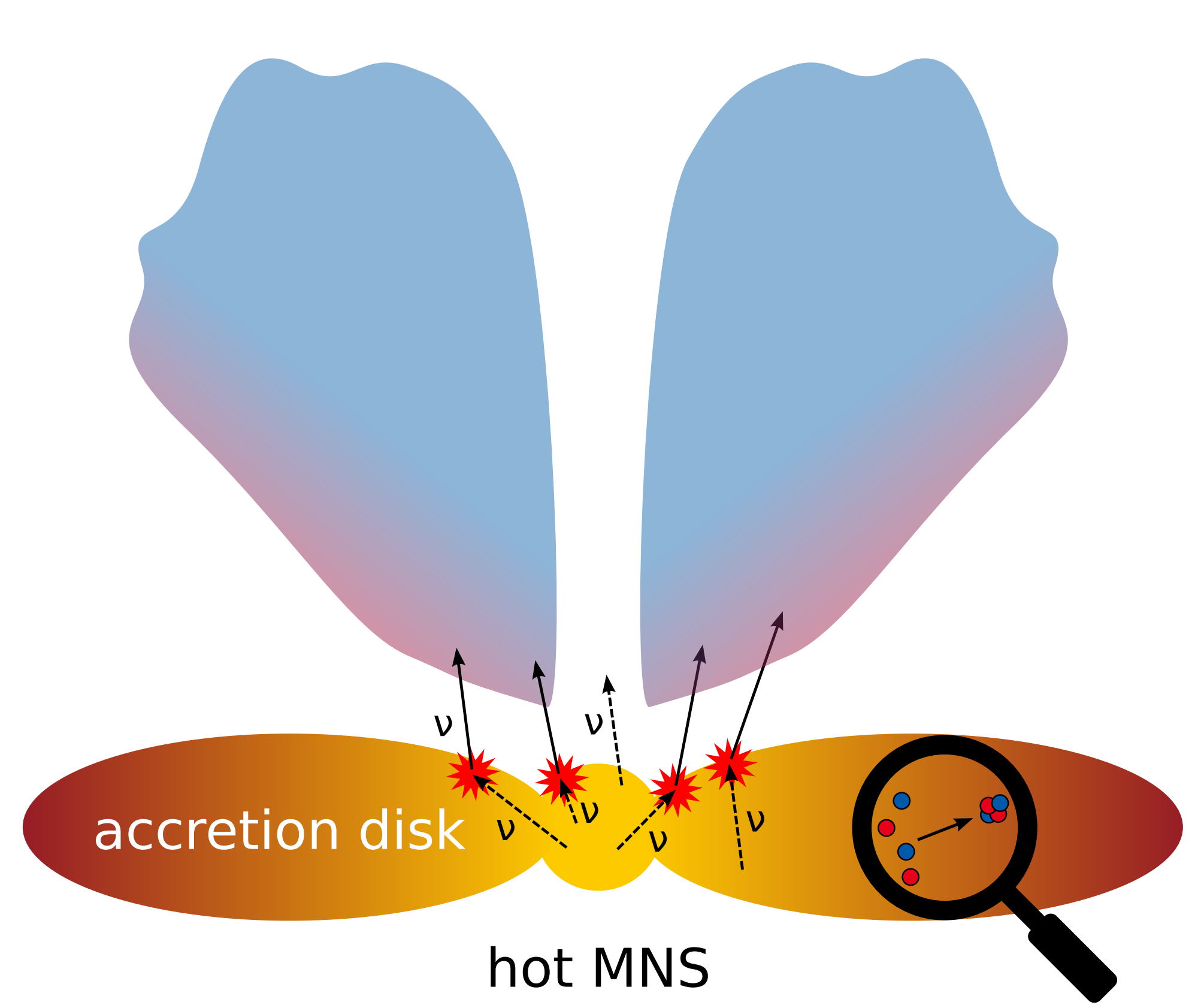
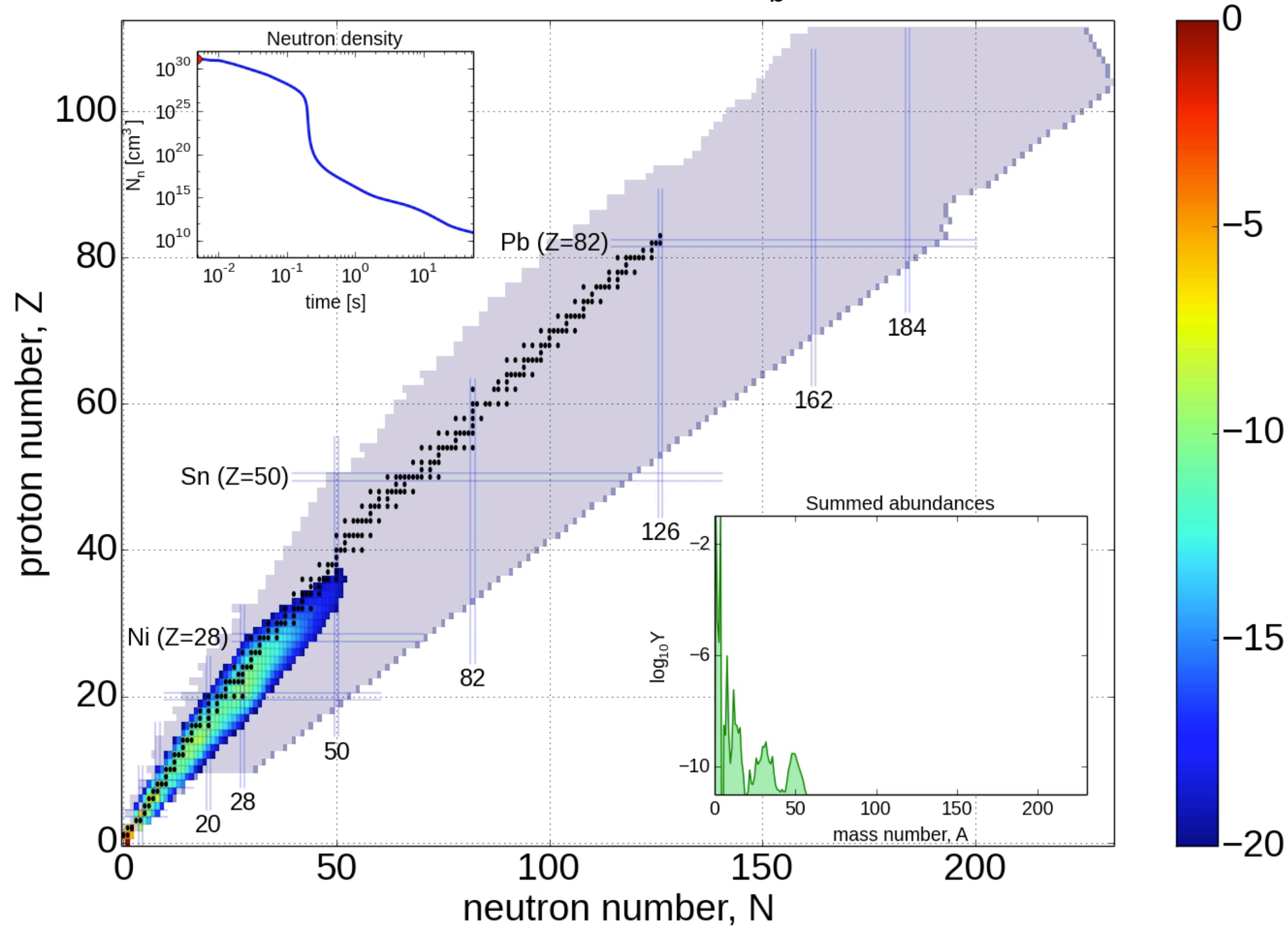


Korobkin et al. MNRAS (2012)



# Accretion disk ejecta

$t : 4.89e-03 \text{ s} / T : 9.00 \text{ GK} / \rho_b : 4.63e+07 \text{ g/cm}^3$



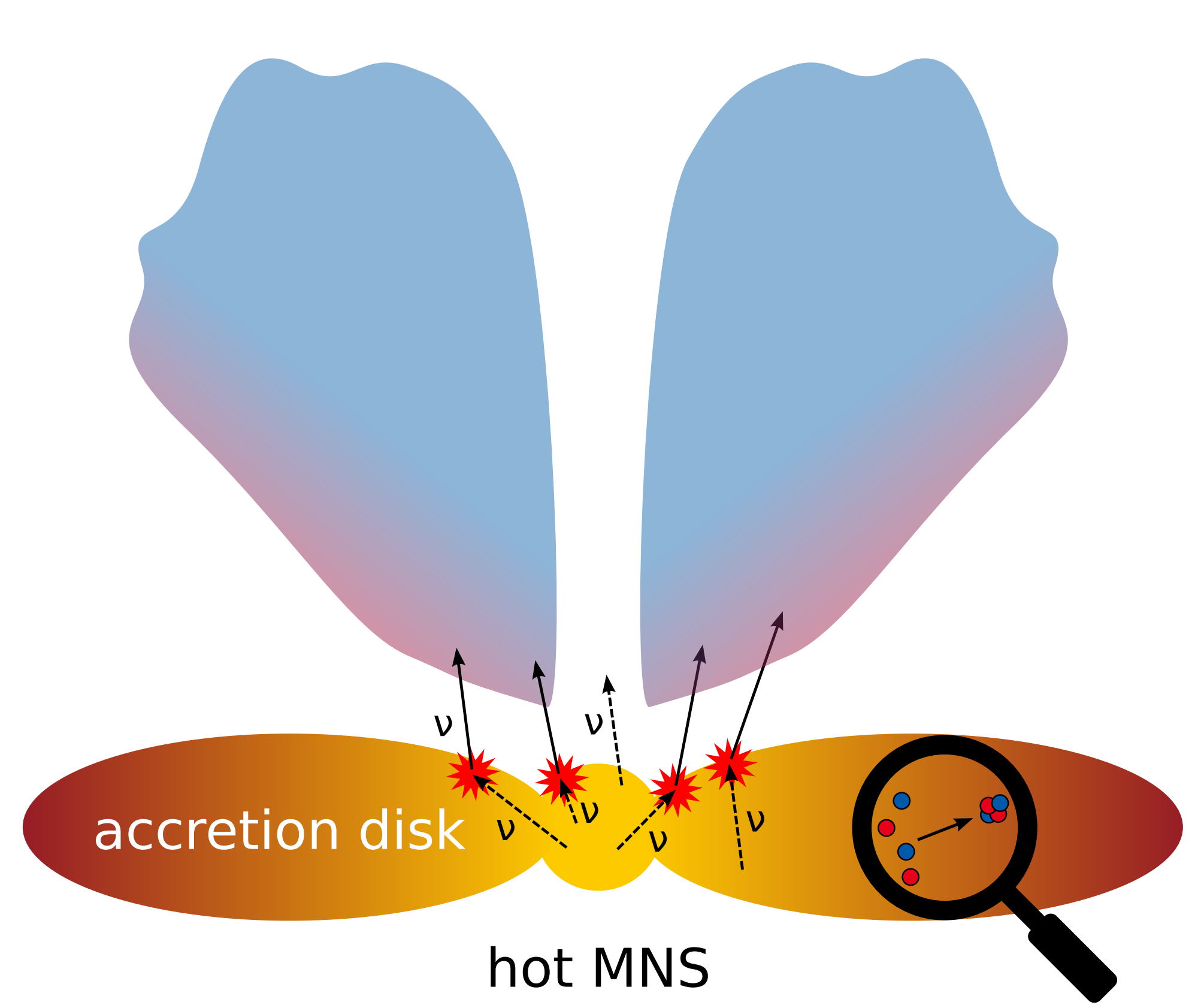
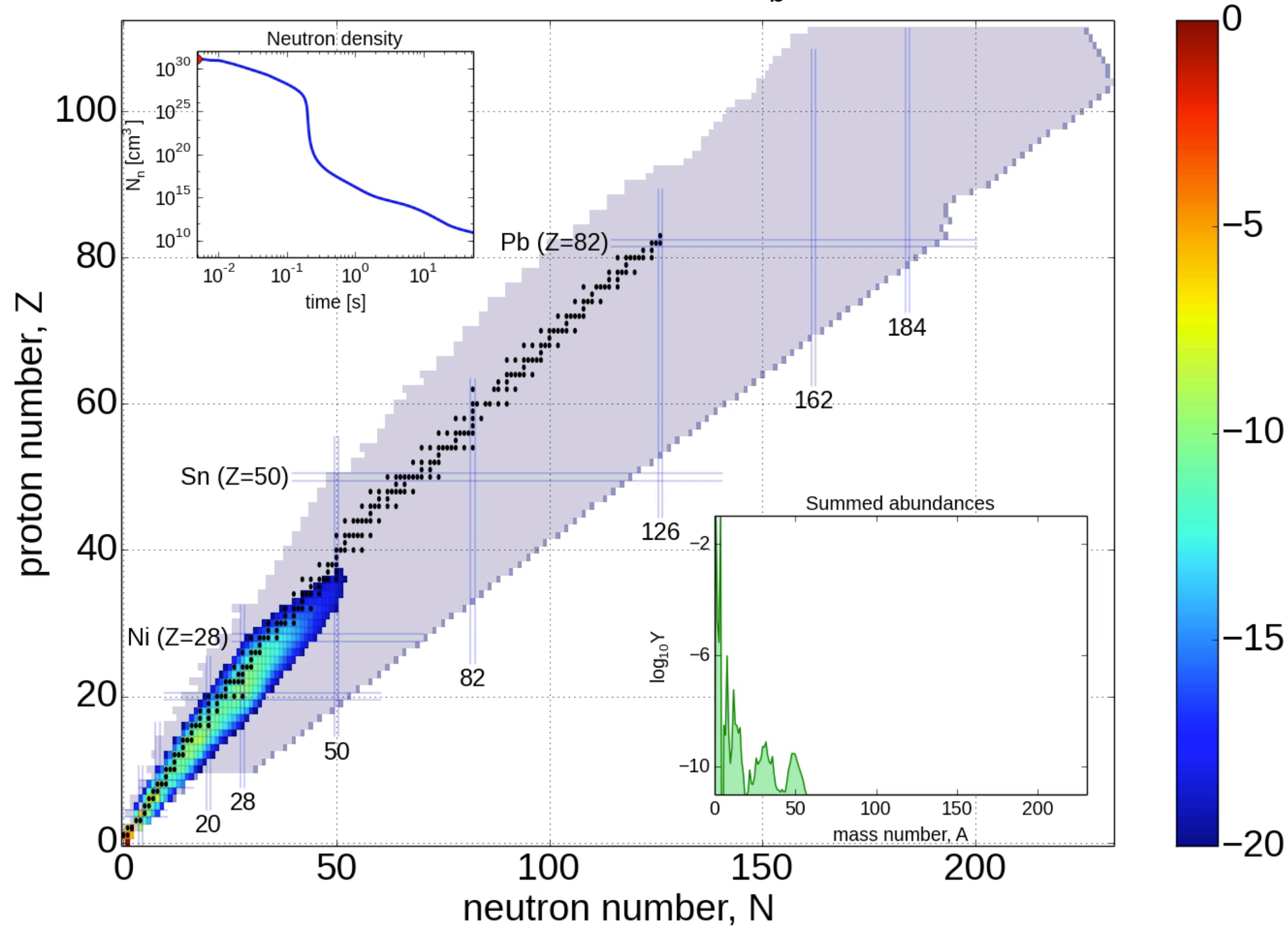
Blue kilonova

Martin et al. ApJ (2015), Perego et al. MNRAS (2014)



# Accretion disk ejecta

$t : 4.89e-03 \text{ s} / T : 9.00 \text{ GK} / \rho_b : 4.63e+07 \text{ g/cm}^3$



Blue kilonova

Martin et al. ApJ (2015), Perego et al. MNRAS (2014)



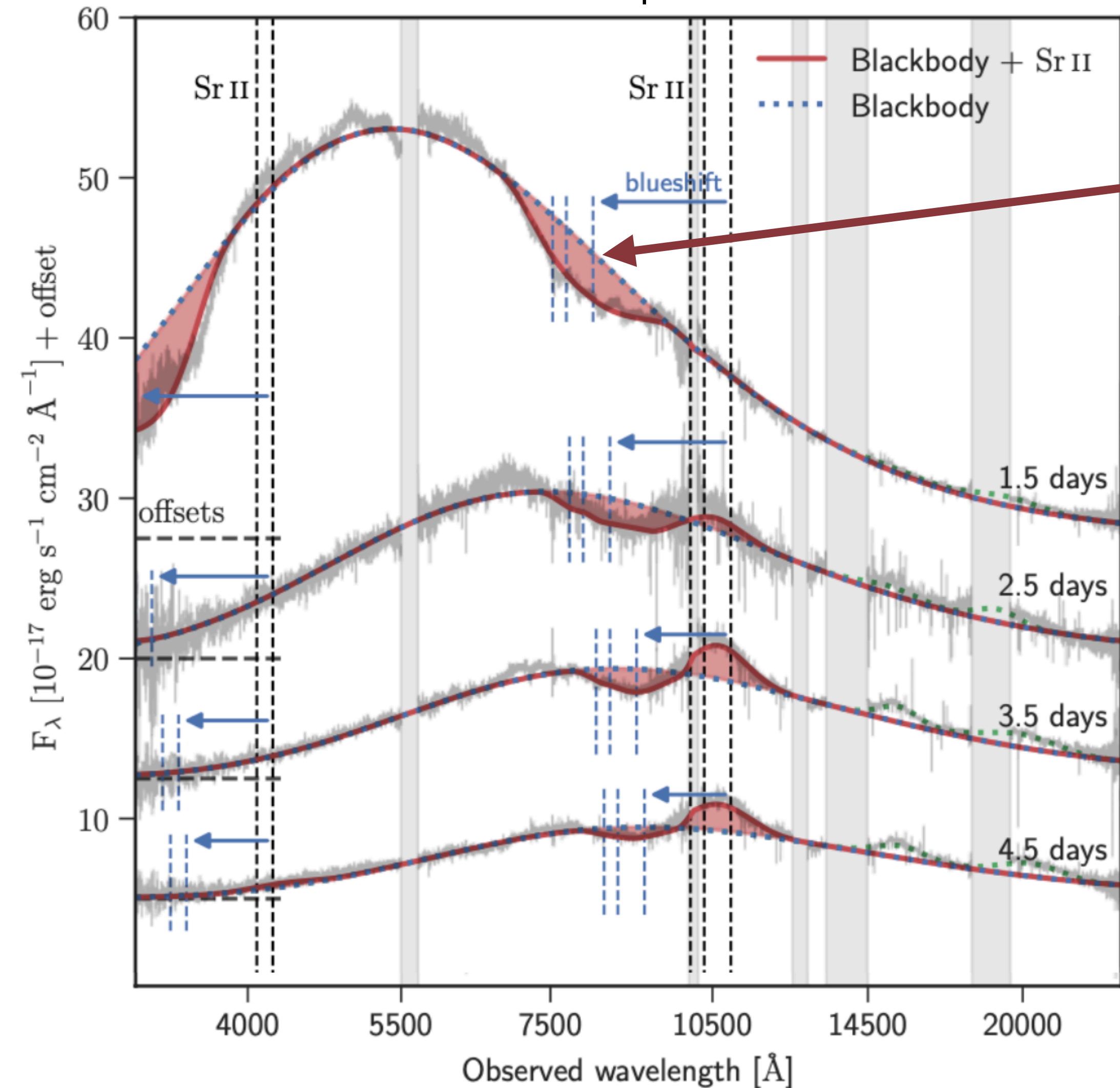
# Blue kilonova and Strontium (Z=38)

First direct detection of r-process



Very Large Telescope (VLT), Chile

kilonova spectrum

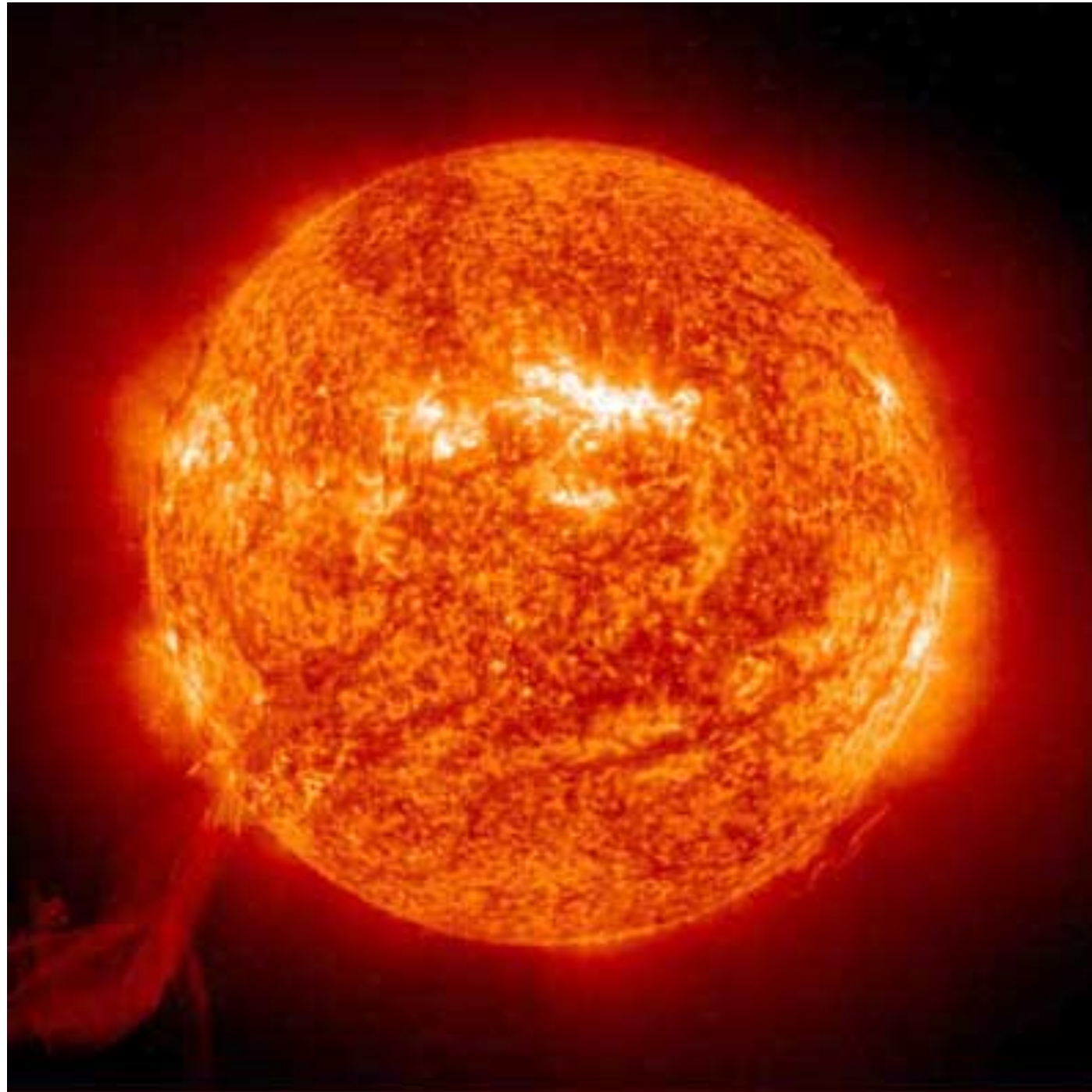


Sr freshly synthesized

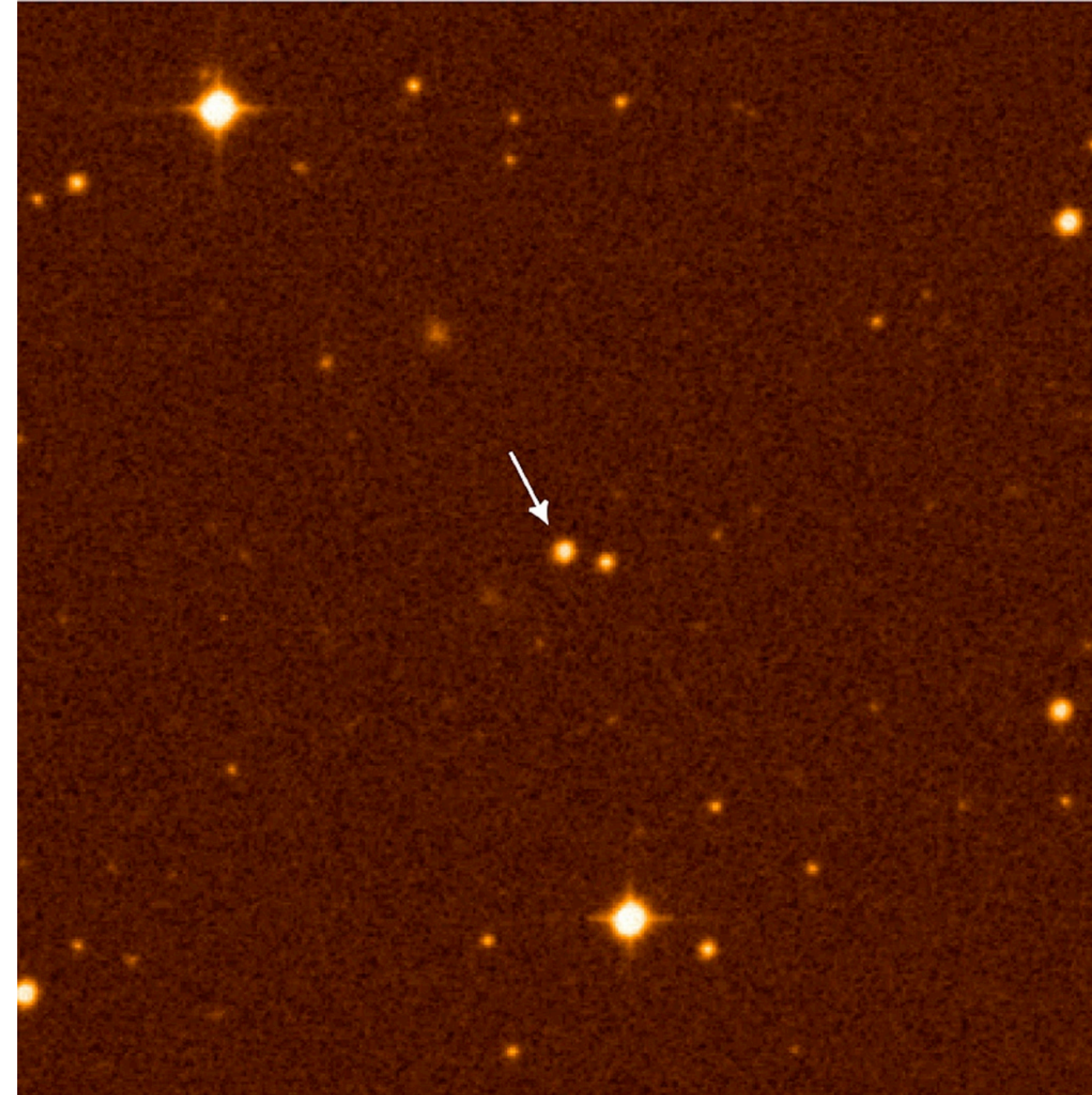
Watson et al.  
Nature (2019)



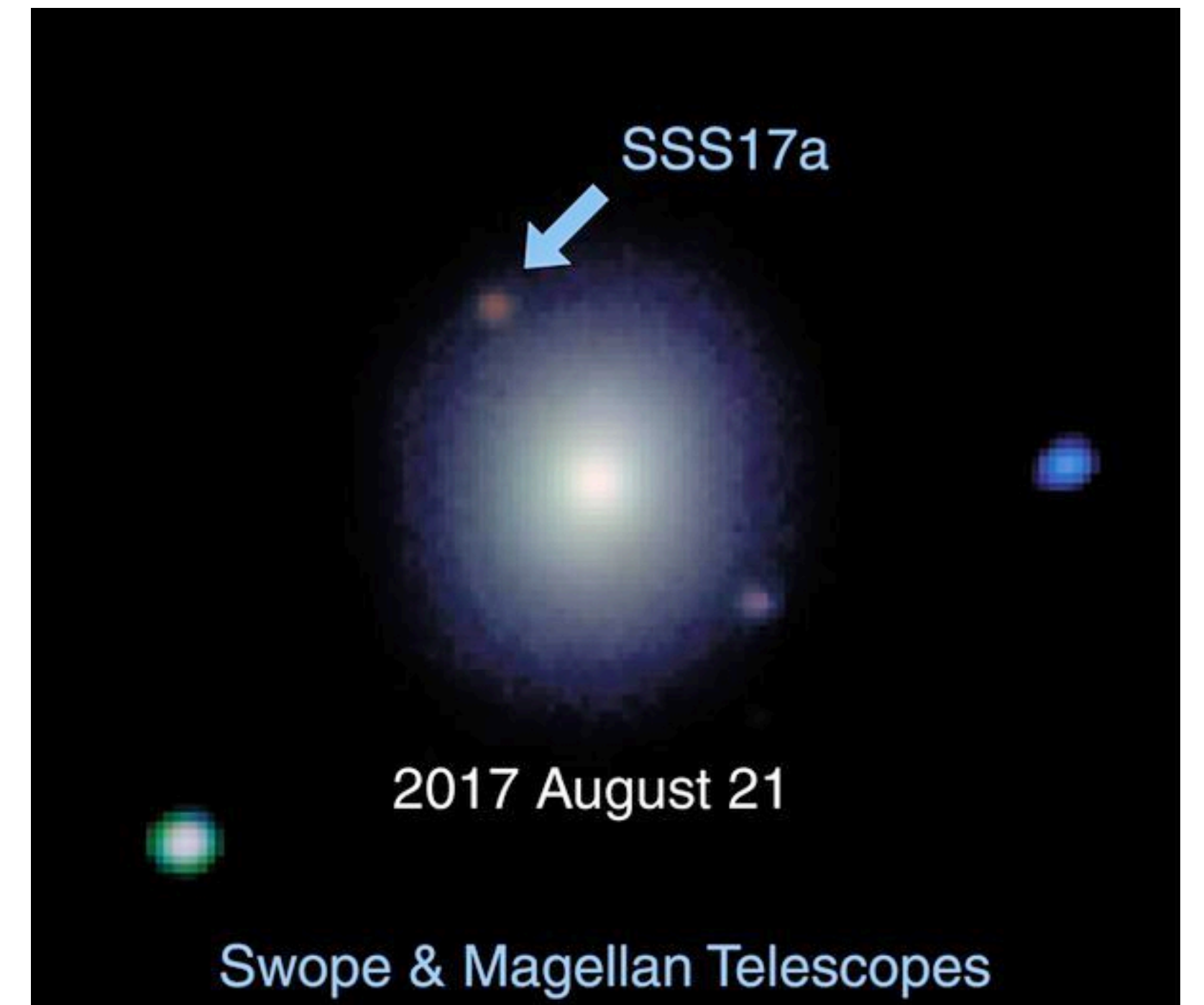
# Observable: heavy elements produced by the r-process



Solar system



Oldest stars



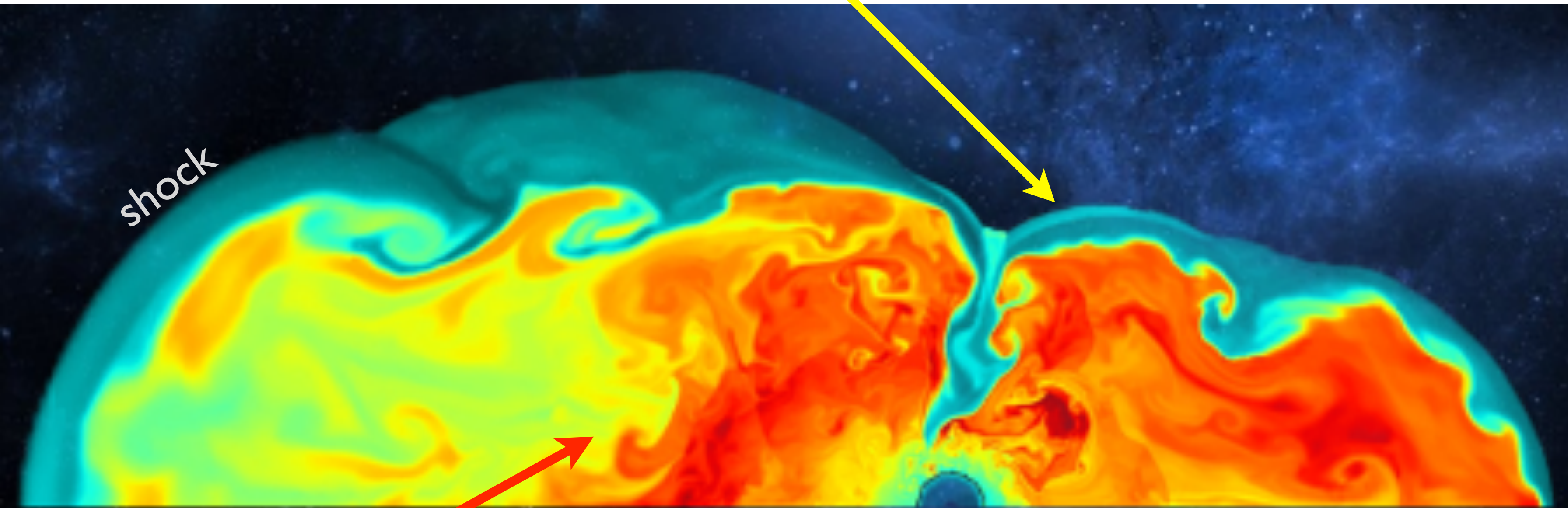
Kilonova





# Supernova nucleosynthesis

**Explosive nucleosynthesis:** O, Mg, Si, S, Ca, Ti, Fe  
shock wave heats falling matter

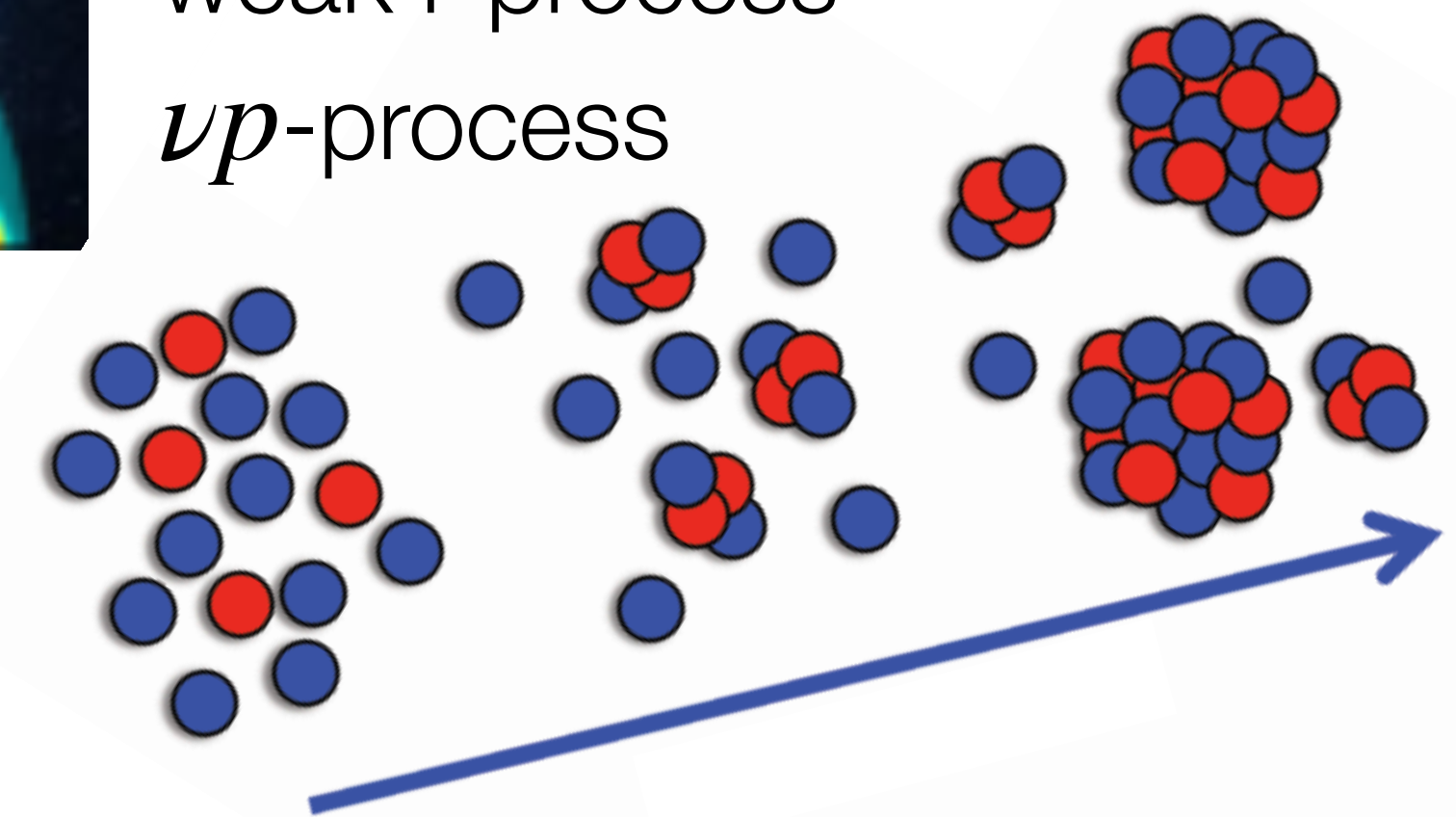


Nuclear statistical equilibrium  
(NSE)

charged particle reactions  
 $\alpha$ -process

r-process  
weak r-process

$\nu p$ -process



neutrino-driven ejecta



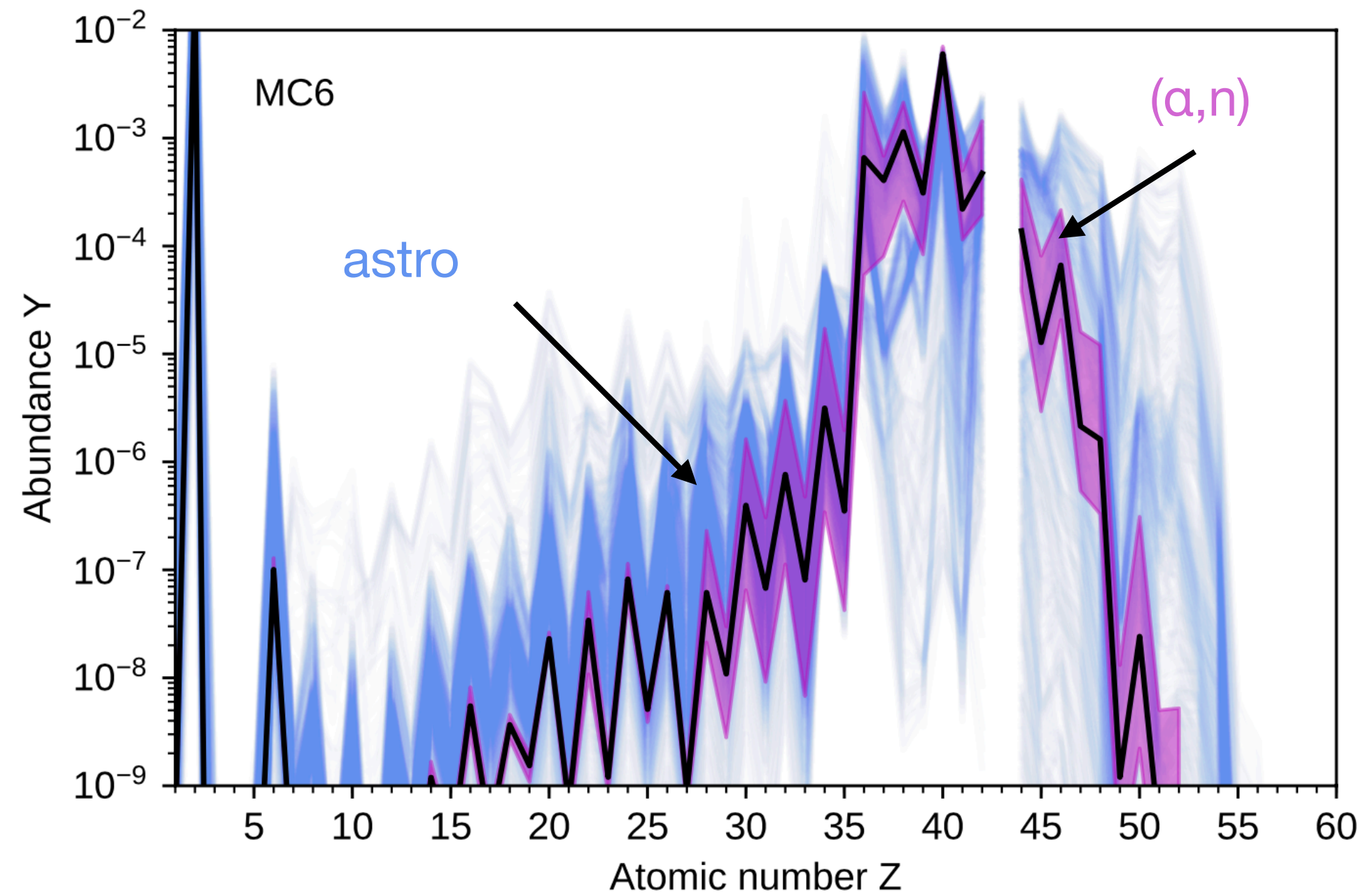
# Core-collapse supernova: weak r-process

Neutrino-driven supernovae: elements up to Ag

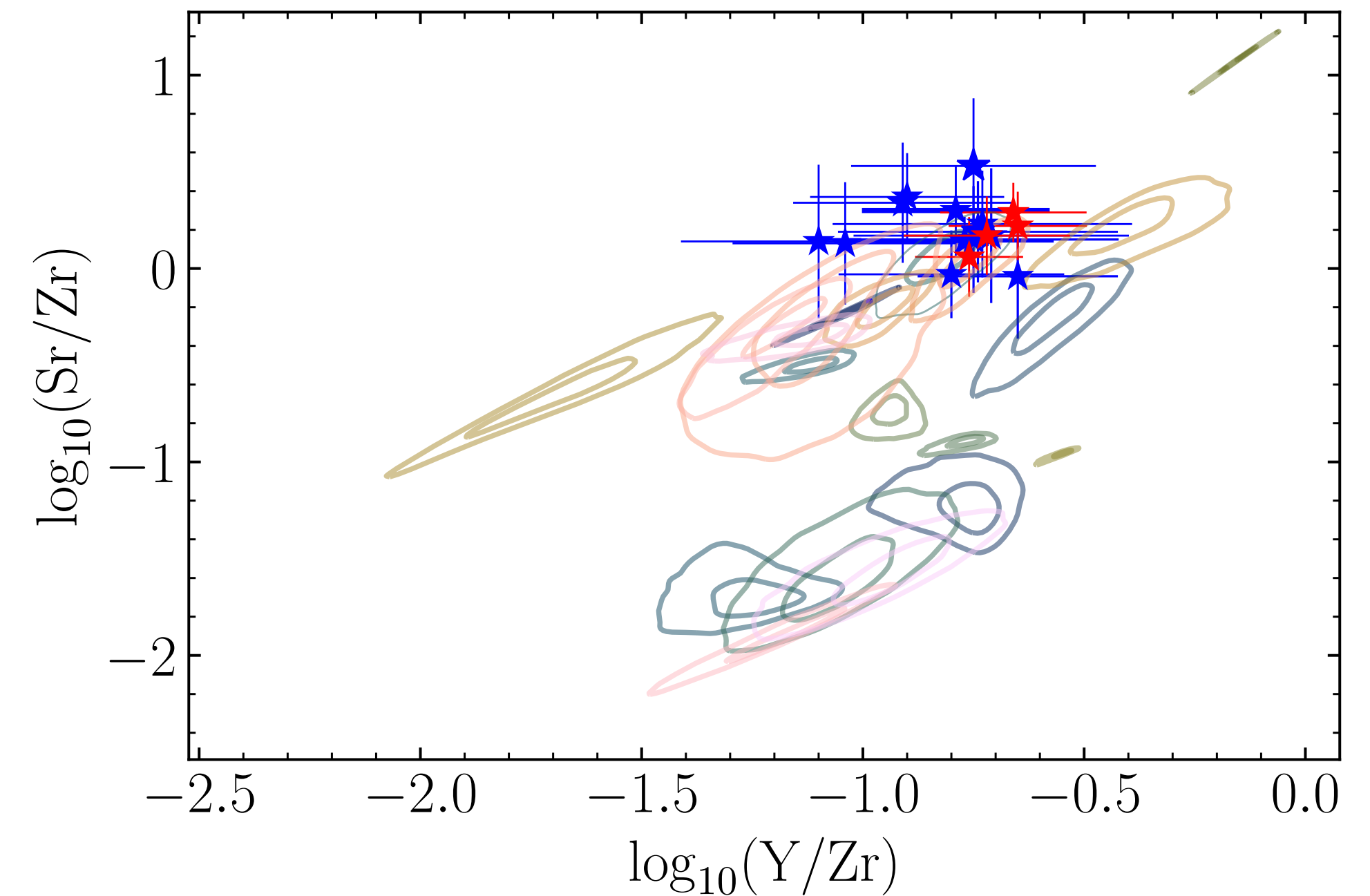
Combine astrophysics and nuclear physics uncertainties

Motivation and support for experiments at NSCL, ANL, TRIUMF, ATOMKI

Bliss et al. JPG (2017), Bliss et al. ApJ (2018), Bliss et al. PRC (2020)



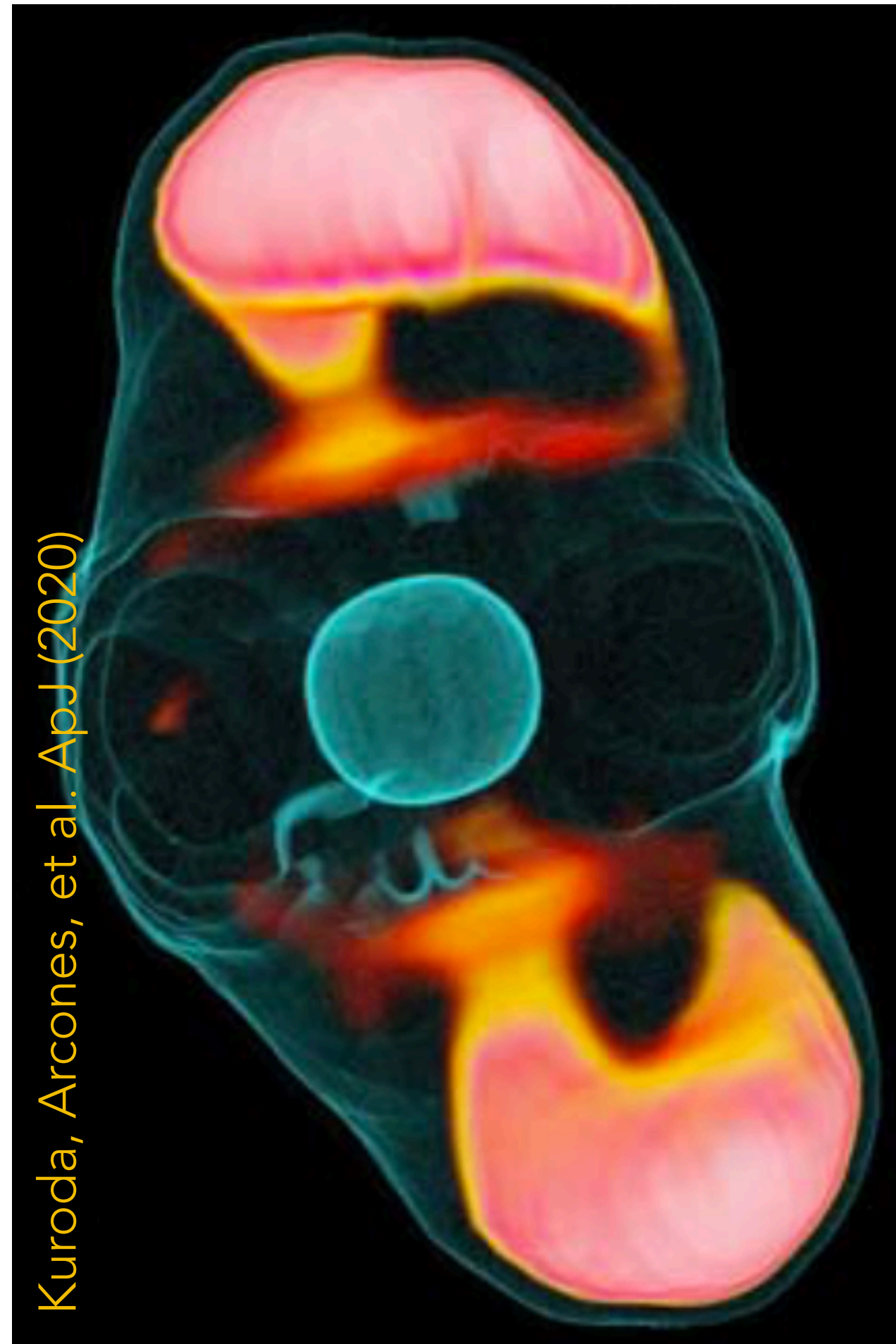
Psaltis et al. ApJ (2022)





# r-process in supernovae?

- Neutrino-driven supernovae: elements up to Ag
- Magneto-rotational supernovae: elements up to U and Th?



Neutron-rich matter ejected by magnetic field (Cameron 2003, Nishimura et al. 2006)

2D and 3D + parametric neutrino treatment

Winteler et al. 2012, Nishimura et al. 2015, 2017, Mösta et al. 2018

First 3D simulations of explosions with magnetic fields and detailed neutrino transport, and their nucleosynthesis

Reichert et al. ApJ (2021), Reichert et al. MNRAS (2023)

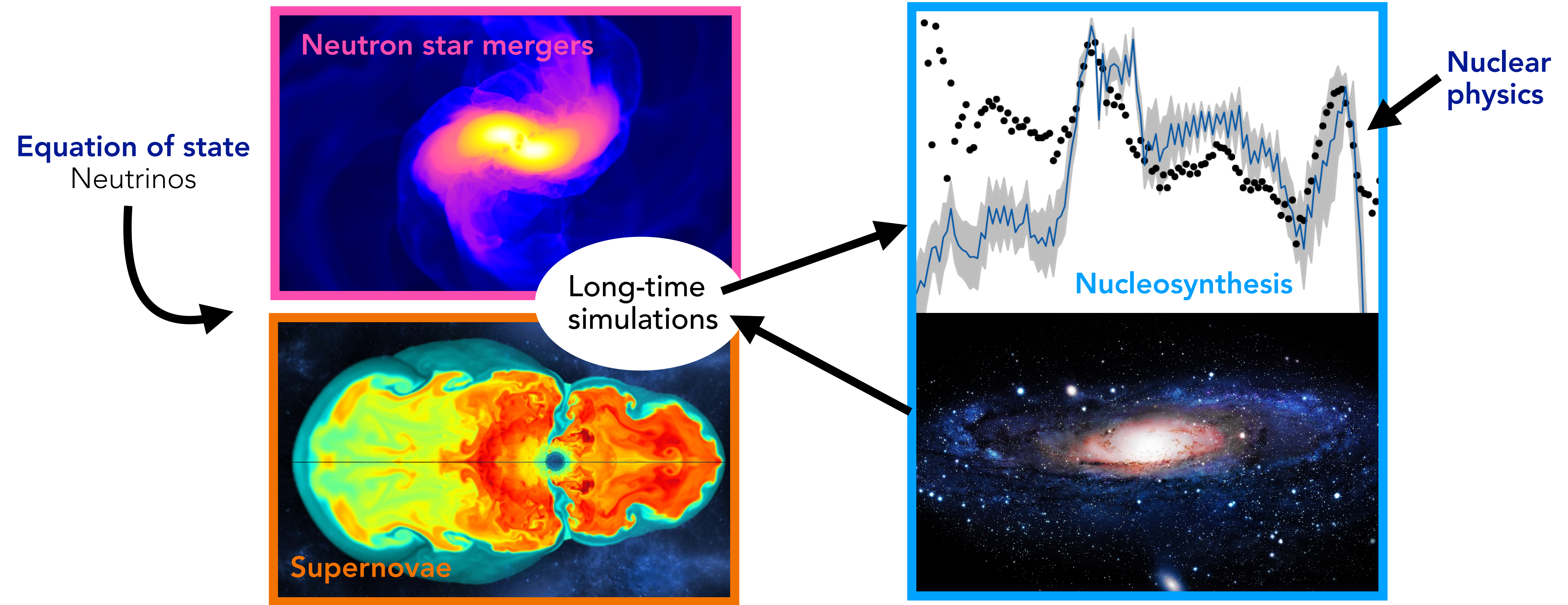
Open questions

- Long-time evolution:  
Magnetar (neutron star) vs. Collapsar (black hole): **r-process possible?**
- Impact of magnetic field strength and morphology on nucleosynthesis

Reichert et al. (to be submitted)



# R-process: from simulations to observations

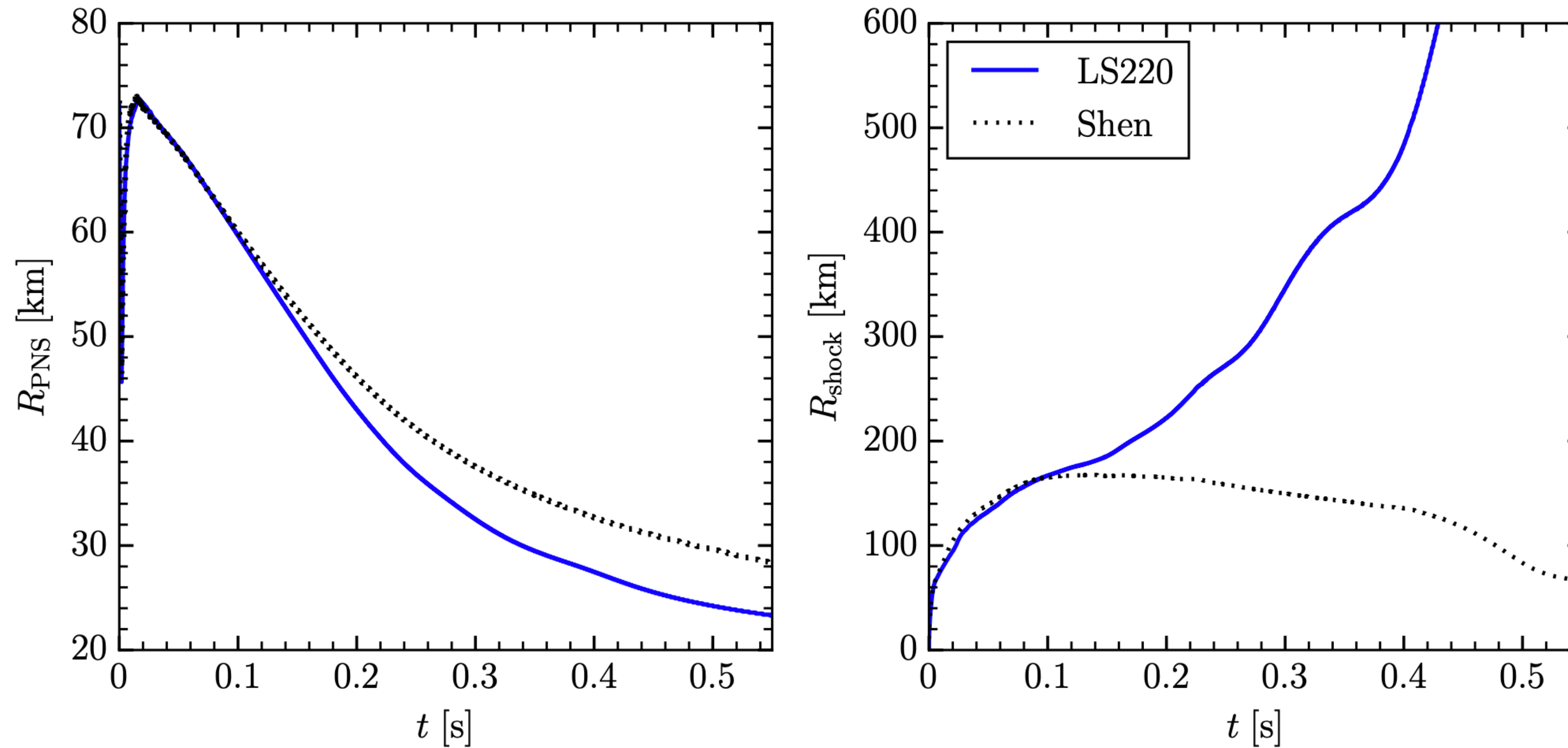




# Equation of state in core-collapse supernovae

First systematic study of nuclear matter properties

1D simulations, FLASH + M1 + increased neutrino heating

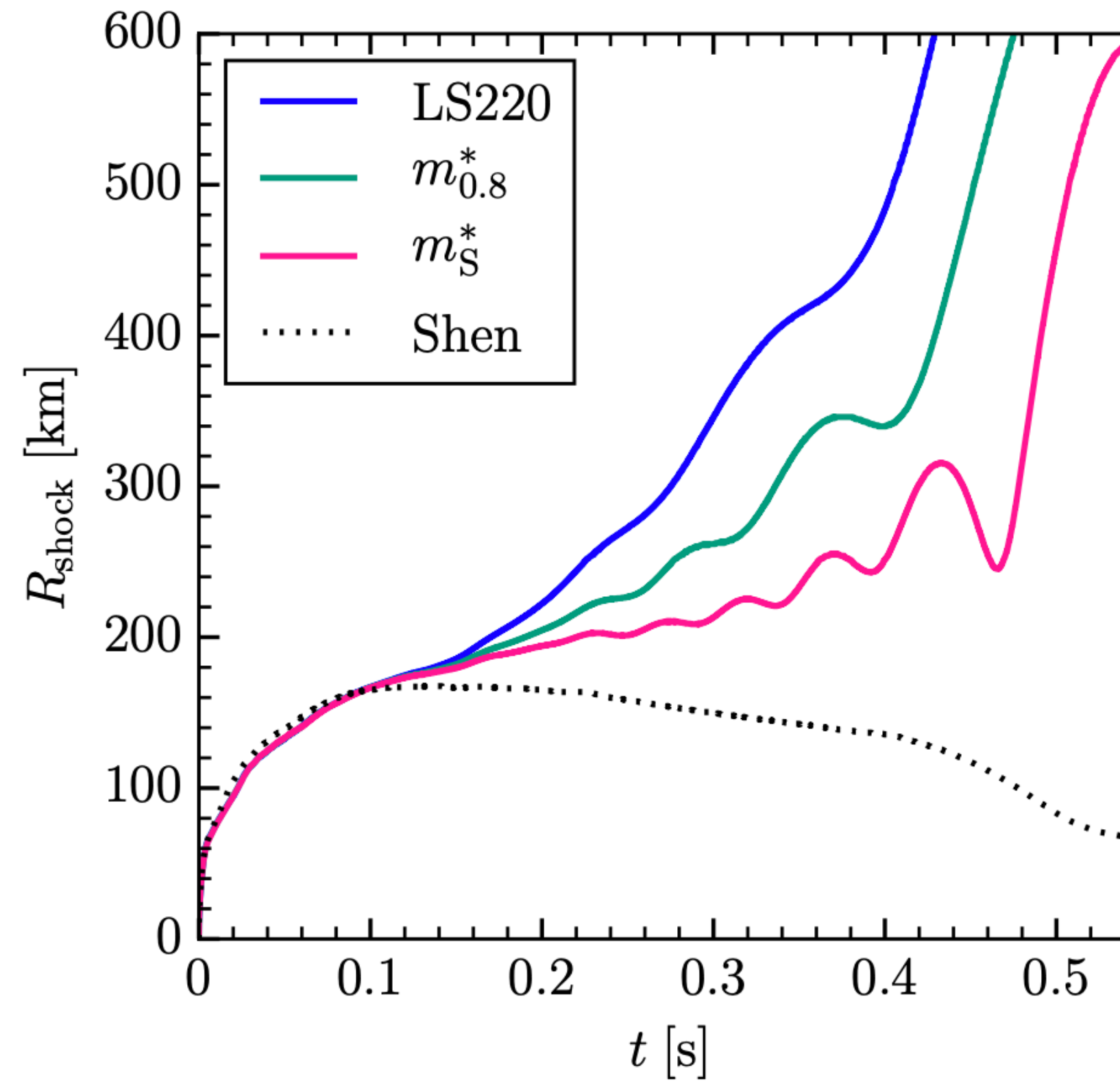
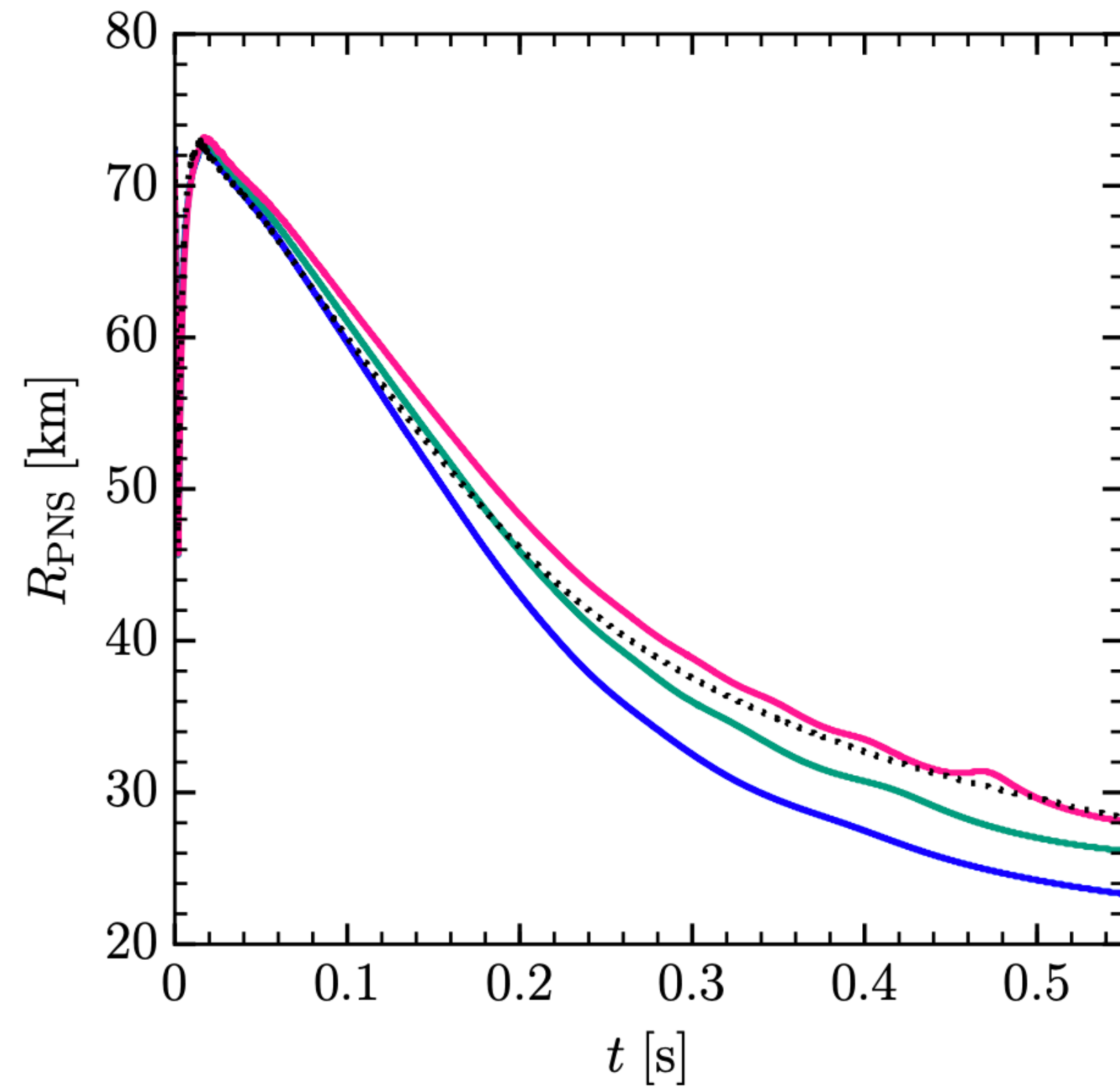


Yasin, Schäfer (now Huth), Arcones, Schwenk, PRL (2020)



# Equation of state in core-collapse supernovae

First systematic study of nuclear matter properties  
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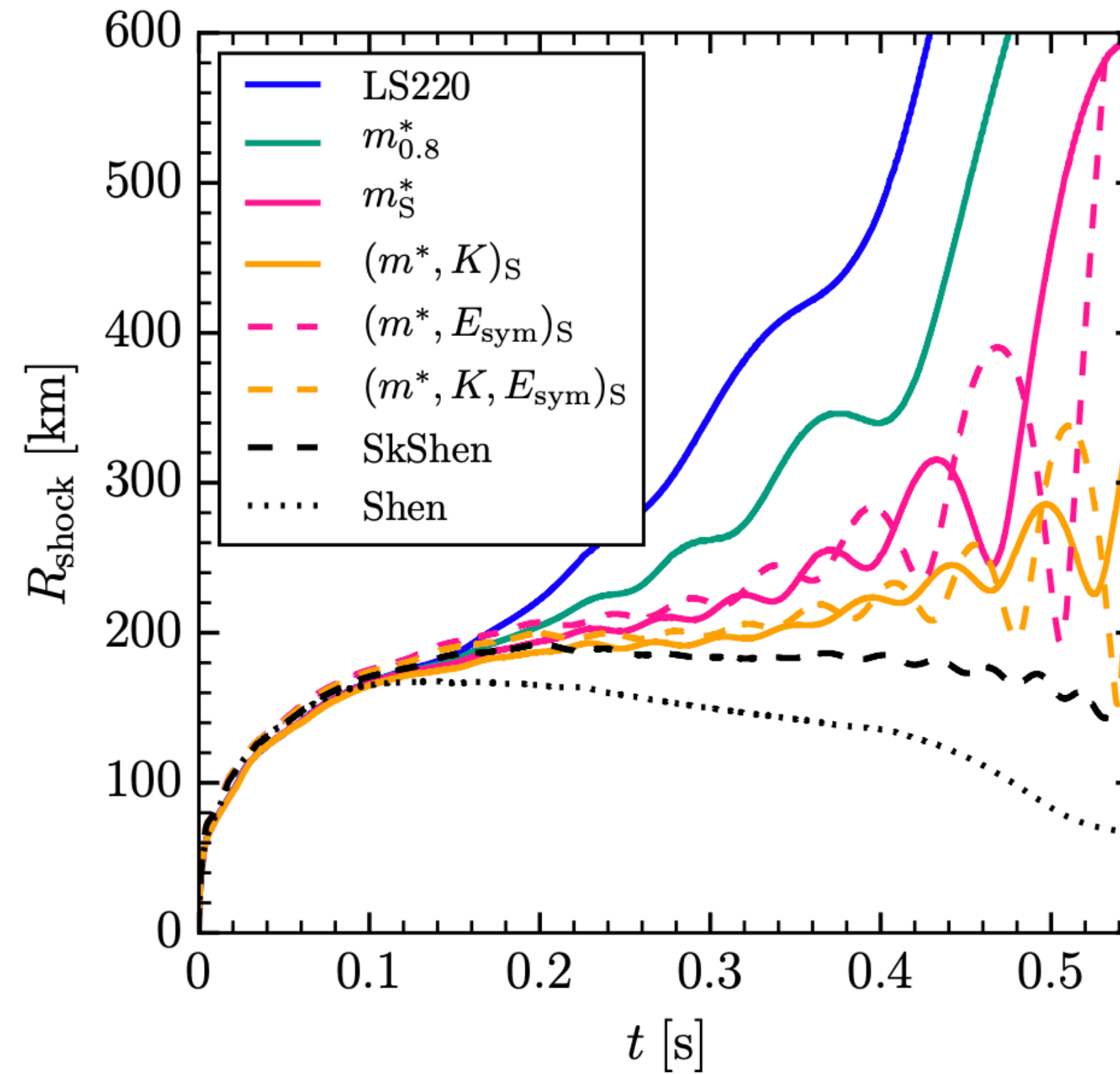
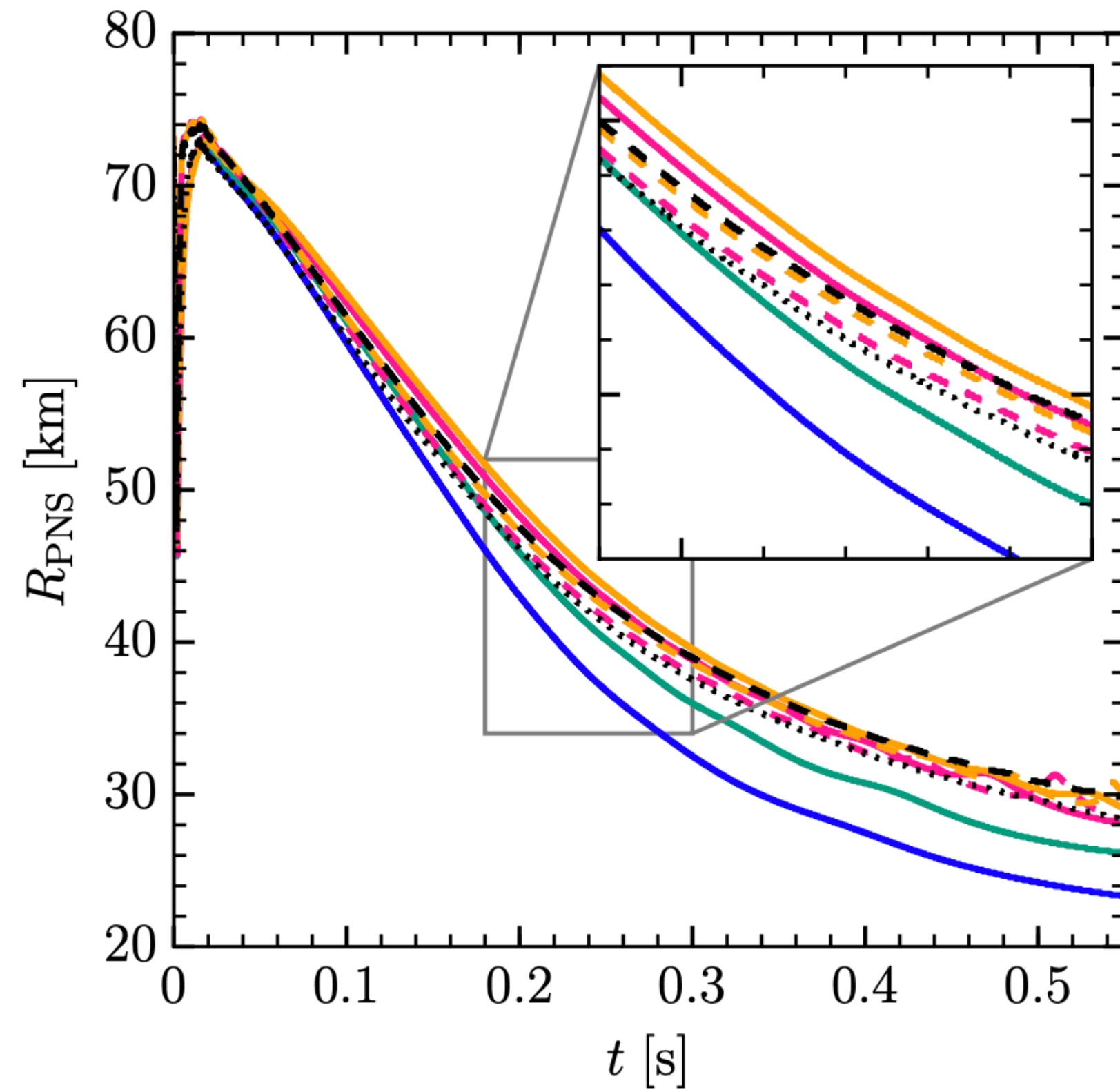
Effective mass:  
PNS contraction

Yasin, Schäfer (now Huth), Arcones, Schwenk, PRL (2020)



# Equation of state in core-collapse supernovae

First systematic study of nuclear matter properties  
1D simulations, FLASH + M1 + increased neutrino heating



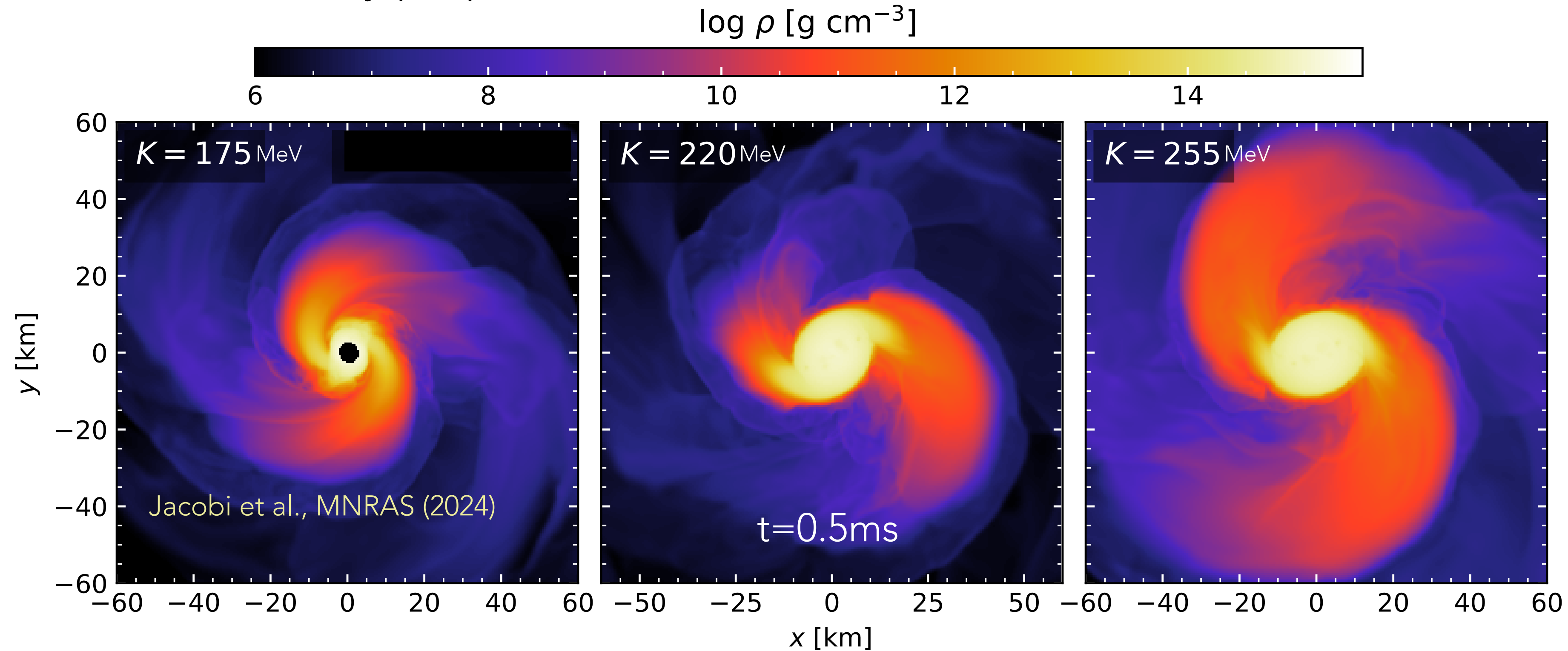
Effective mass:  
PNS contraction

Yasin, Schäfer (now Huth), Arcones, Schwenk, PRL (2020)



# Equation of state in neutron star mergers

Systematic variations of key properties



Impact on:

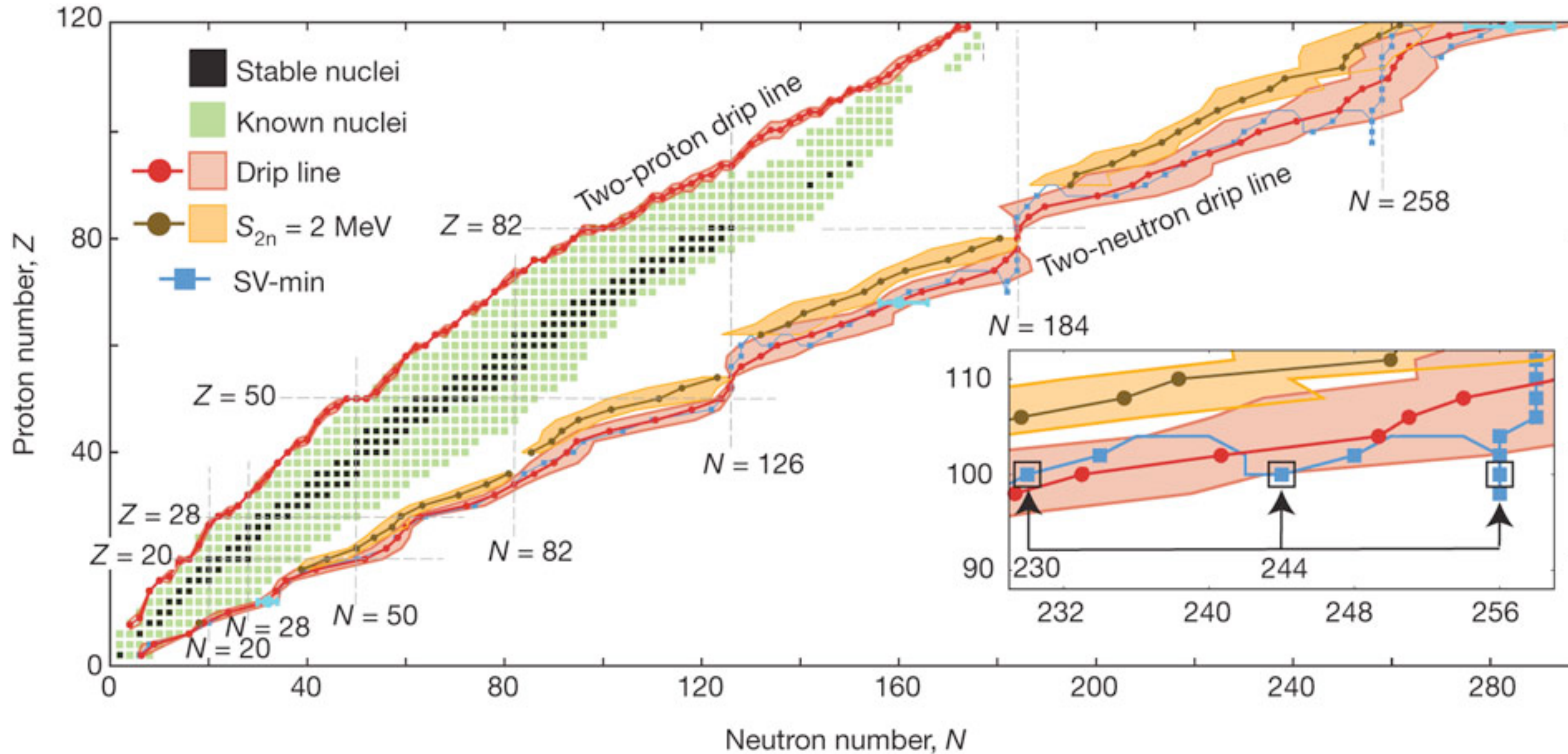
dynamics, gravitational waves, mass ejected (Jacobi et al., MNRAS 2024)

nucleosynthesis and kilonova (Ricigliano et al., in prep.)



# Nuclear physics input

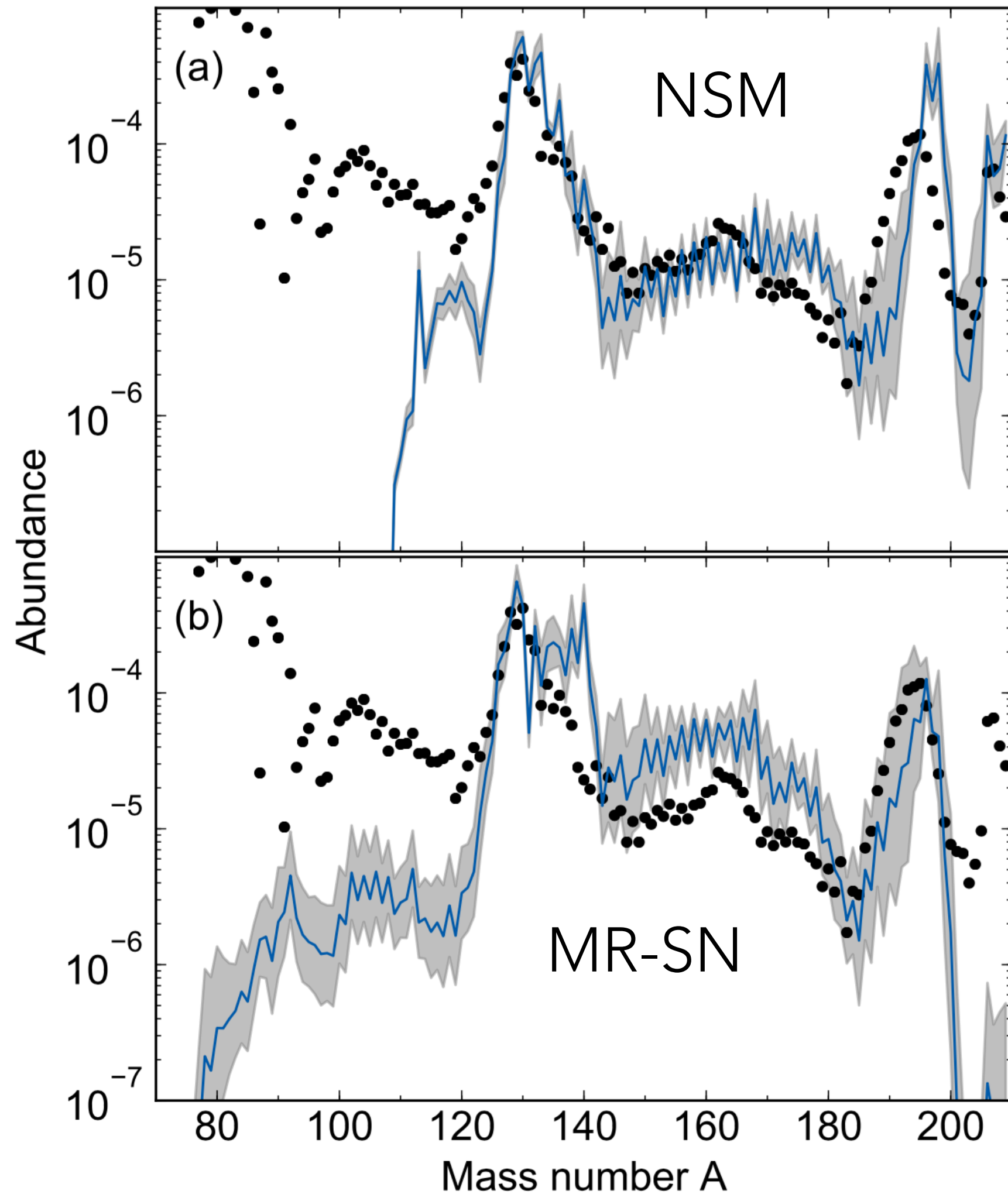
nuclear masses, beta decay, reaction rates (neutron capture), fission



Erlar et al. (2012)



# Nuclear masses



Abundances based on density functional theory

- six sets of different parametrisation (Erl er et al., Nature 2012)
- two realistic astrophysical scenarios: MR-SN + NSM

First systematic uncertainty band for r-process abundances

Uncertainty band depends on mass number,  
in contrast to homogeneous band for all mass numbers

Mumpower et al. 2015

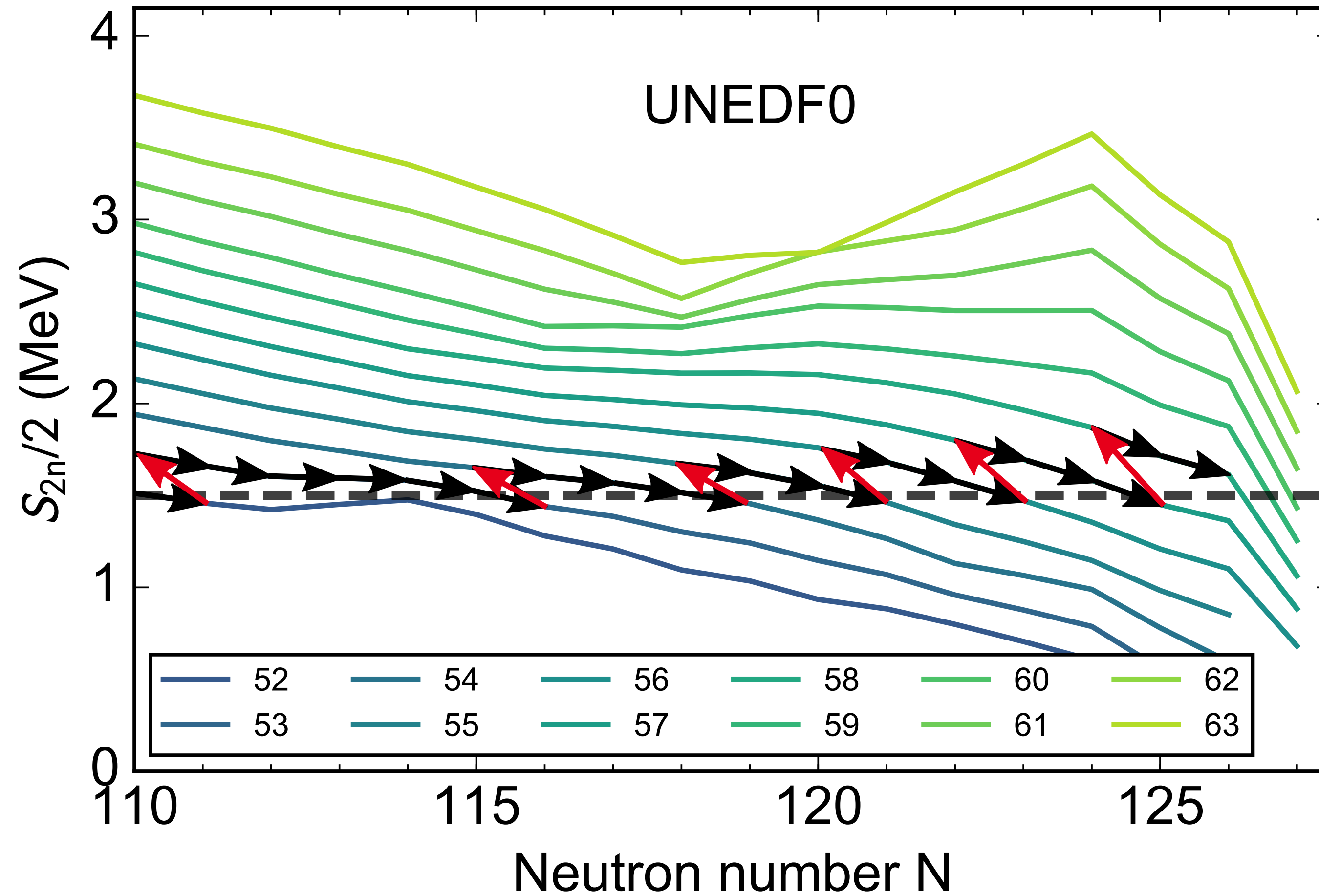
Can we link masses to r-process abundances?

Martin, Arcones, Nazarewicz, Olsen, PRL (2016)



# Two neutron separation energy

Nucleosynthesis path at constant  $S_n$ :  $(n,\gamma)$ - $(\gamma,n)$  equilibrium



→ Neutron capture

↖ Beta decay

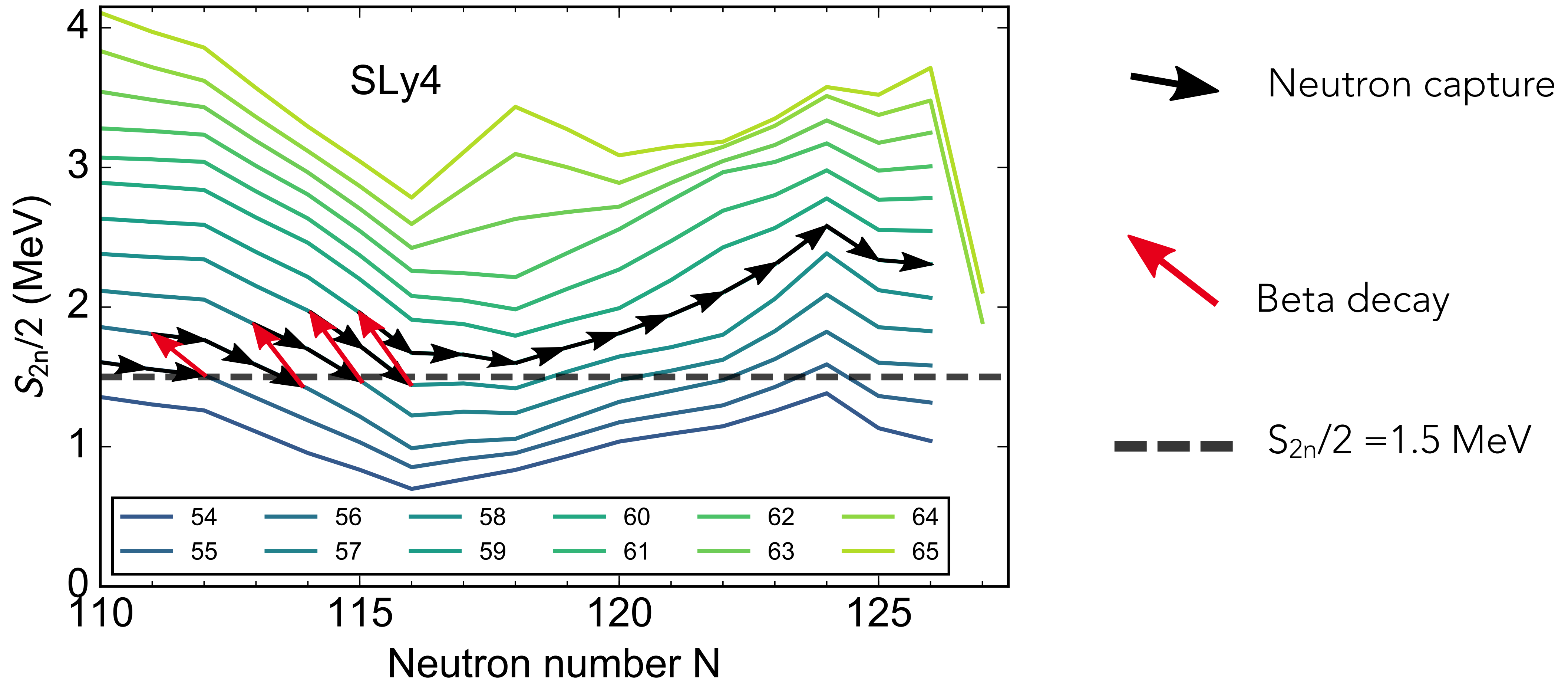
---  $S_{2n}/2 = 1.5$  MeV

Martin, Arcones, Nazarewicz, Olsen, PRL (2016)



# Two neutron separation energy

Nucleosynthesis path at constant  $S_n$ :  $(n,\gamma)$ - $(\gamma,n)$  equilibrium



Martin, Arcones, Nazarewicz, Olsen, PRL (2016)



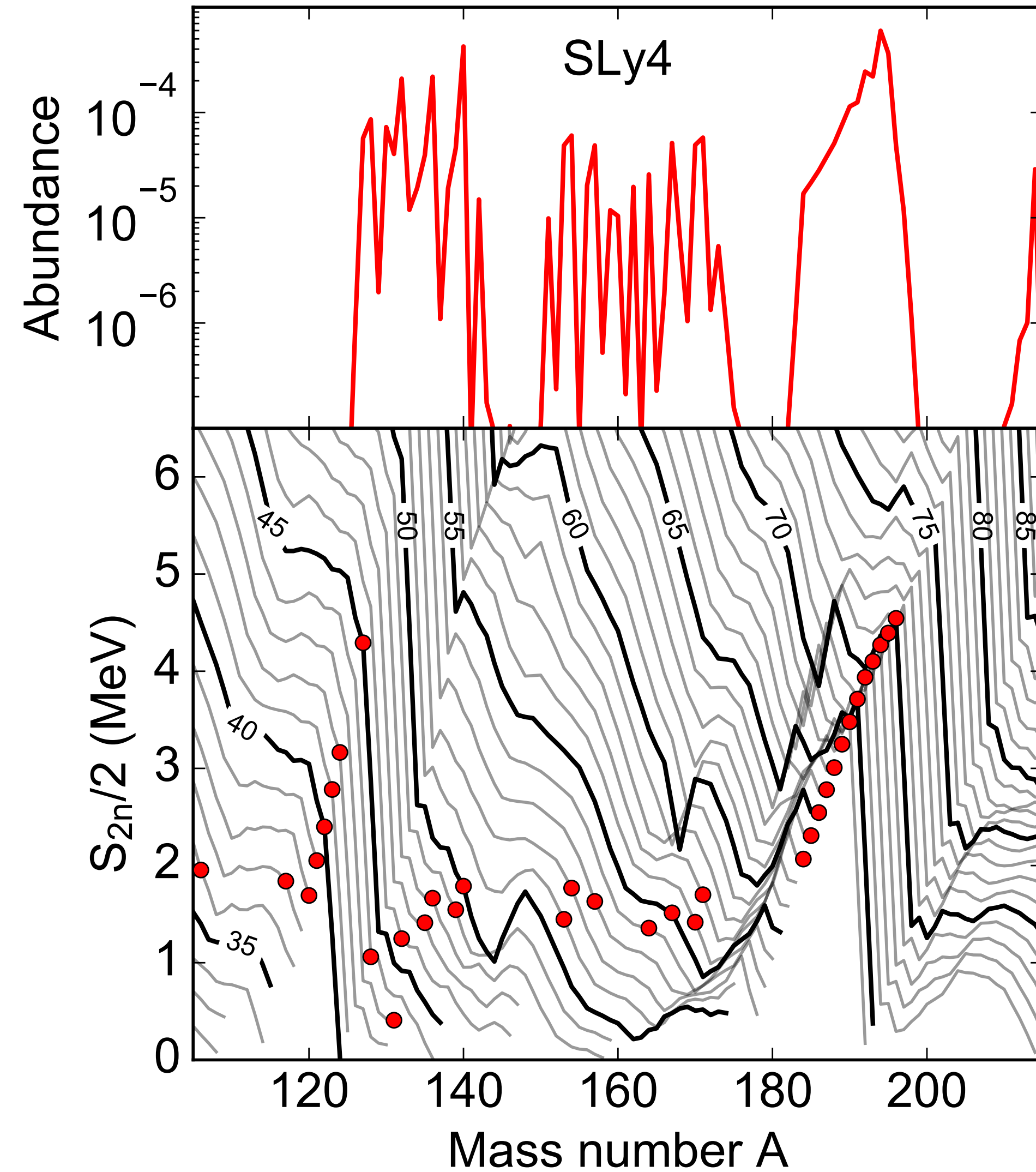
# Two neutron separation energy $\rightarrow$ abundances

Abundances



$S_{2n}$

Nuclear  
properties





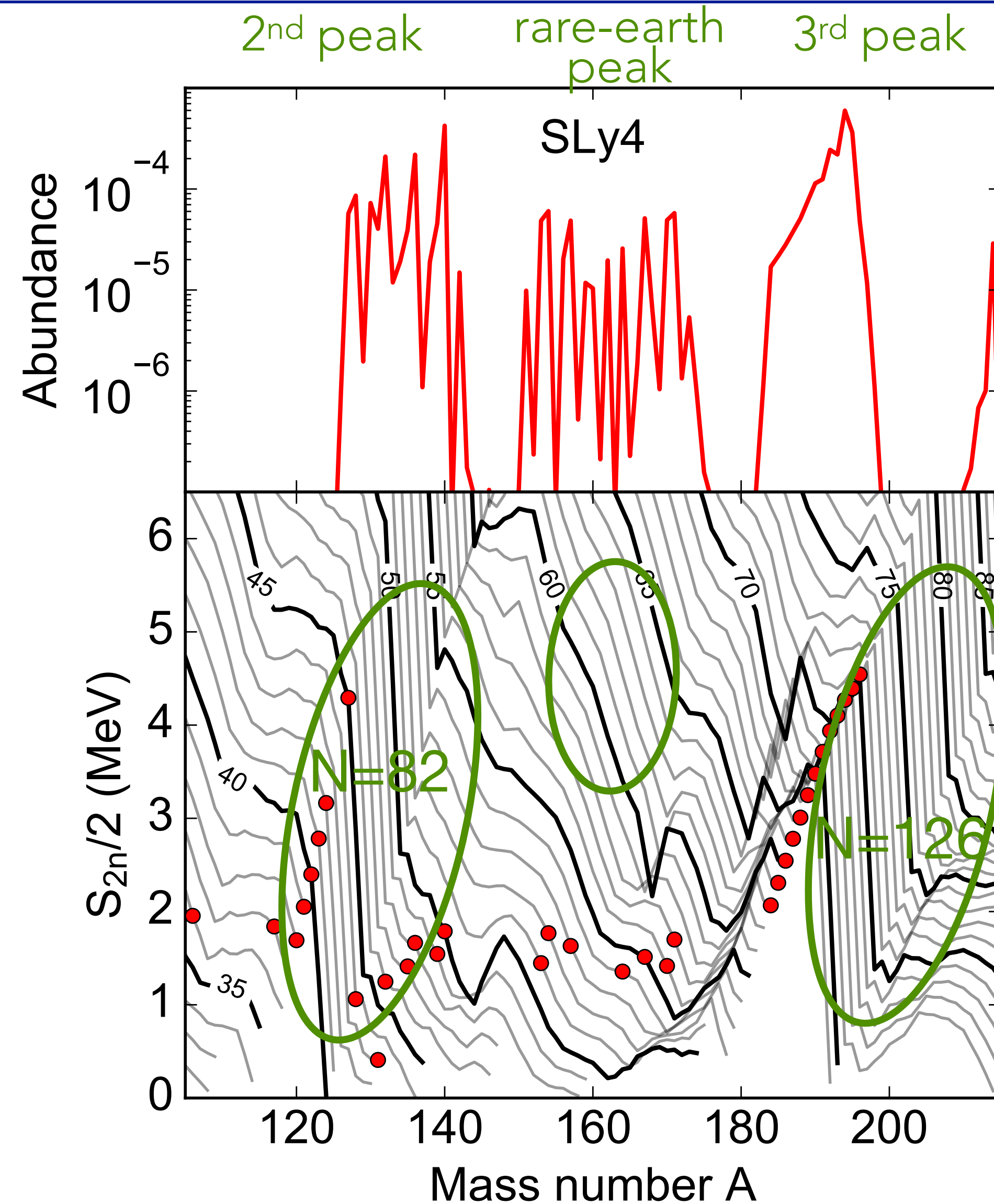
# Two neutron separation energy $\rightarrow$ abundances

Abundances



$S_{2n}$

Nuclear  
properties





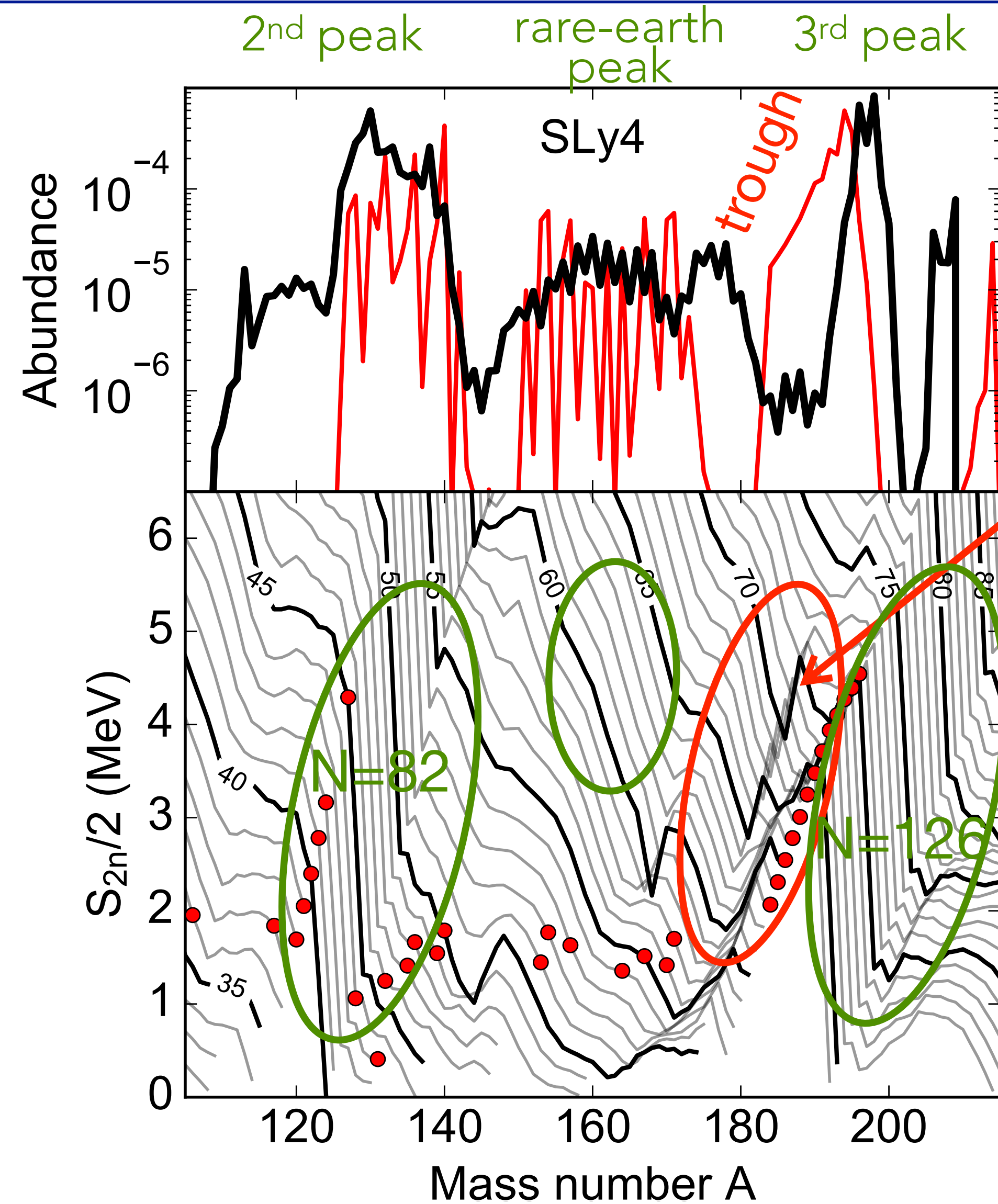
# Two neutron separation energy $\rightarrow$ abundances

Abundances



$S_{2n}$

Nuclear  
properties

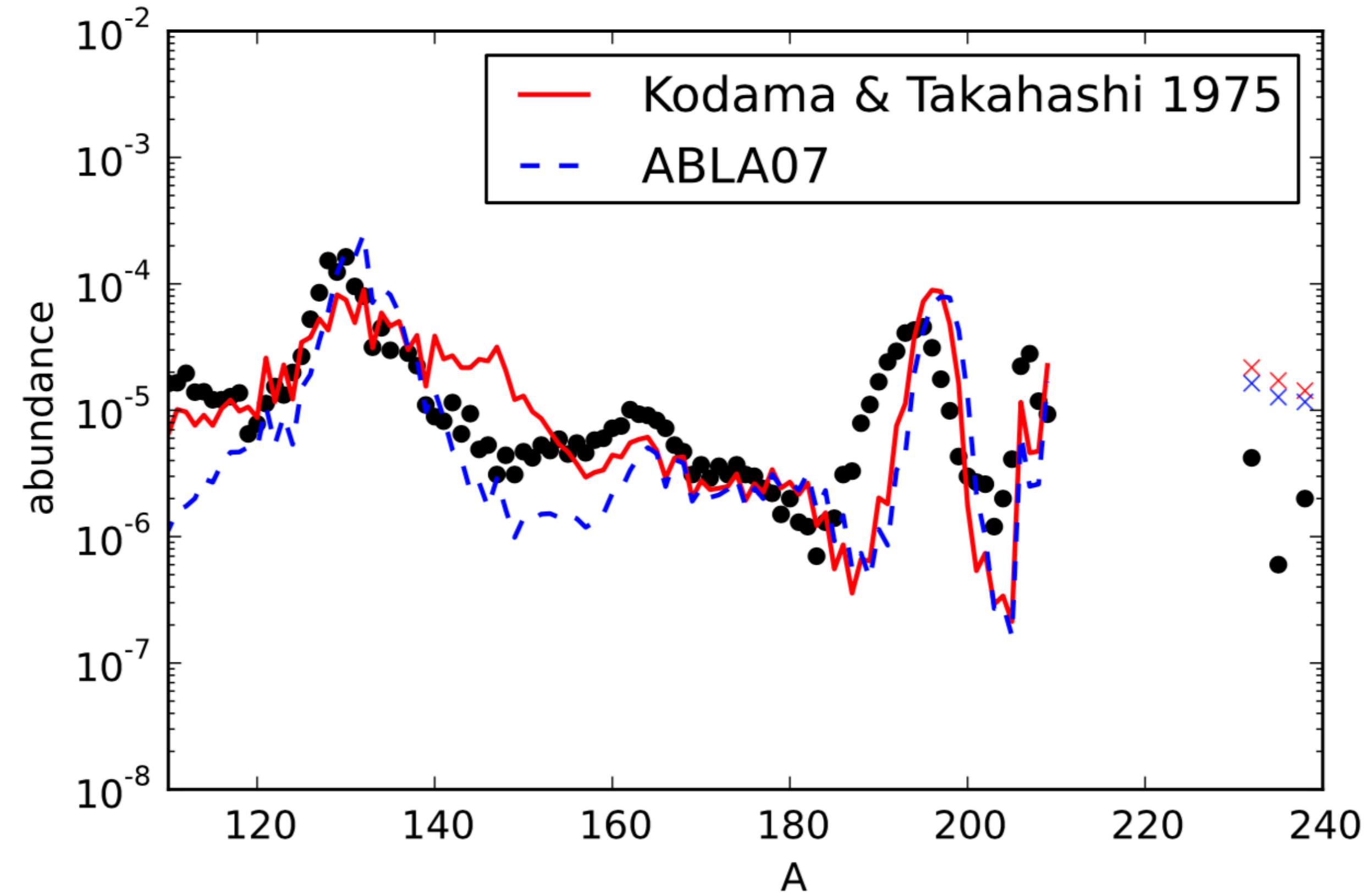
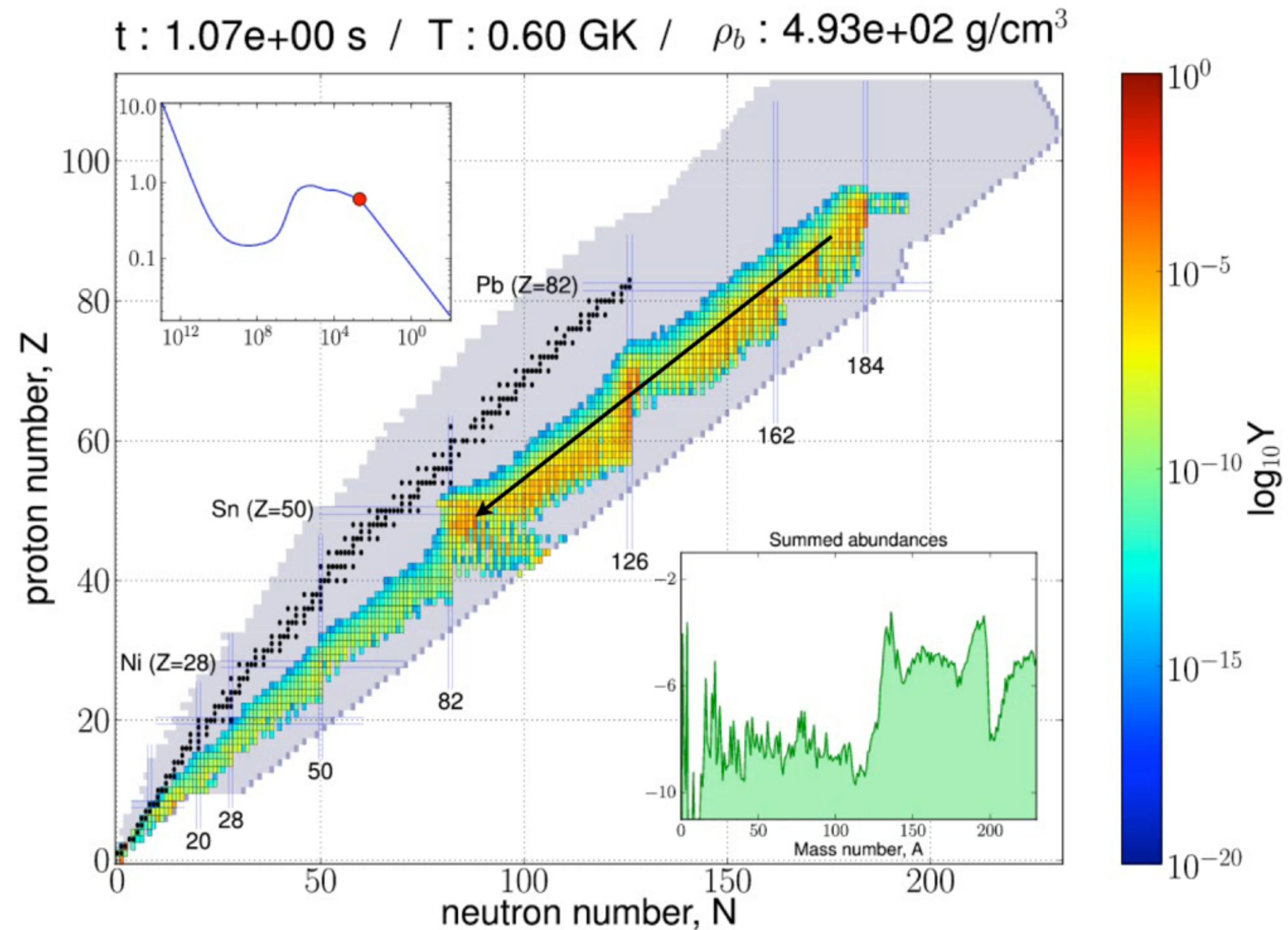


transition from  
deformed to  
spherical

Neutron captures are critical  
during decay to stability!



# Fission: barriers and yield distributions



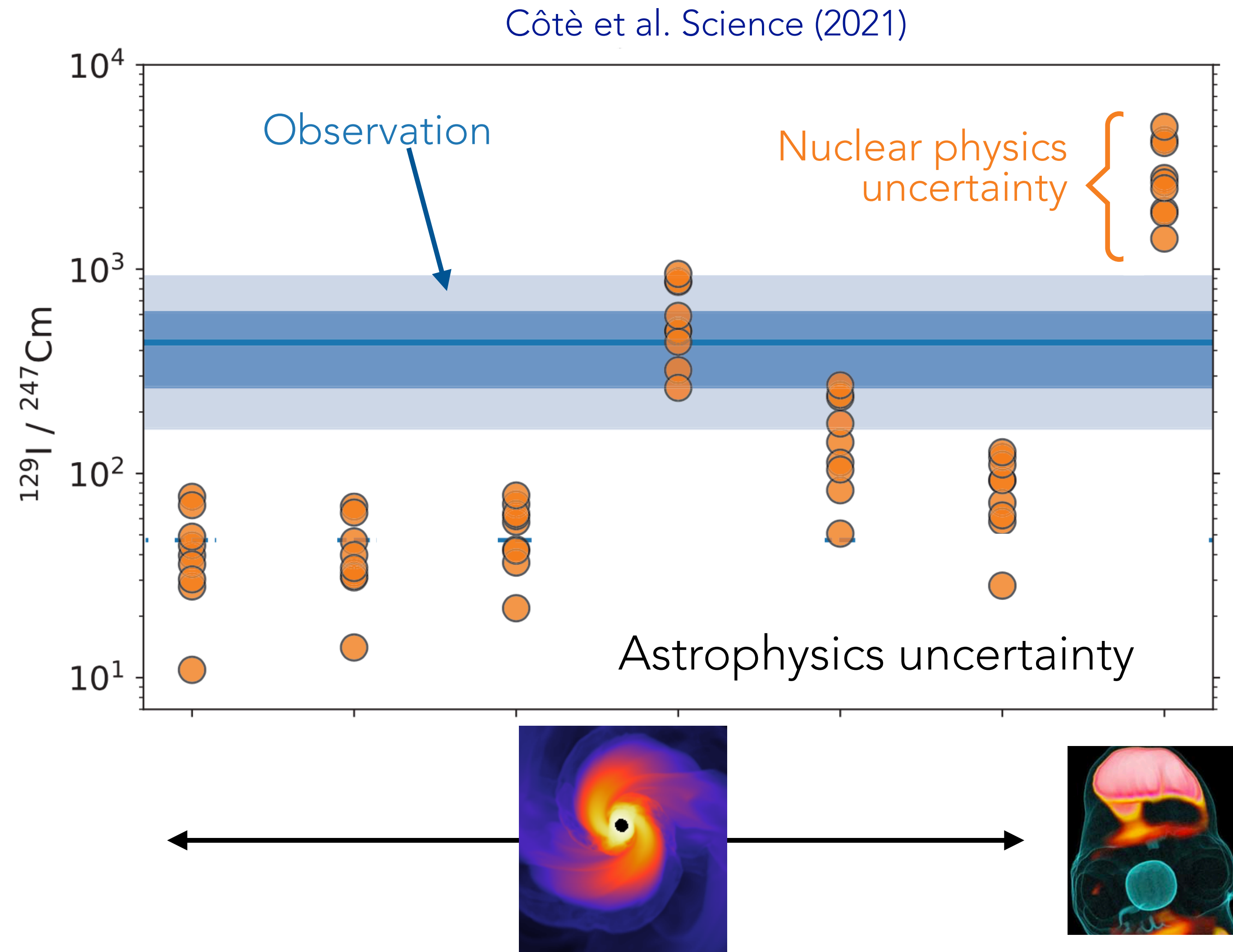
2nd peak ( $A \sim 130$ ): fission yield distribution

3rd peak ( $A \sim 195$ ): mass model, neutron captures

Eichler et al. ApJ (2015), Eichler et al. ApJ (2019)



# Nucleosynthesis: connecting simulations to observations





# Exciting time



- **Multimessenger astronomy:**  
electromagnetic + gravitational waves + neutrinos
- Advanced **astrophysical simulations**  
+ detailed **physics** (supercomputers)
- **New experimental frontier:**  
extreme-neutron rich nuclei at  
FAIR, FRIB, RIKEN, ISOLDE, TRIUMF,...
- Increased number observations of **oldest stars:**  
large telescopes and new spectrographs



# Mergers and supernovae as cosmic laboratories establish the origin and history of heavy elements in the universe

