

# Nuclear reactions in stars

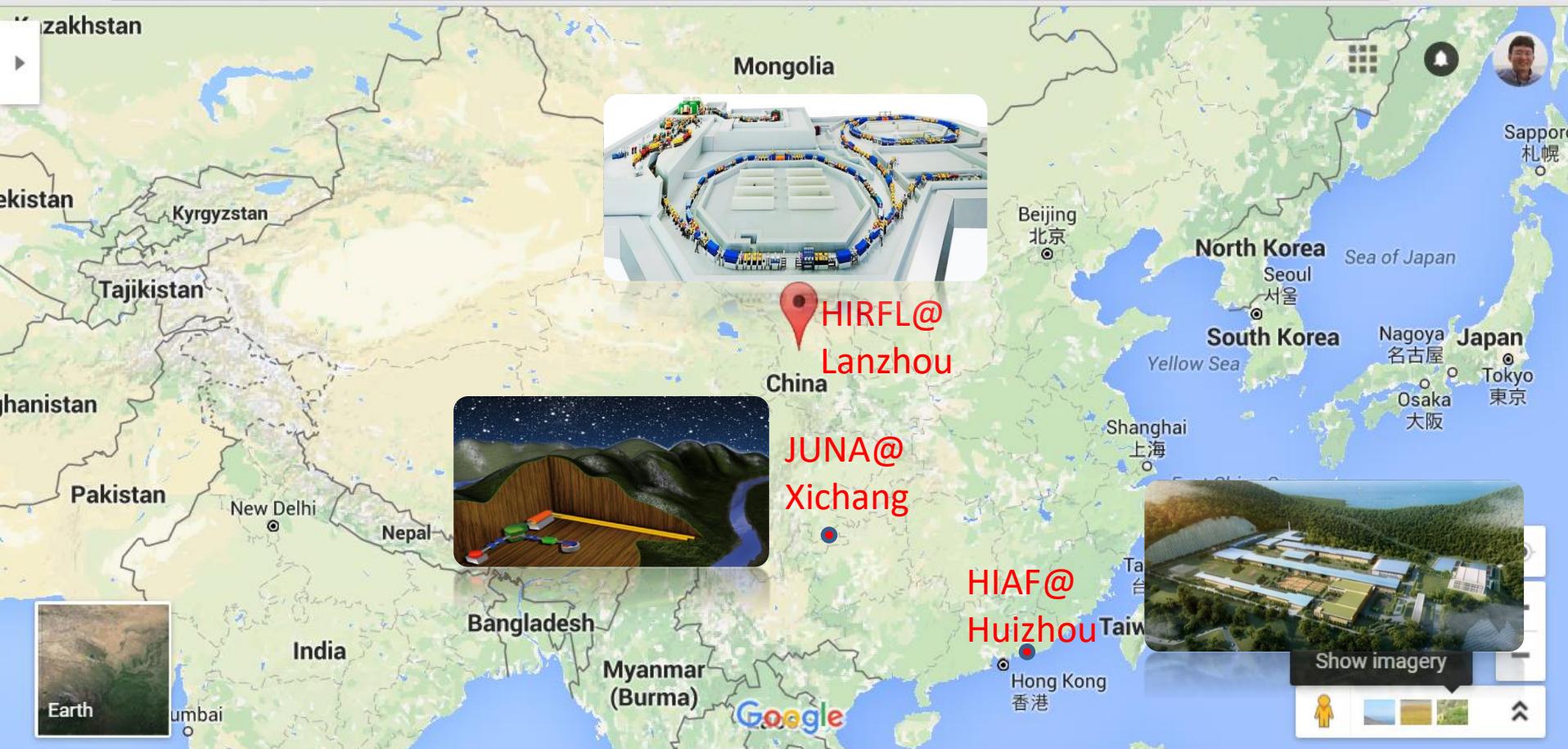
Xiaodong Tang

Institute of Modern Physics  
Chinese Academy of Sciences

SJTU-JINA winter school

Shanghai, Dec 12 - 17, 2016



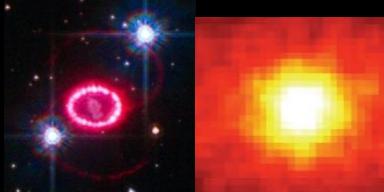




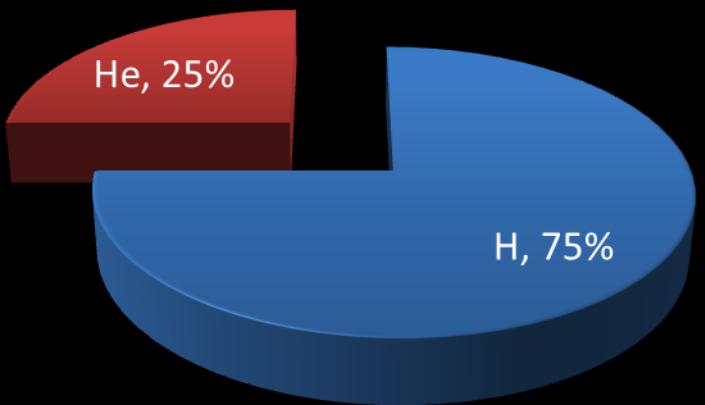
# OUTLINE

- **Direct measurement at underground (why go underground)**
- **Carbon fusion reaction**
- **$^{59}\text{Fe}$  decay in star**
- **Research with Heavy Ion Research Facility at Lanzhou (HIRFL)**
- **Research with High Intensity Accelerator Facility (HIAF)**

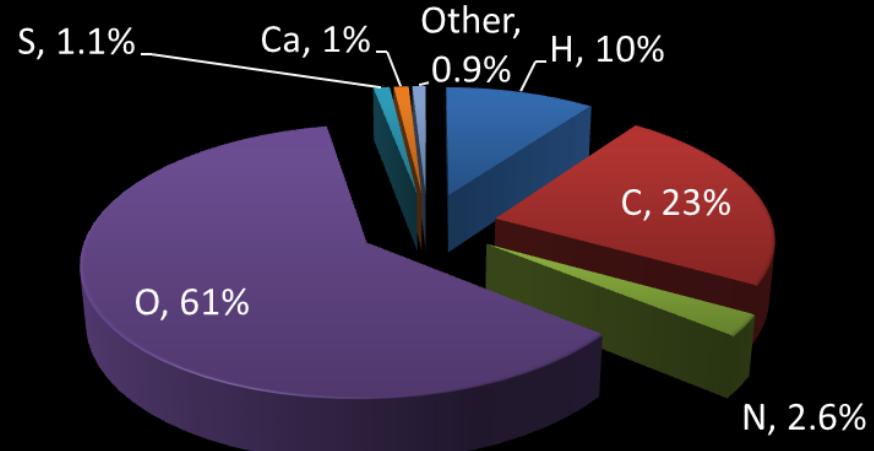
# Origin of elements



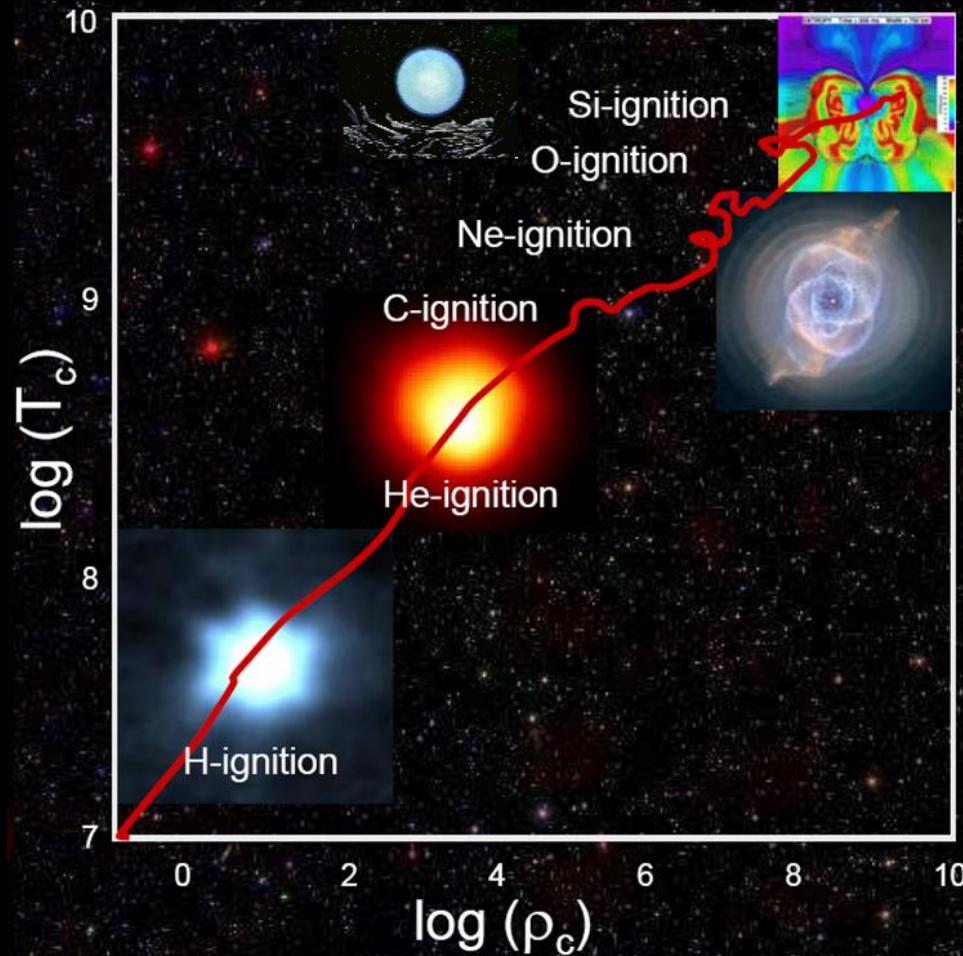
Others ( $^2\text{H}, ^3\text{He}, ^6\text{Li}, ^7\text{Li}$ ) < 0.00001



3 mins after BBN



13.4 billions years latter,  
Elements within our bodies

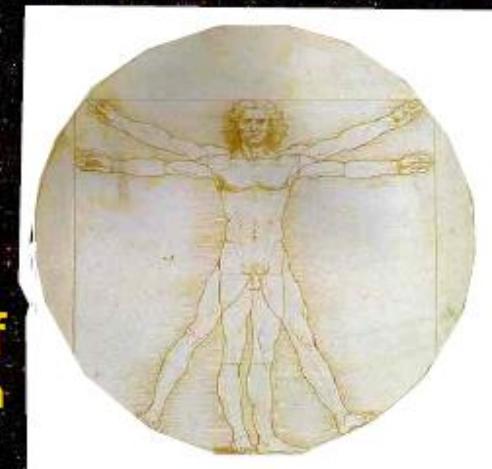


We are made of starstuff.

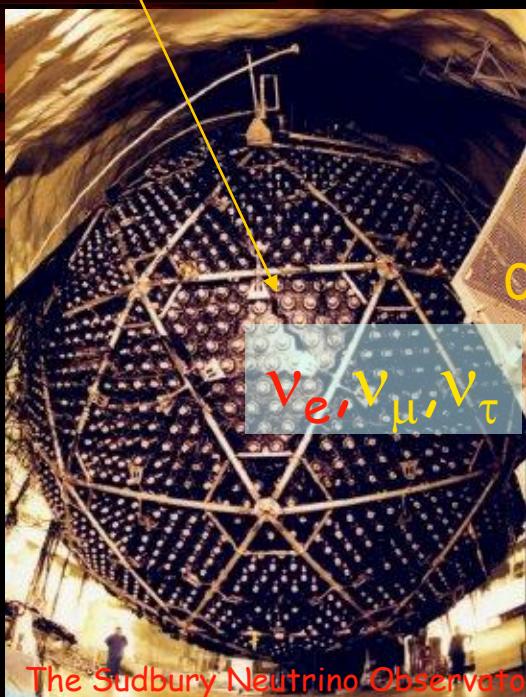
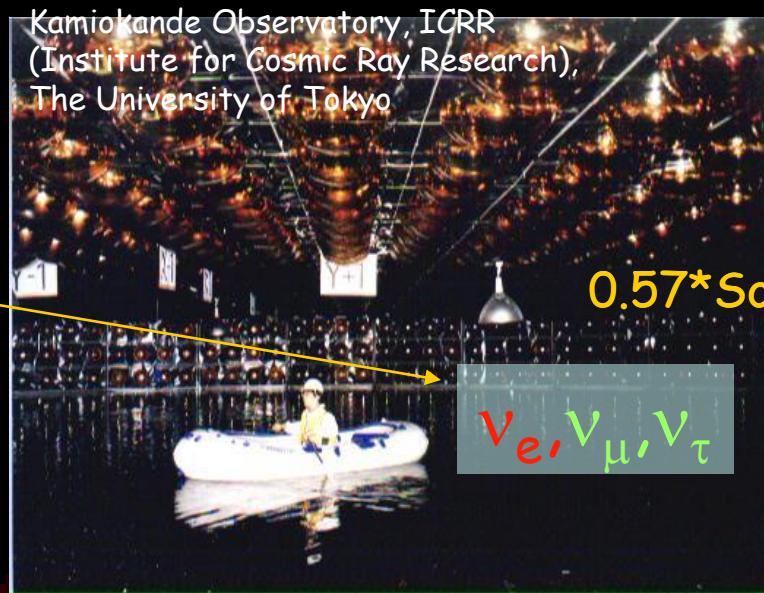
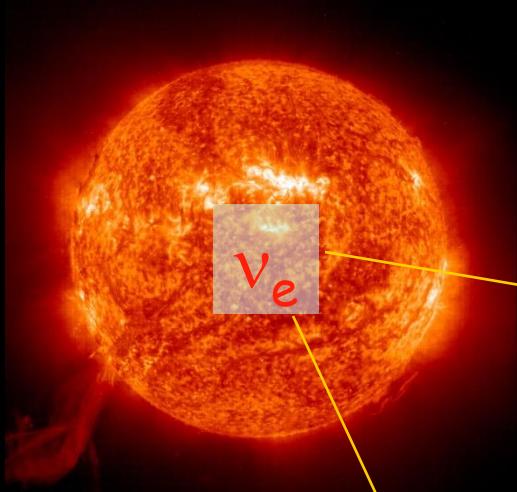
# From big bang to De Vinci

Each heavy atom in our body was build and processed through ~100-1000 star generations since the initial Big Bang event!

We are made of star stuff  
Carl Sagan



# Impact on fundamental physics

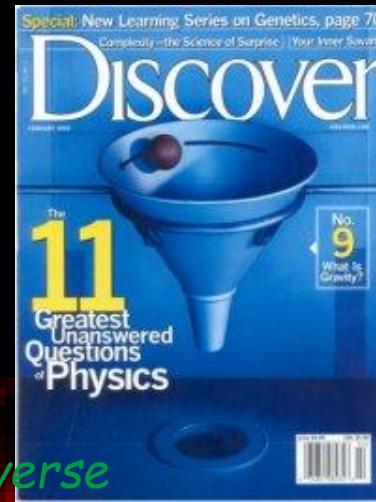


The Sudbury Neutrino Observatory

Davies and Bahcall 1964

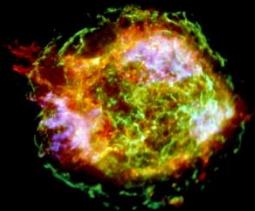
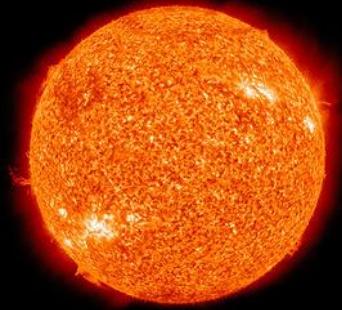
# 11 physics questions for the new century

1. What is dark matter?
  2. What is dark energy?
  3. How were the heavy elements from iron to uranium made?
- 
4. Do neutrinos have mass?
  5. Where do ultra-energy particles come from?
  6. Is a new theory of light and matter needed to explain what happens at very high energies and temperatures?
  7. Are there new states of matter at ultrahigh temperatures and densities?
  8. Are protons unstable?
  9. What is gravity?
  10. Are there additional dimensions?
  11. How did the Universe begin?



Hydrostatic burning in stars

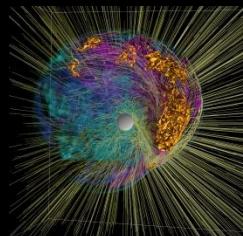
High intensity, low energy, stable beam facility



Explosive nucleosynthesis (supernova, X-ray burst)  
Radioactive ion beam facility

S-process in AGB stars and massive stars

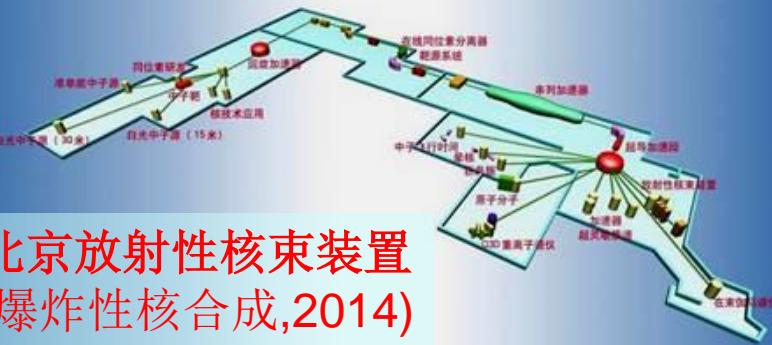
Neutron facility



Stellar Neutrino (hydrostatic and explosive)  
Neutrino facility



LAMOST  
(大型巡天计划)



兰州重离子装置  
(爆炸性核合成)



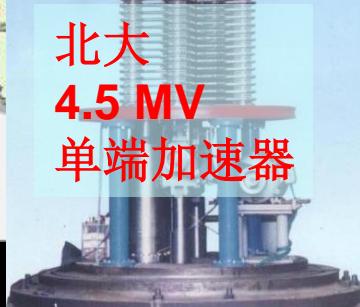
中国锦屏山地下实验室  
(恒星中的平稳燃烧,TBD)



强激光装置  
(高温高压等离子体下的核反应, 原子物理)



中国散裂中子源  
(白光中子源, 恒星中的s过程)  
(中微子过程)  
(2018)



北大  
4.5 MV  
单端加速器



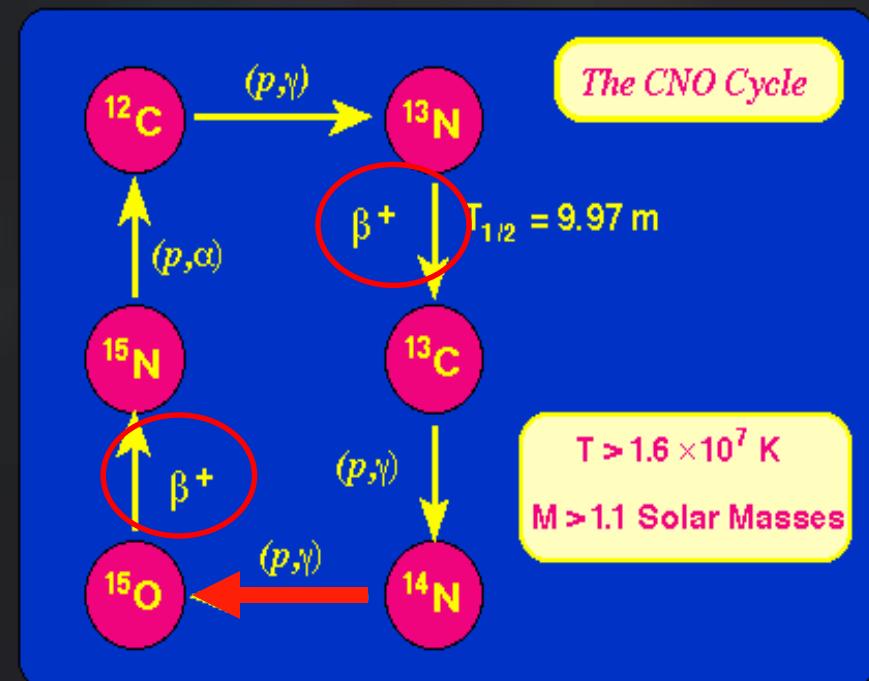
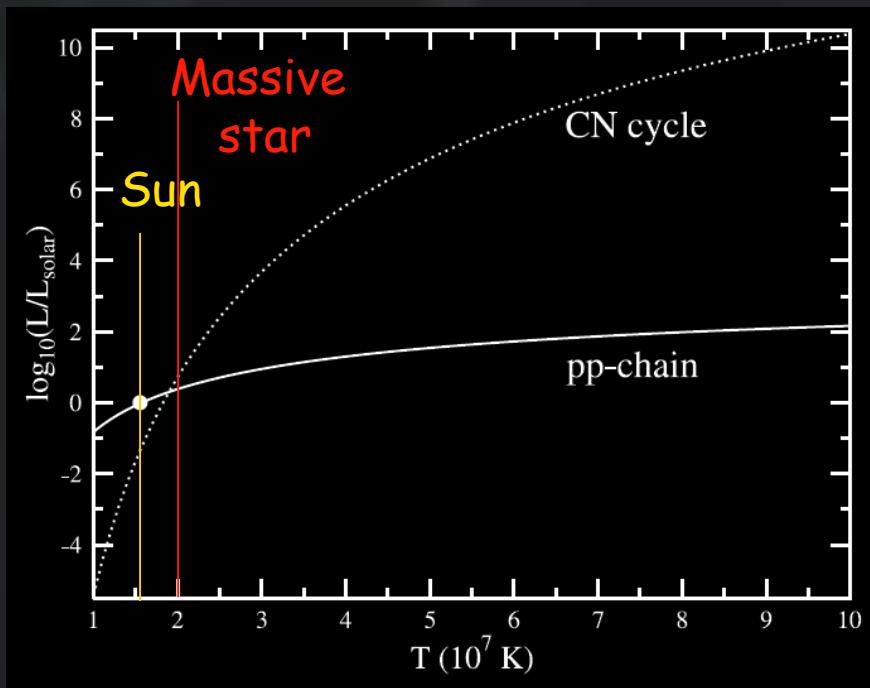
上海光源  
(光核反应)

# Why go to underground lab



# $^{14}\text{N}(\text{p},\gamma)^{15}\text{O}$ : slowest reaction in the CN cycle

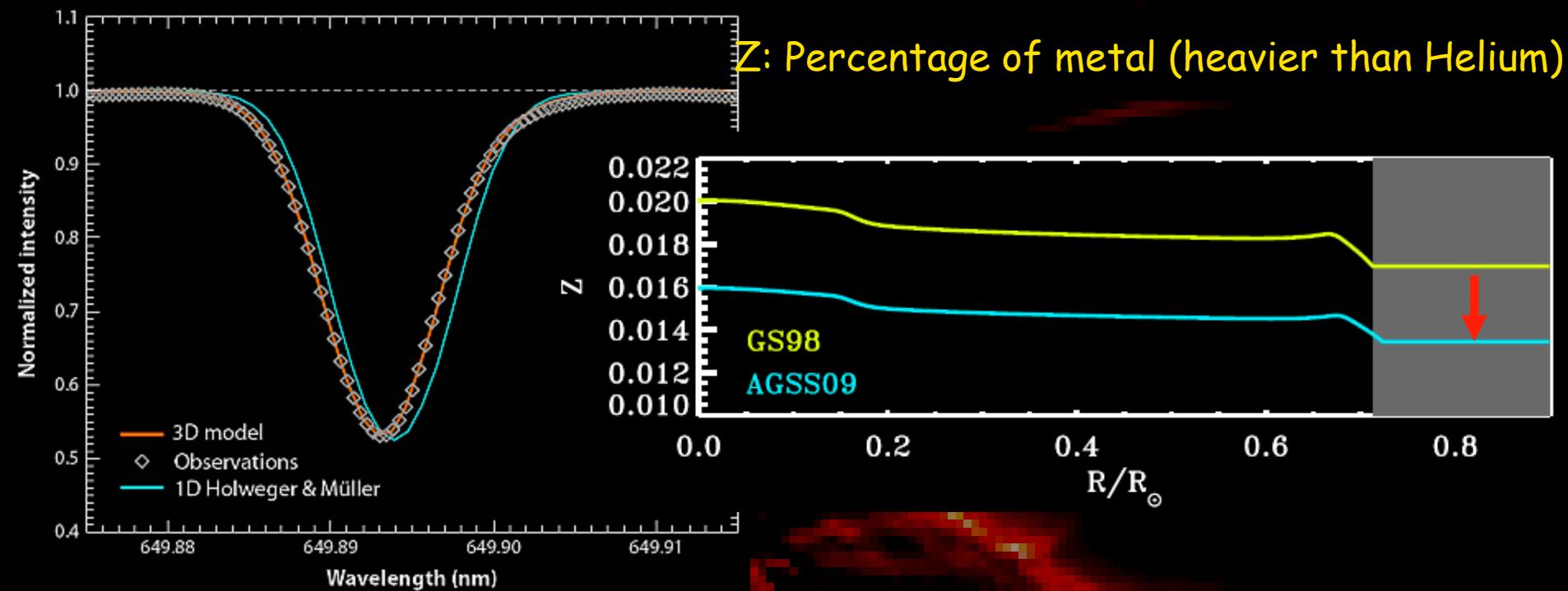
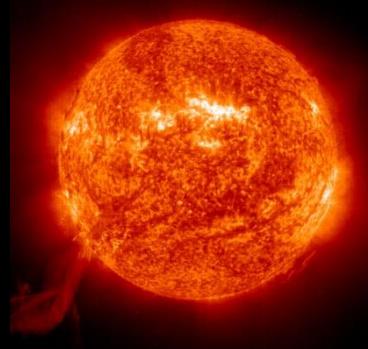
Fuel	Primary Products	Secondary products	Approximate temperature ( $10^9 \text{ K}$ )	Approximate duration
Hydrogen $\rightarrow ^4\text{He}$		$^{14}\text{N}$	0.02	$10^7 \text{ yr}$



- Massive MS stars: energy production and their lifetime

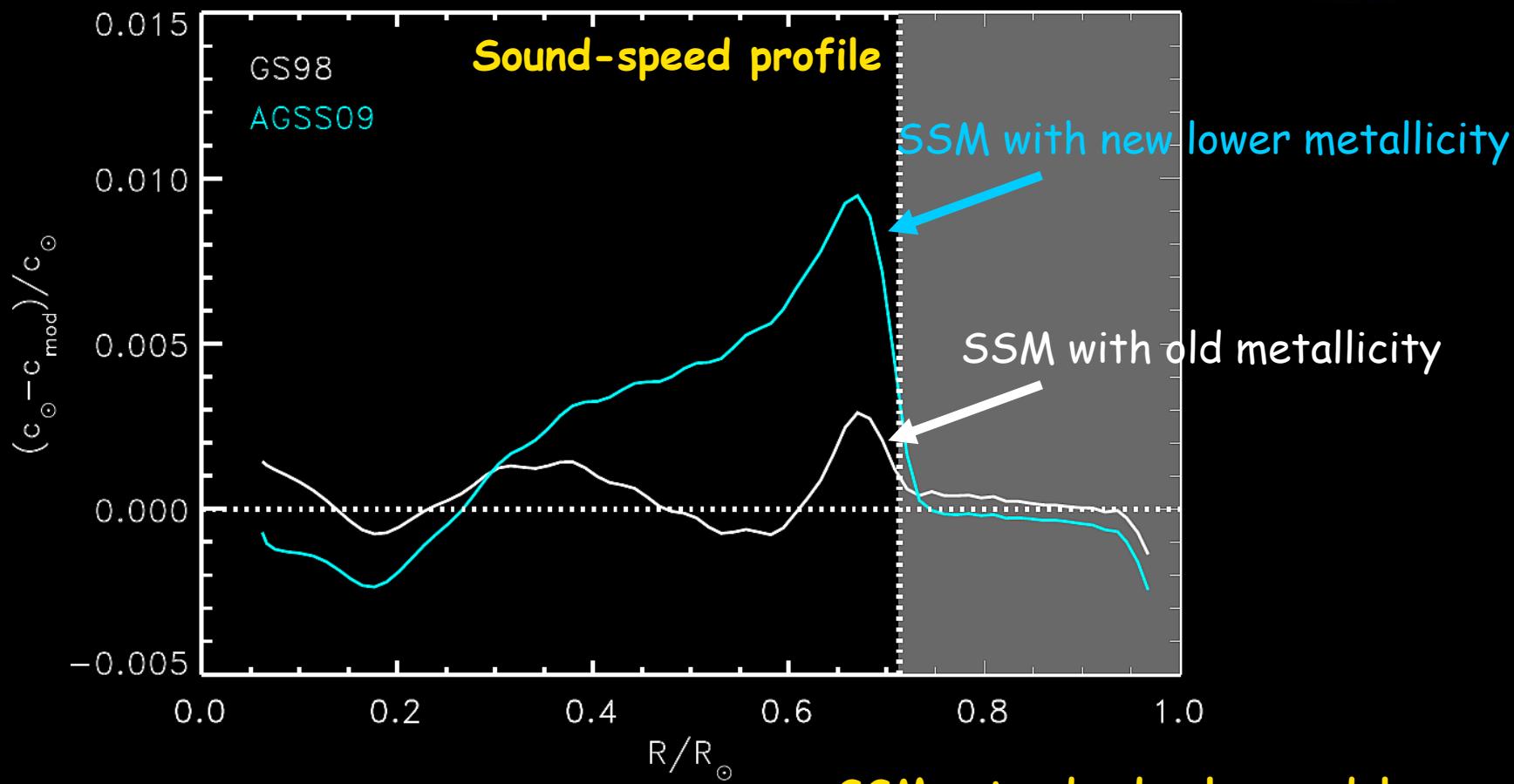
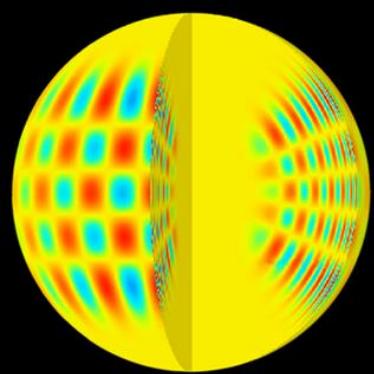
# solar metallicity puzzle

- New 3D hydrodynamic models of the solar atmosphere
- Parameter free
- significantly improving consistency of line analysis
- Makes sun more consistent with similar stars in local neighborhood



But abundances in the photosphere significantly reduced  $Z$ :  $0.0169 \Rightarrow 0.0122$

# Better determined metallicity leads to problems



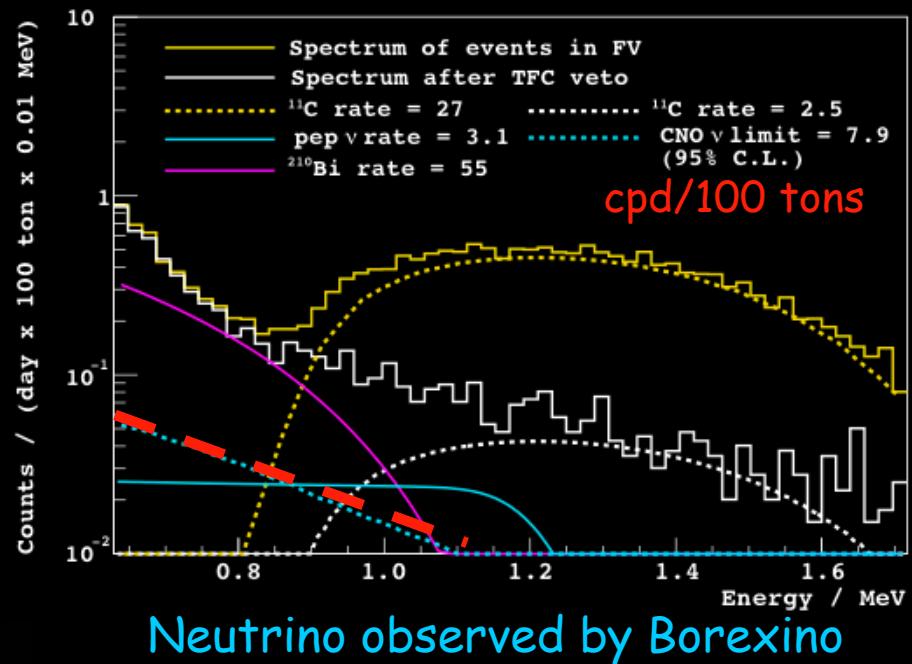
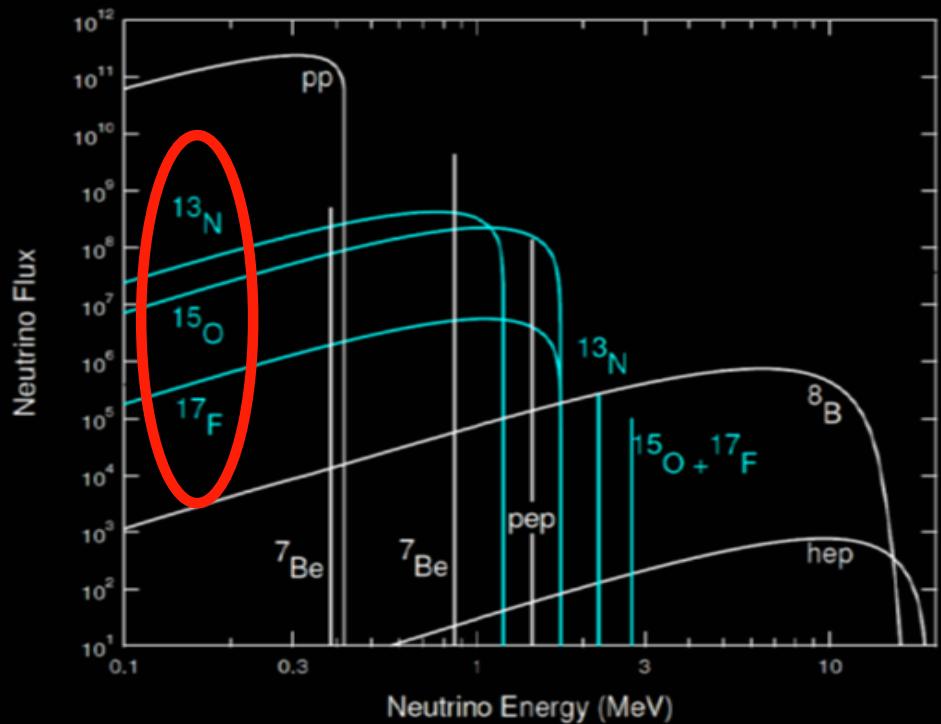
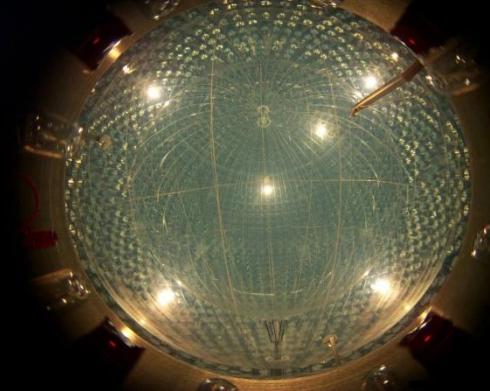
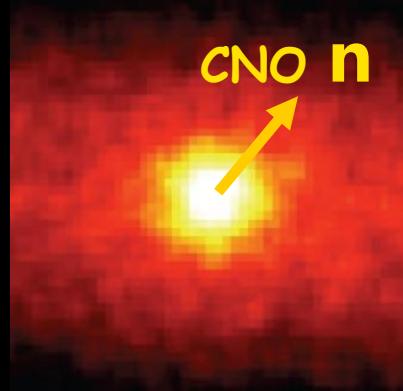
Sound speed - Precision  $10^{-4}$

SSM: standard solar model

Serenelli, Haxton, Peñay-Garay (2011)



key to solve the mystery



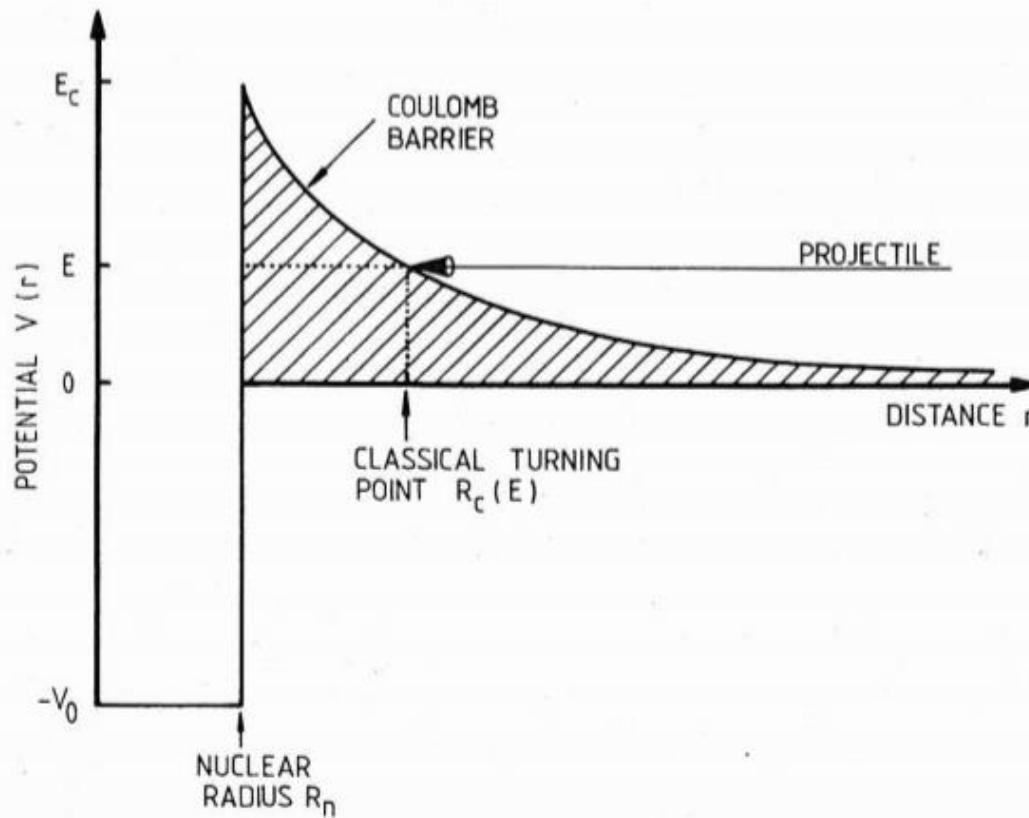
$$\phi_{\nu}^{\text{CN}} = F[S_{^{14}\text{N}+\text{p}}; \ T; \ \theta_{12}; \ CN]$$

$S_{^{14}\text{N}+\text{p}}$ :  $^{14}\text{N}(\text{p},\gamma)^{15}\text{O}$  S factor

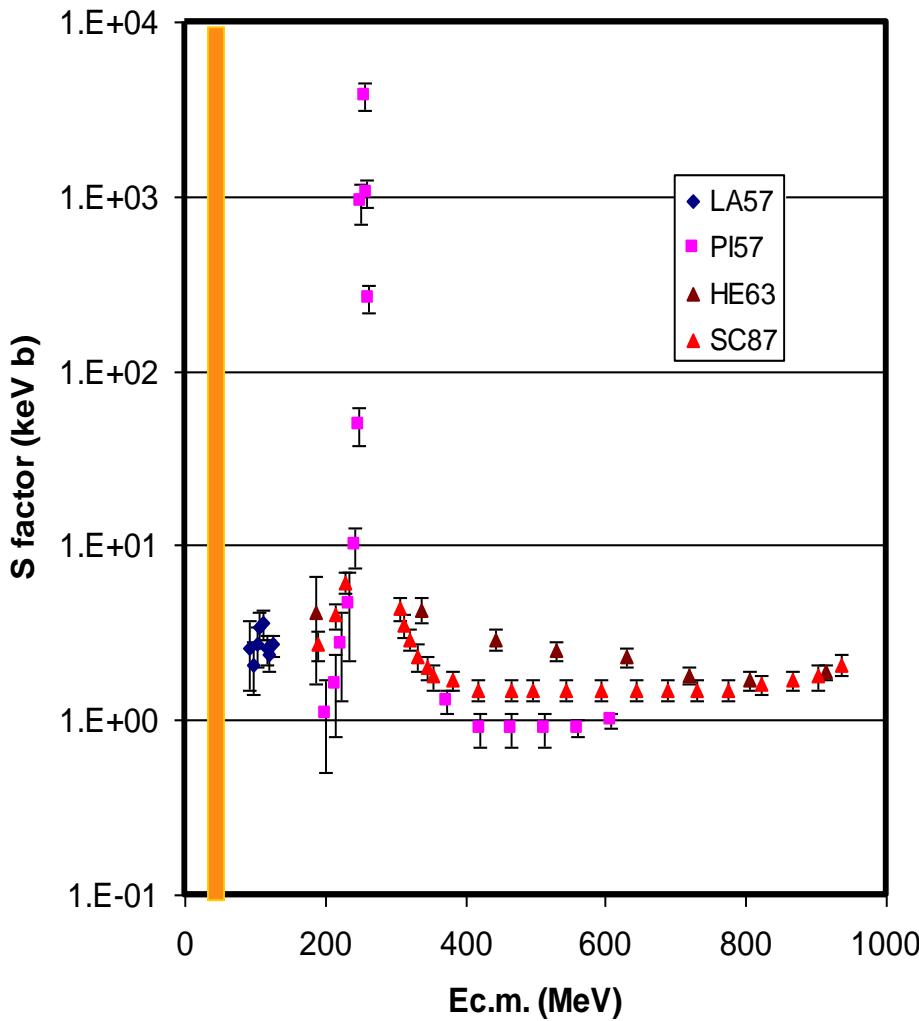
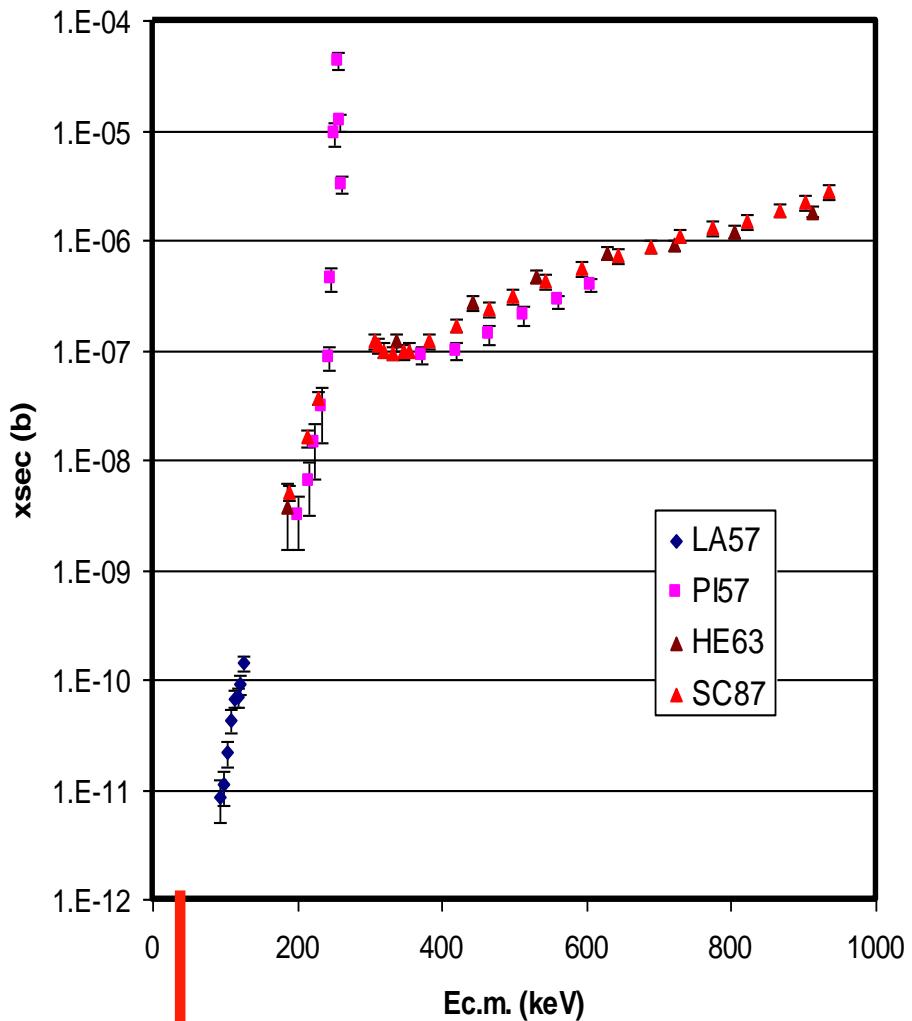
• solar CNO neutrino flux  $\rightarrow$  solar core metallicity

# Coulomb barrier: enemy at low energy

$$V_C(r) = \frac{Z_1 Z_2 e^2}{r},$$

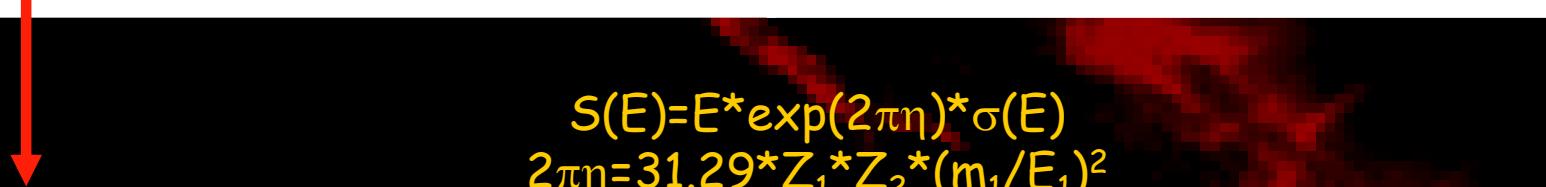


# $^{14}\text{N}(\text{p},\gamma)^{15}\text{O}$ before Underground Lab

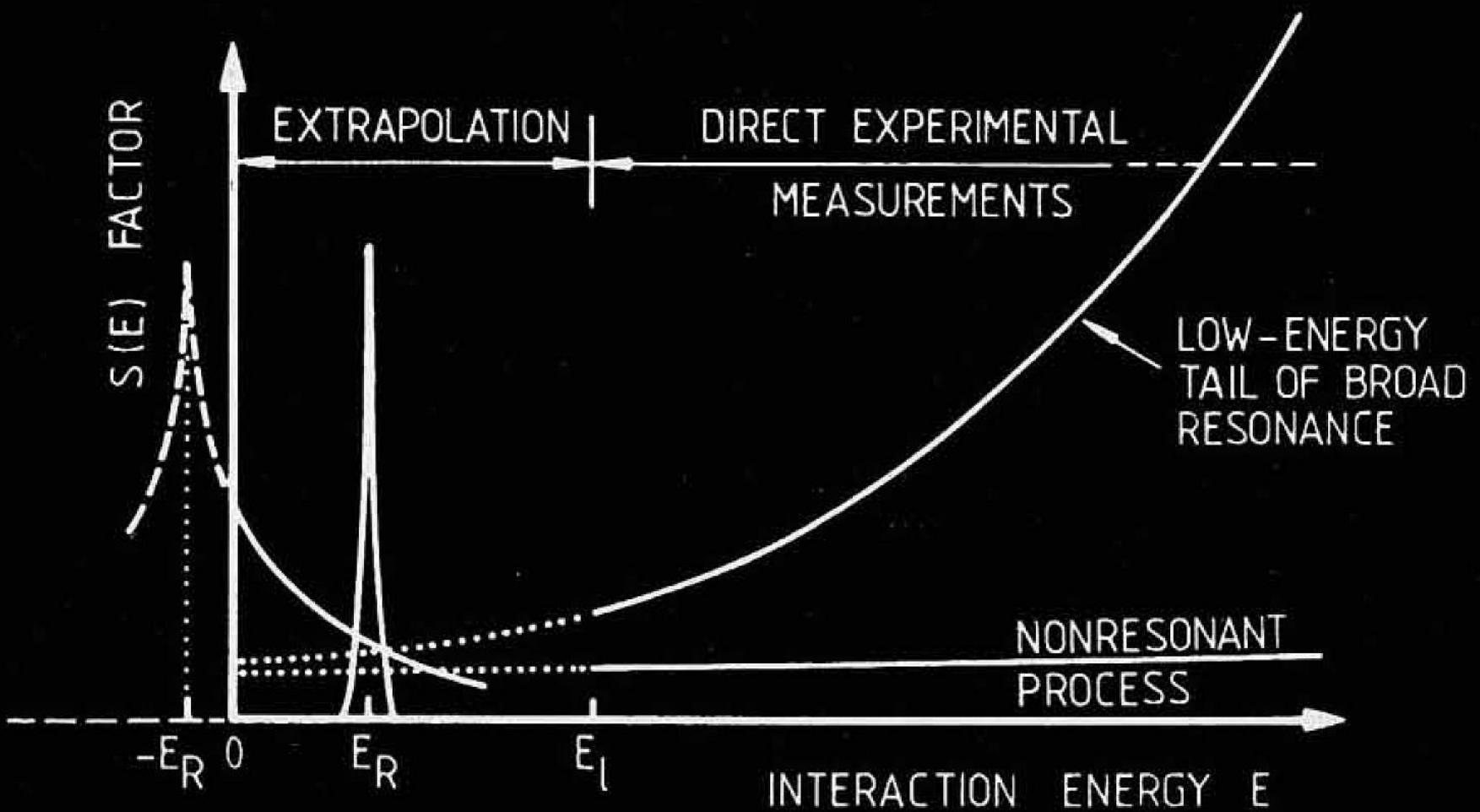


$$S(E) = E^* \exp(2\pi\eta) * \sigma(E)$$

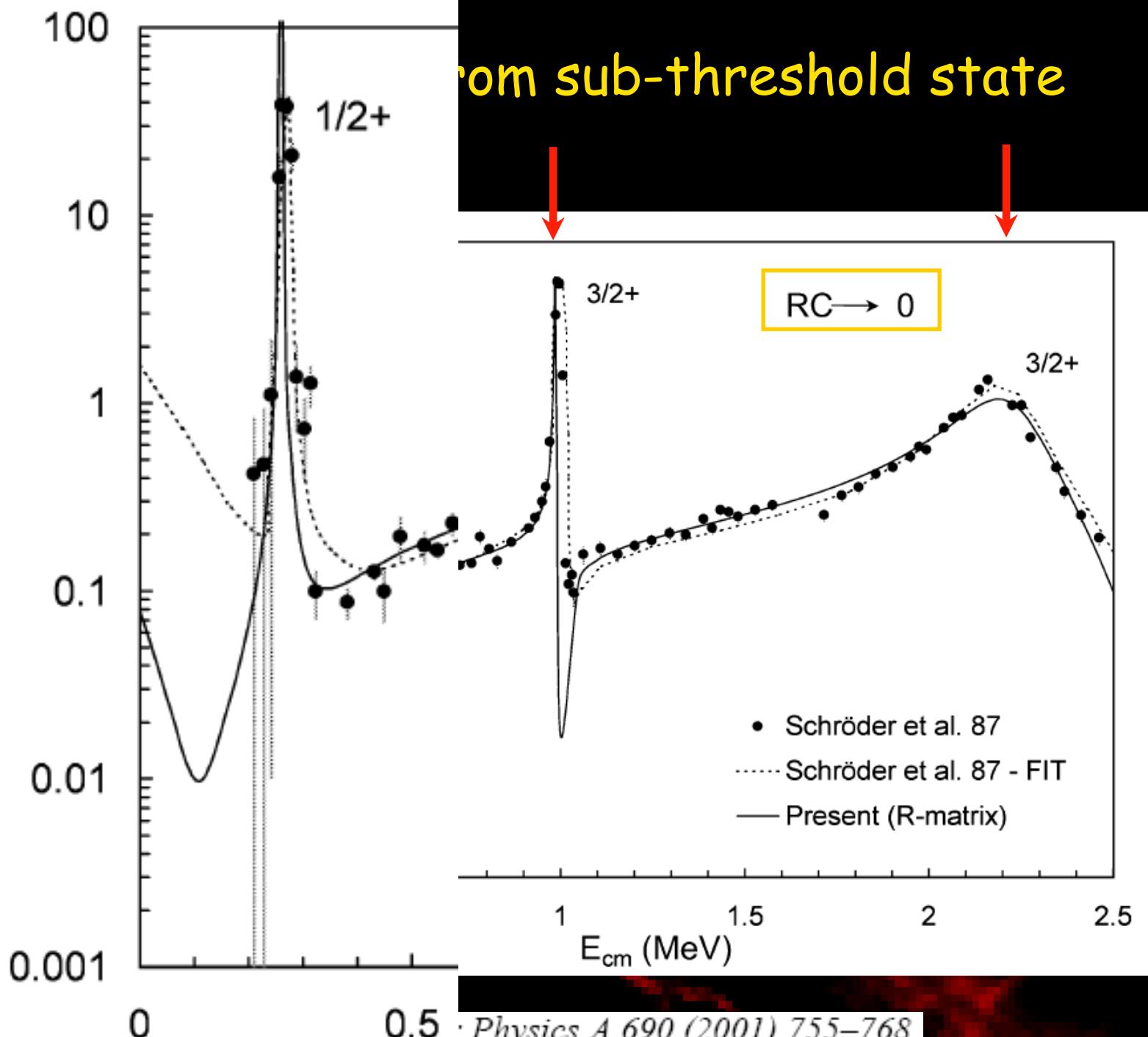
$$2\pi\eta = 31.29 * Z_1 * Z_2 * (m_1/E_1)^2$$



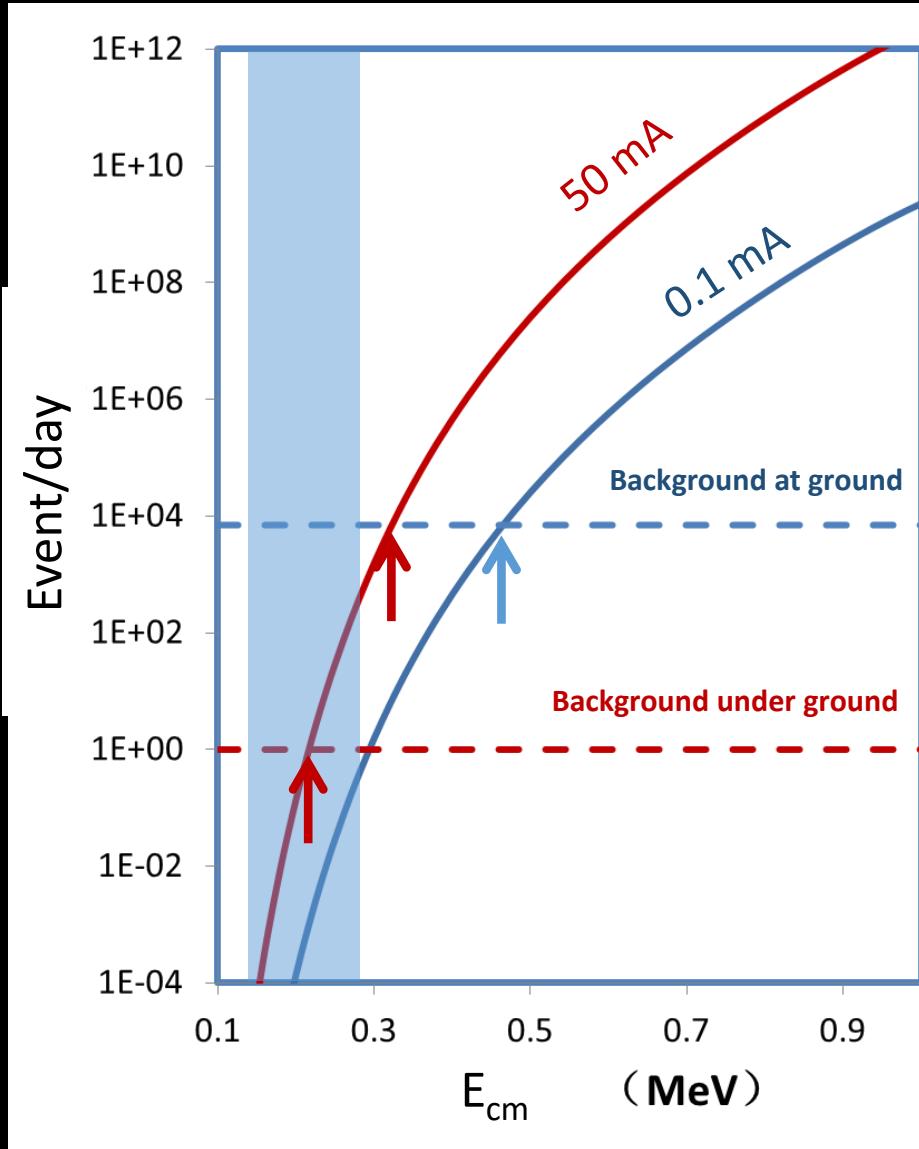
# Extrapolation and its risk



Adopted from "Cauldrons in Cosmos"



# Challenging the tiny cross sections



# Background reduction in LNGS (shielding $\equiv$ 4000 m w.e.)

Radiation

LNGS/surface

Muons

$10^{-6}$

Neutrons

$10^{-3}$

Photons

$10^{-1}$

*Gran Sasso*

*underground halls*

**Cosmic ray background**

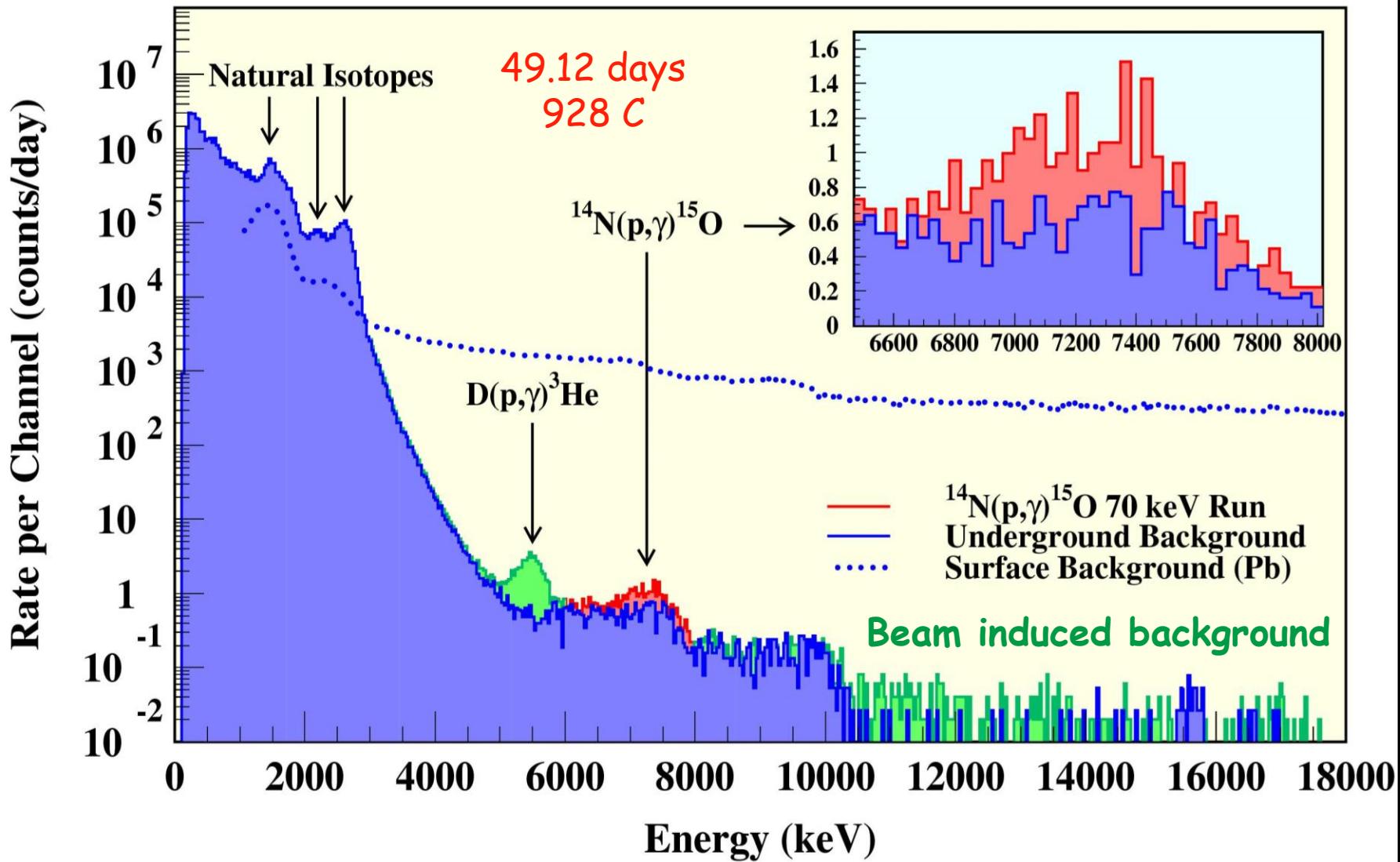
# Laboratory Underground Nuclear Astrophysics

**Room background**

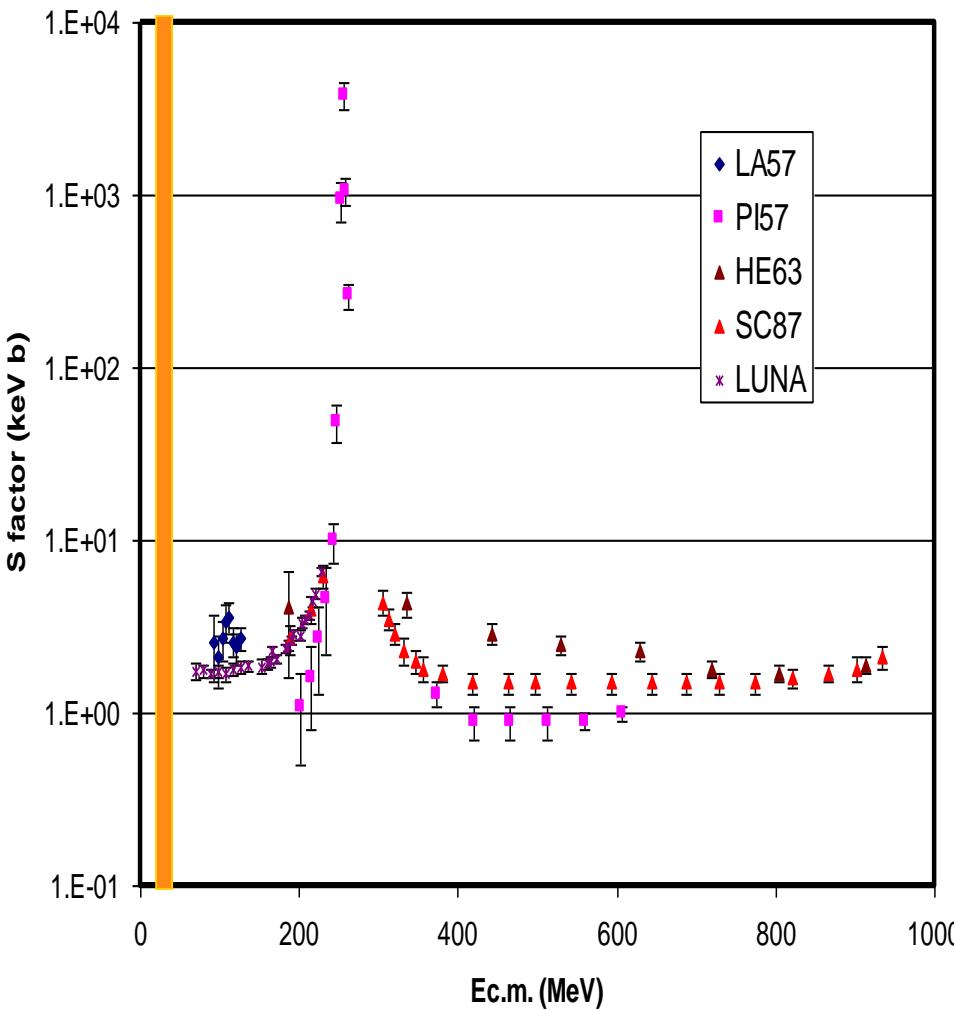
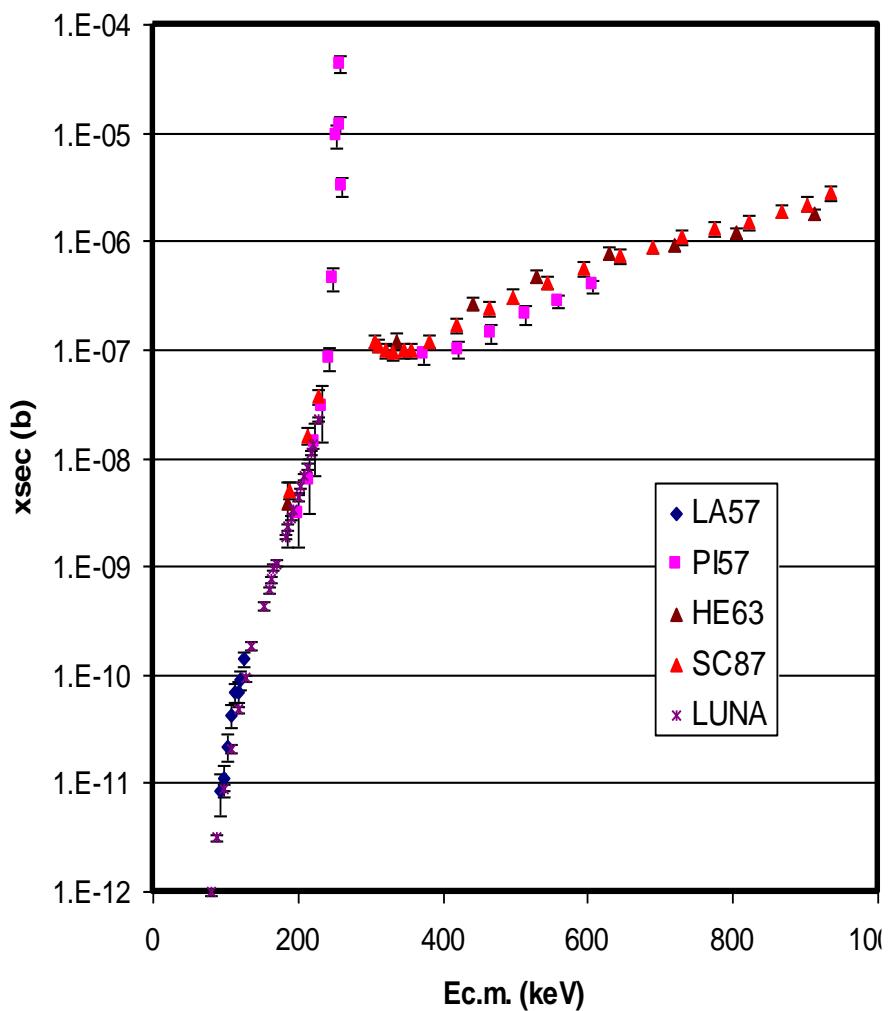
**Beam background**

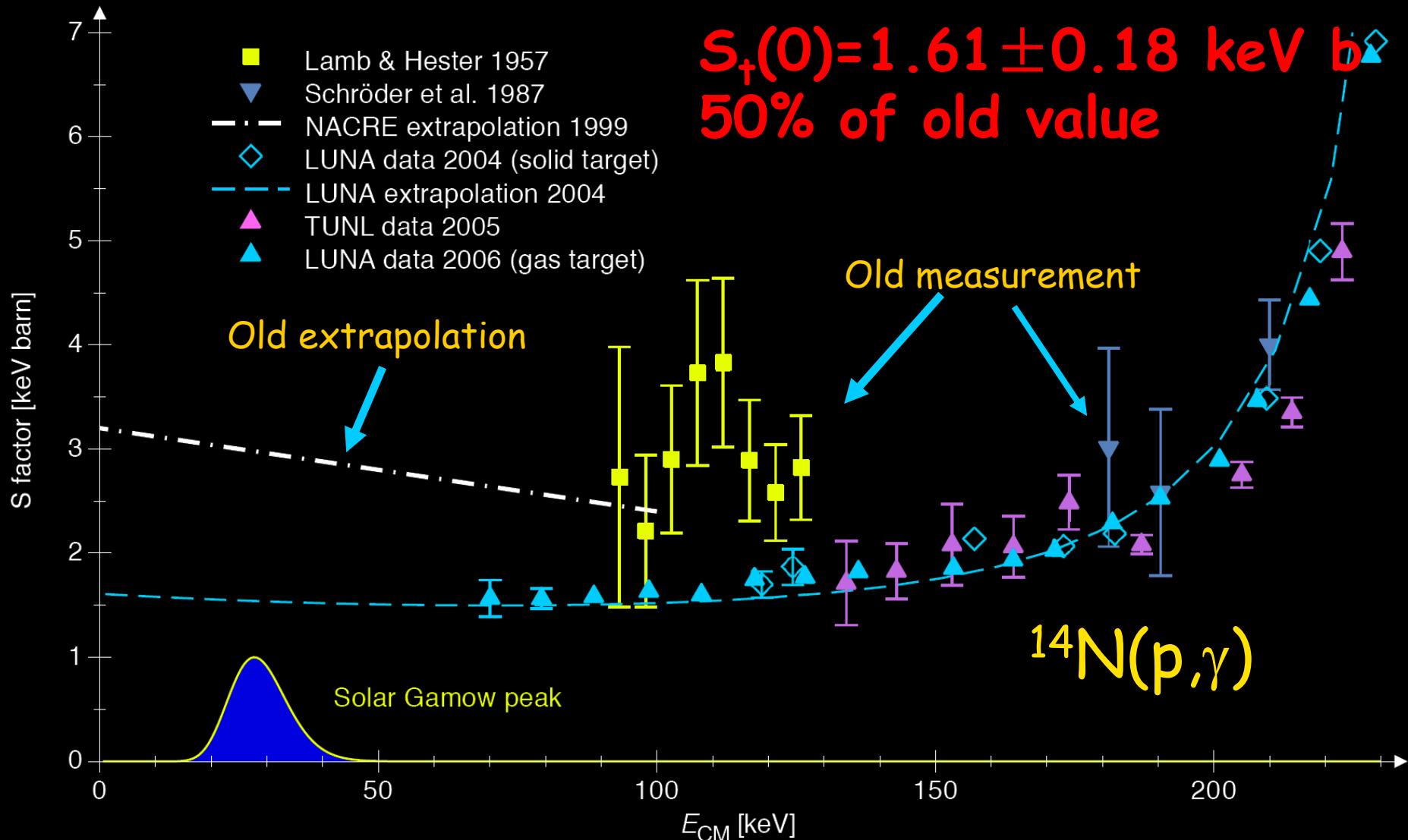


# Backgrounds at the lowest energy



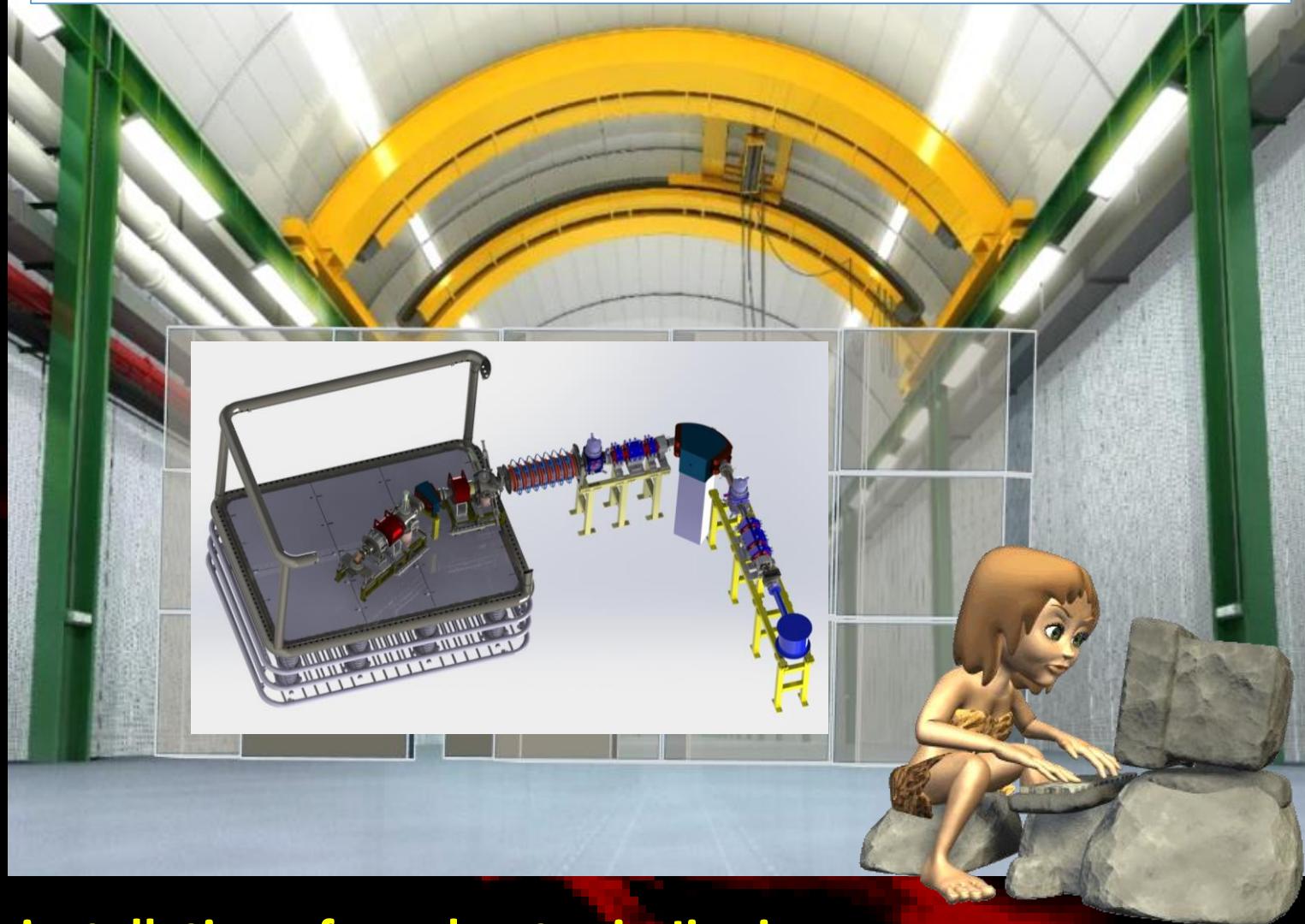
# $^{14}\text{N}(\text{p},\gamma)^{15}\text{O}$





$\nu_{\text{cno}}$  reduced by  $\sim 2$  with 8% error (precise core metallicity)  
 Globular cluster age increased by 0.7-1 Gy

## Jinping Underground laboratory for Nuclear Astrophysics (JUNA) the deepest underground lab



2017: installation of accelerator in Jinping

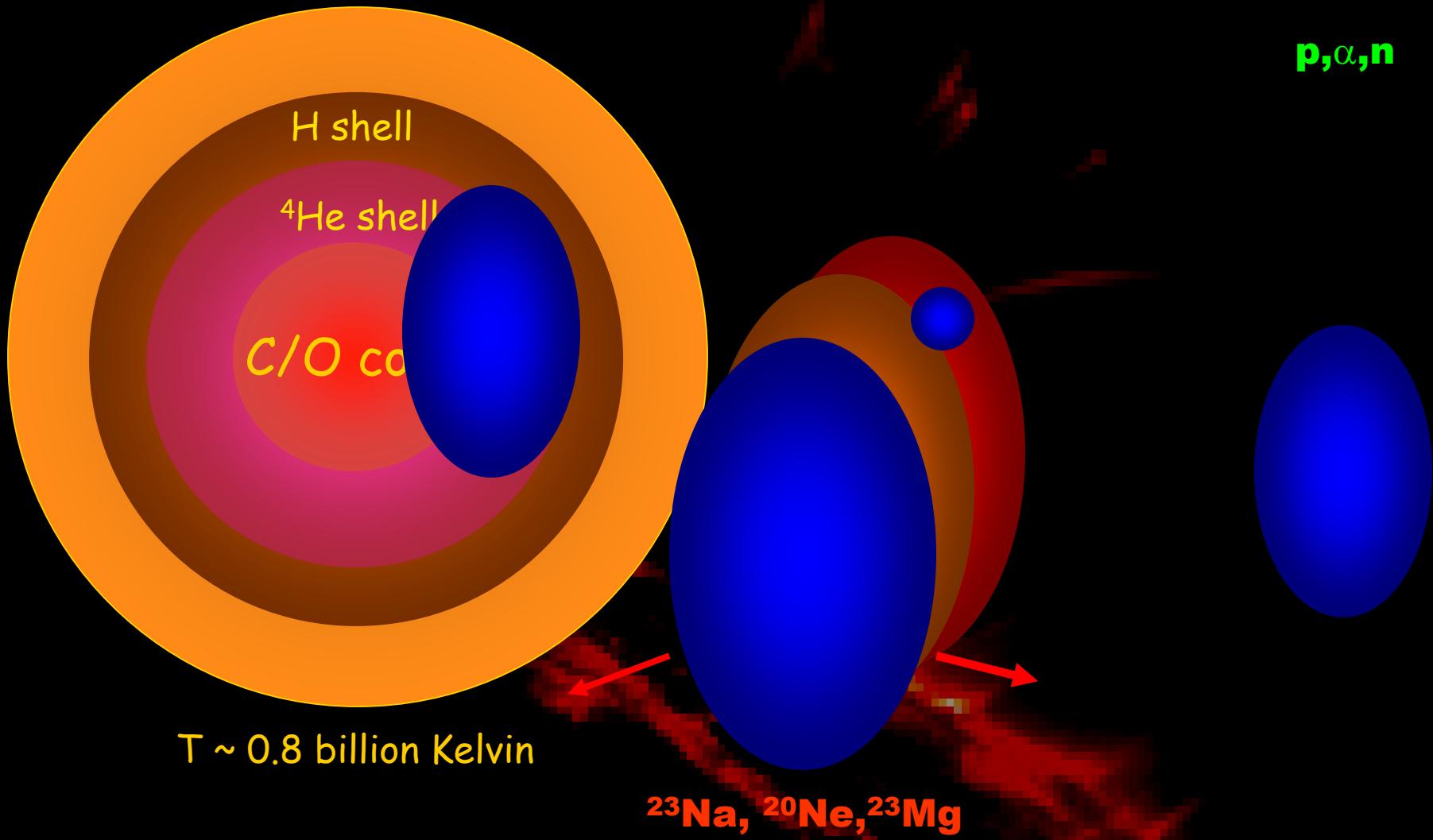
2018-2019:  $^{19}\text{F}(\text{p},\text{a})$ ,  $^{25}\text{Mg}(\text{p},\text{g})$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}(\text{a},\text{n})$ ,  $^{12}\text{C}(\text{a},\text{g})$  (see W.P. Liu's talk)

# Life of a 20 solar mass star

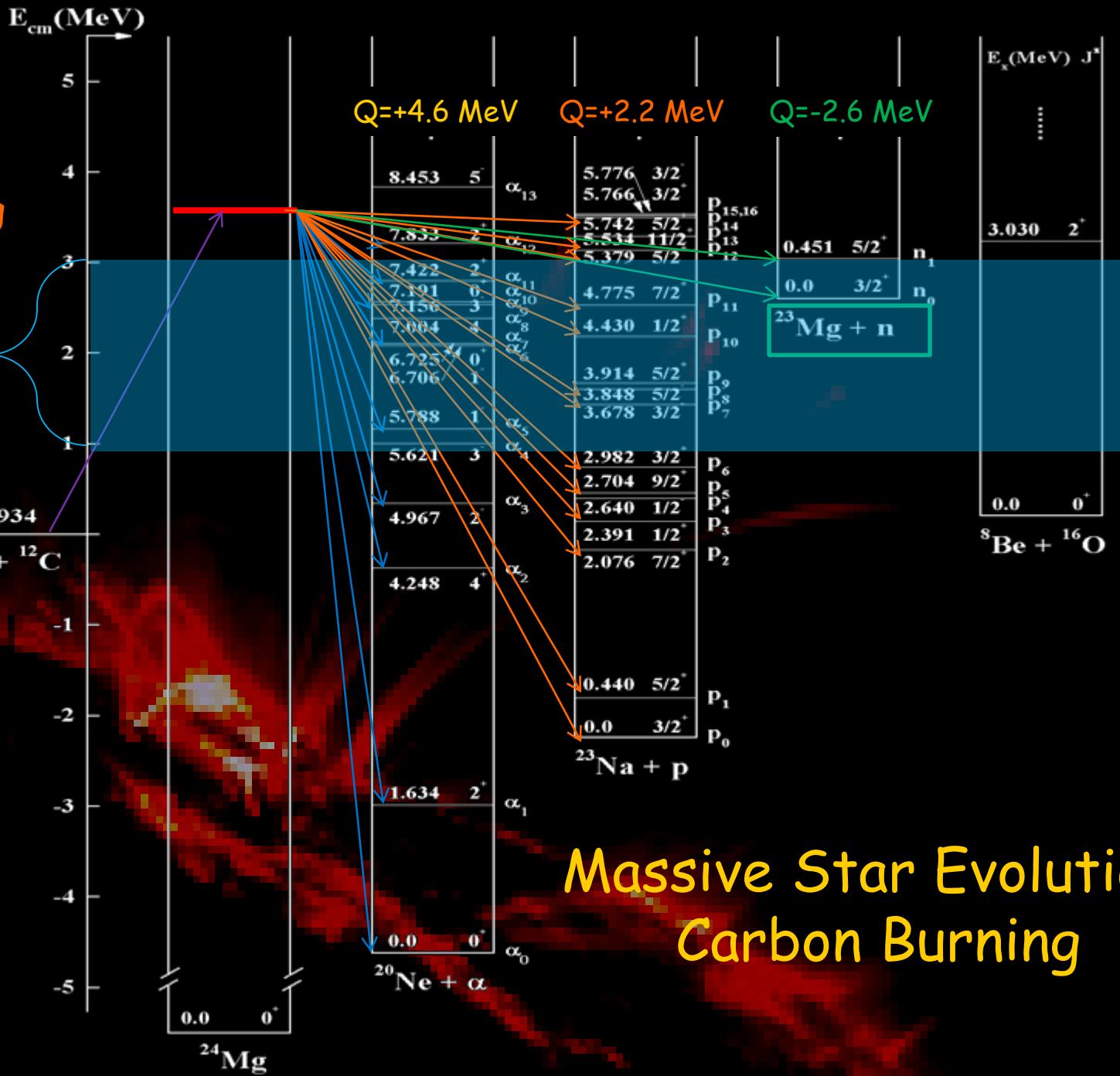
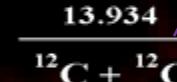
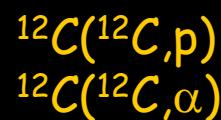
Fuel	Primary Products	Secondary products	Approximate temperature ( $10^9$ K)	Approximate duration
Hydrogen	$^4\text{He}$	$^{14}\text{N}$	0.02	$10^7$ yr
Helium	C, O	$^{18}\text{O}, ^{22}\text{Ne}$ s-process	0.2	$10^6$ yr
Carbon		Na	0.8	$10^3$ yr
Neon	Ne, Mg	Al, P	1.5	3 yr
Oxygen	O, Mg			
Silicon	Si, S	Cl, Ar, K, Ca	2.0	0.8 yr
	Fe	Ti, V, Cr Mn, Co, Ni	3.5	1 week



# Carbon burning



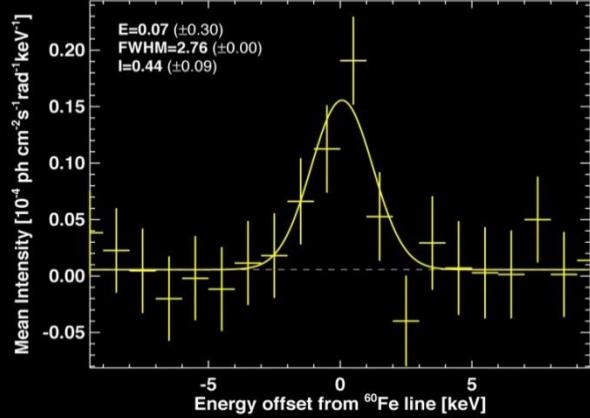
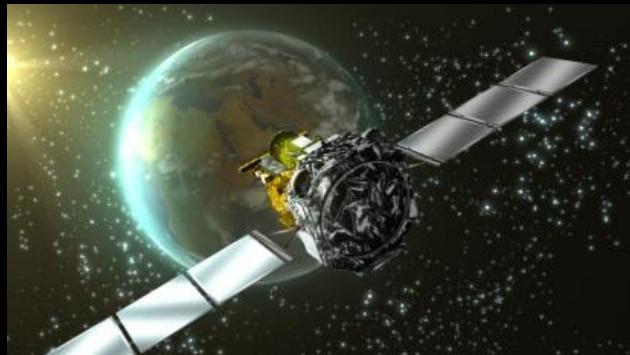
## Shell burning



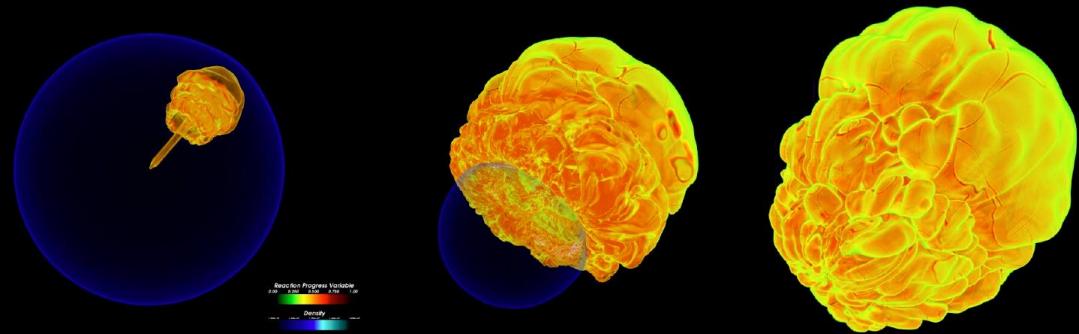
Massive Star Evolution:  
Carbon Burning

# $^{12}C + ^{12}C$ : a reaction of paramount importance

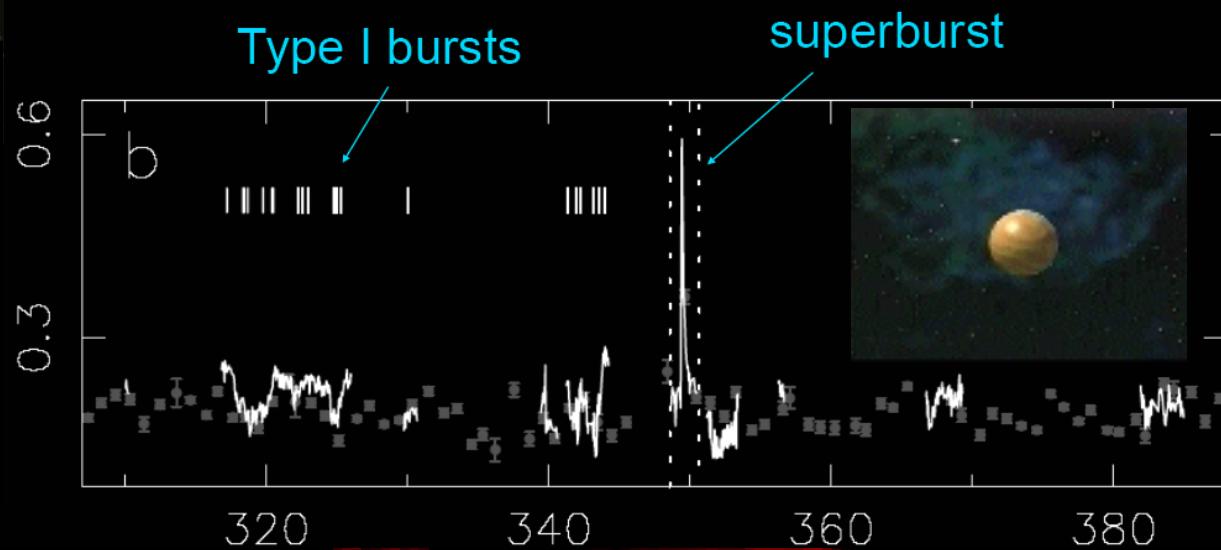
$^{60}\text{Fe}$  Production in supernovae

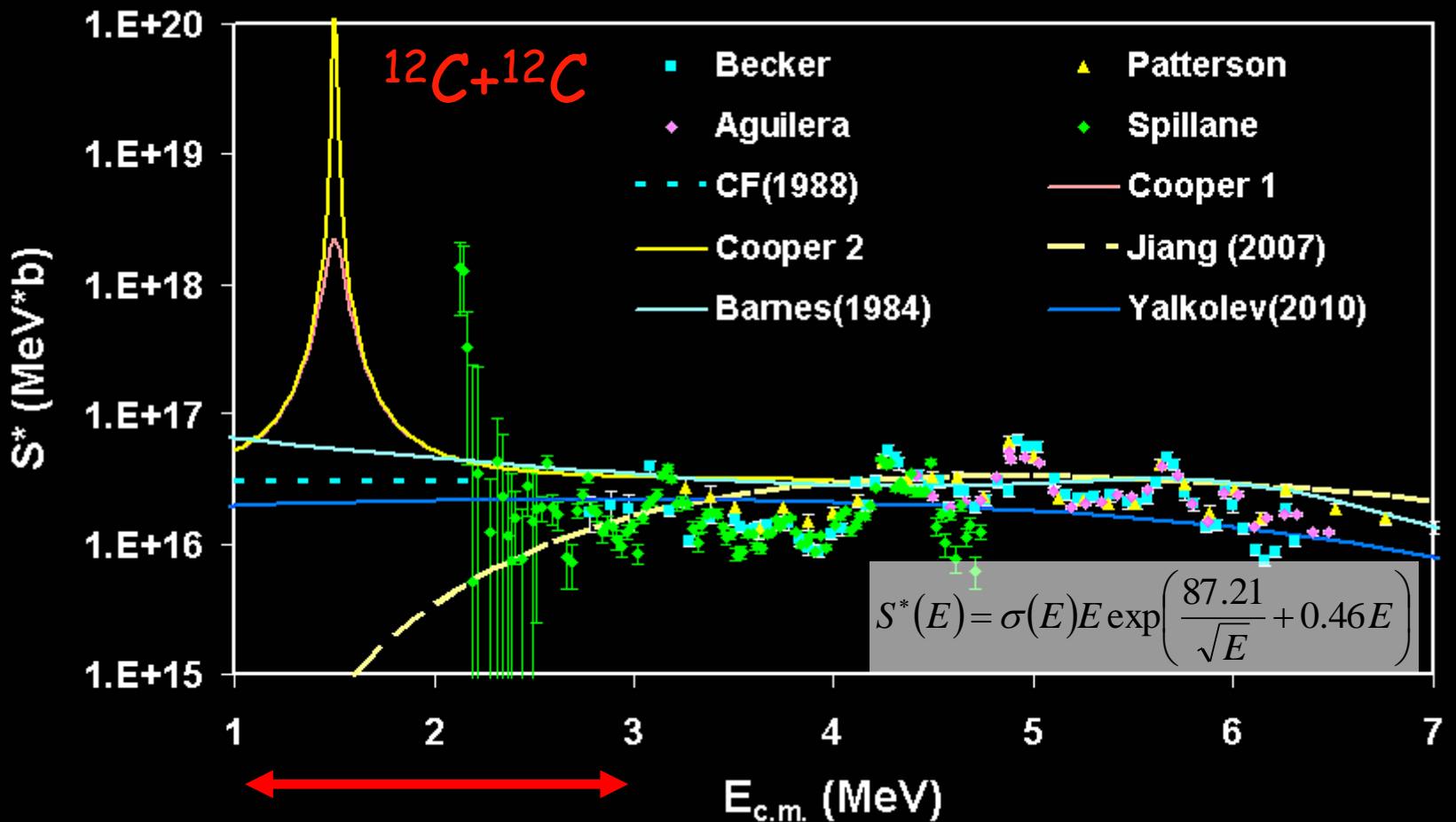
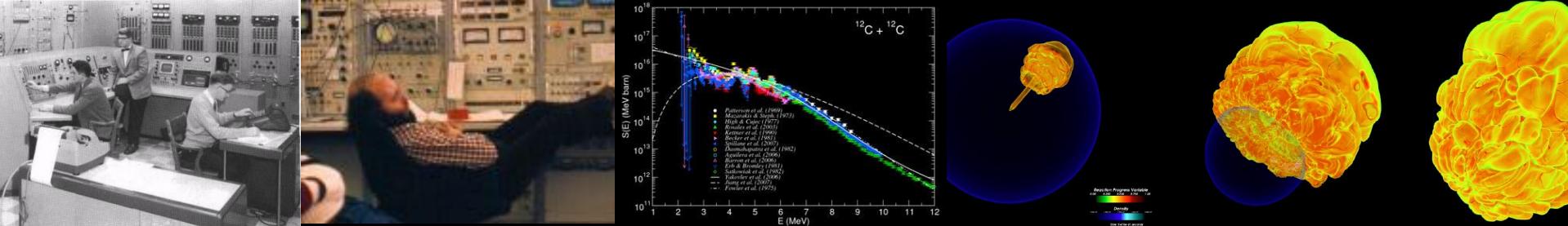


Ignition conditions in type Ia supernovae



Candidate for Superburst ignition





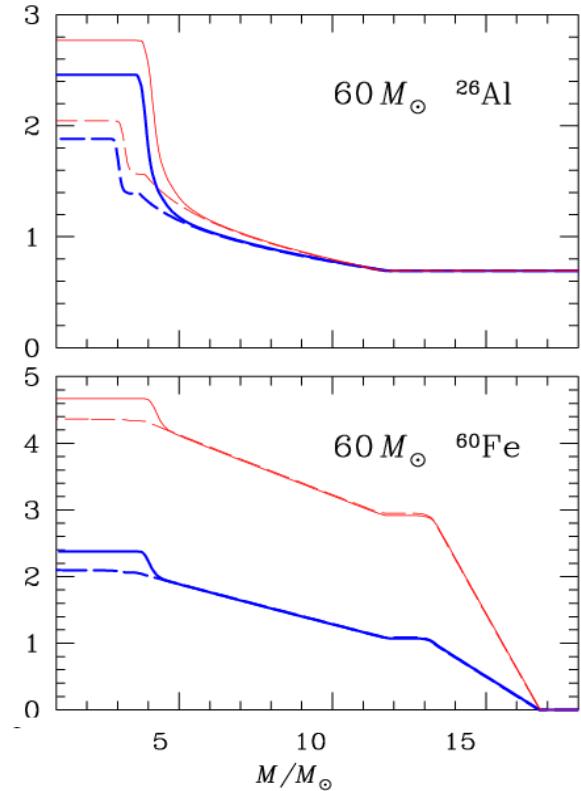
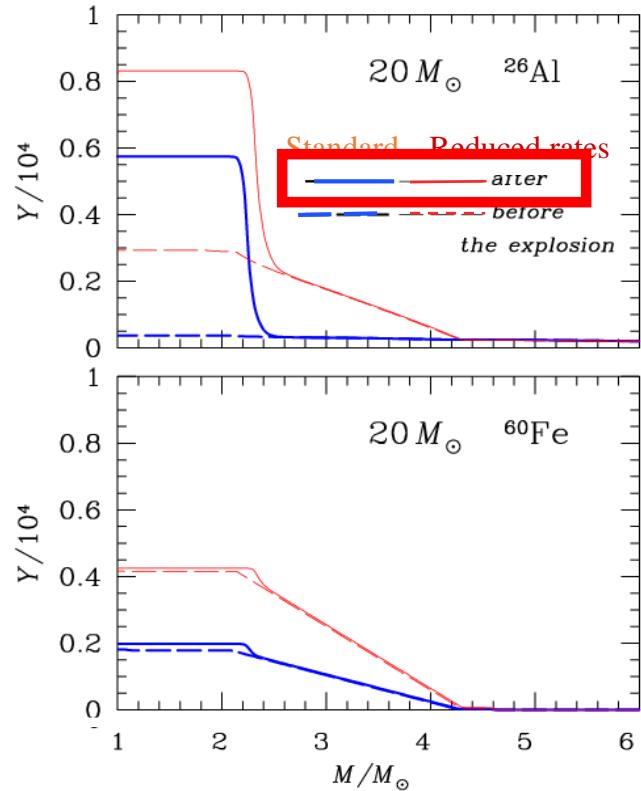
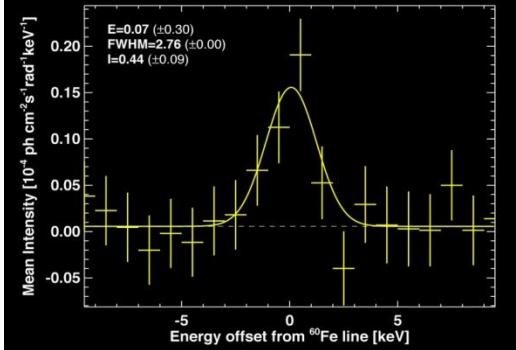
$10^{-22} \text{ b}$

$10^{-7} \text{ b}$

$^{12}\text{C}(^{12}\text{C},\text{p})^{23}\text{Na}$  ( $Q=2.24 \text{ MeV}$ )  
 $^{12}\text{C}(^{12}\text{C},\alpha)^{20}\text{Ne}$  ( $Q=4.62 \text{ MeV}$ )  
 $^{12}\text{C}(^{12}\text{C},\text{n})^{23}\text{Mg}$  ( $Q=-2.62 \text{ MeV}$ )



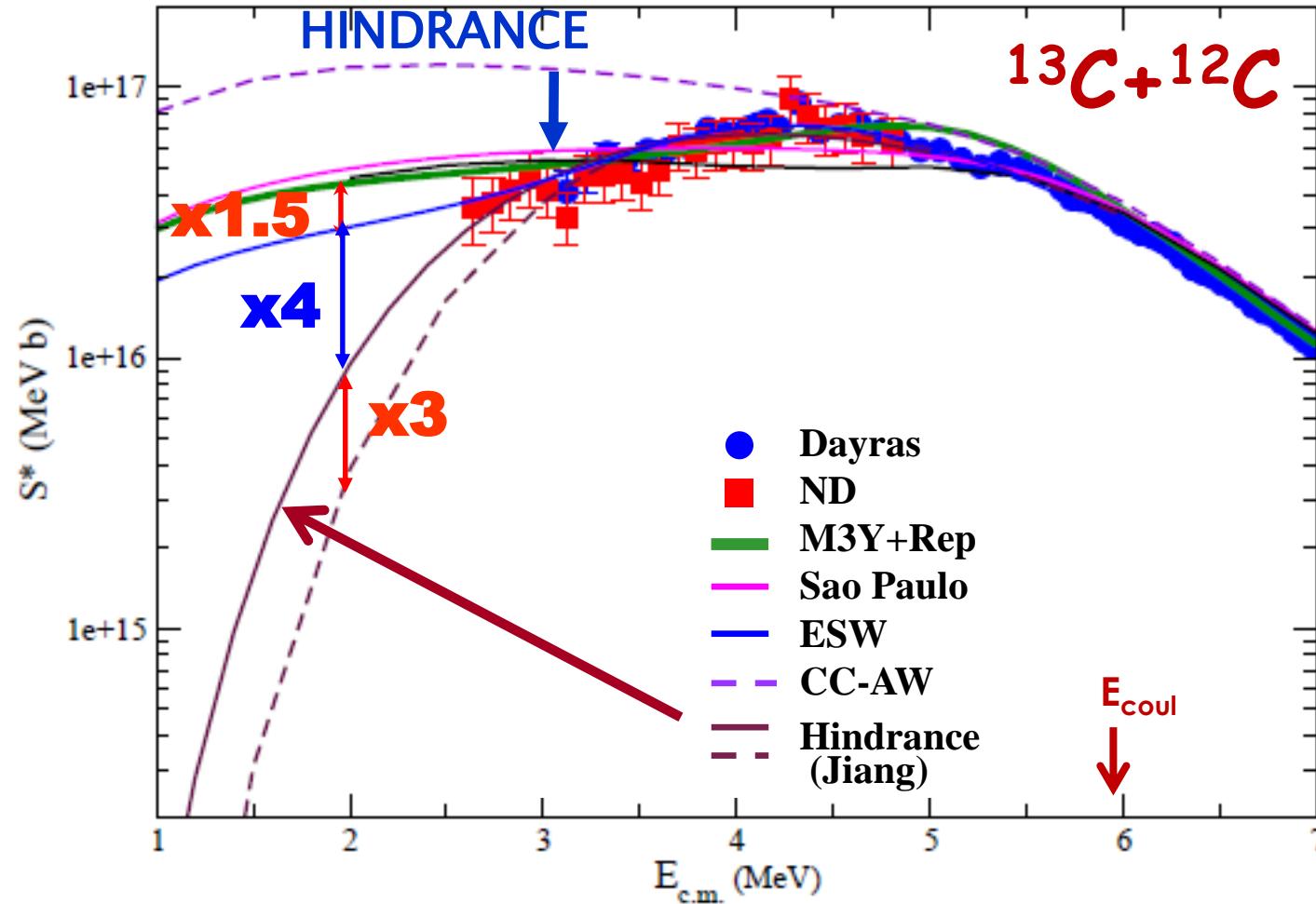
# Impact to nucleosynthesis



Chieffi, Limongi, ApJ 647 (2006) 483

Gasques et al. PRC 76 (2007) 035802

# | Test of extrapolating model



Courtesy of N.T. Zhang

# IMP+IFIN experiments (2014,2015)

## Online irradiation



$^{12}\text{C}(^{13}\text{C}, \text{p}) ^{24}\text{Na}$

$^{24}\text{Na}: T_{1/2} = 15 \text{ hr}$

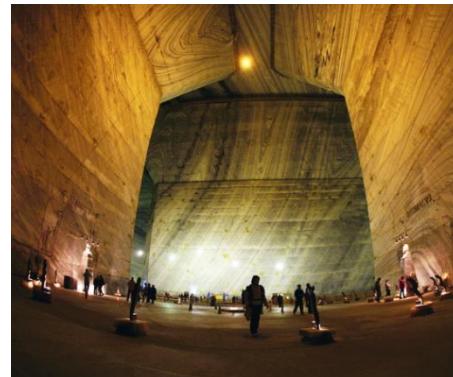
1369-2754 keV  $\gamma$  rays

## Offline activity measurement

Underground,  $\mu\text{Bq}$  lab



IFIN-HH GamaSpec

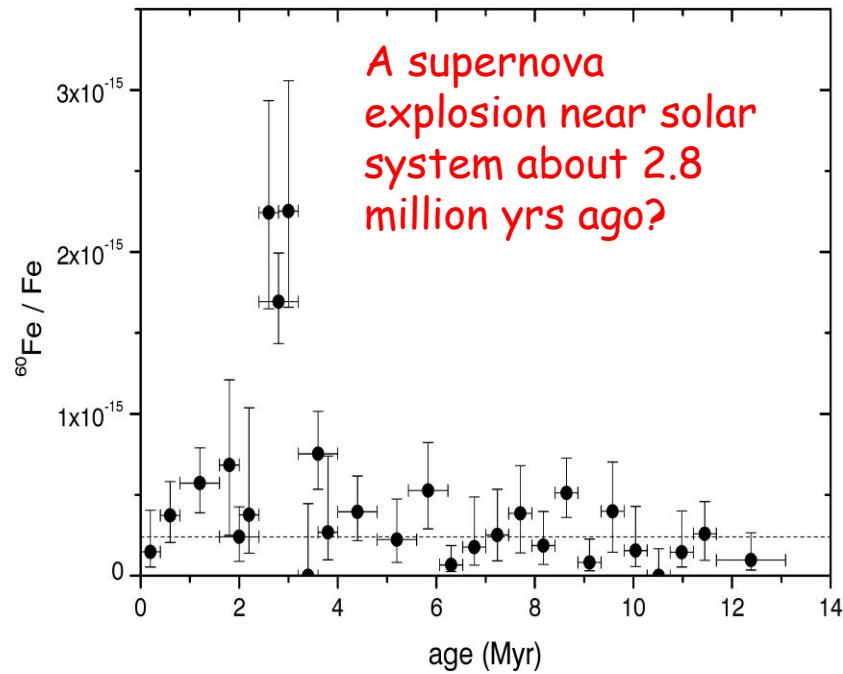
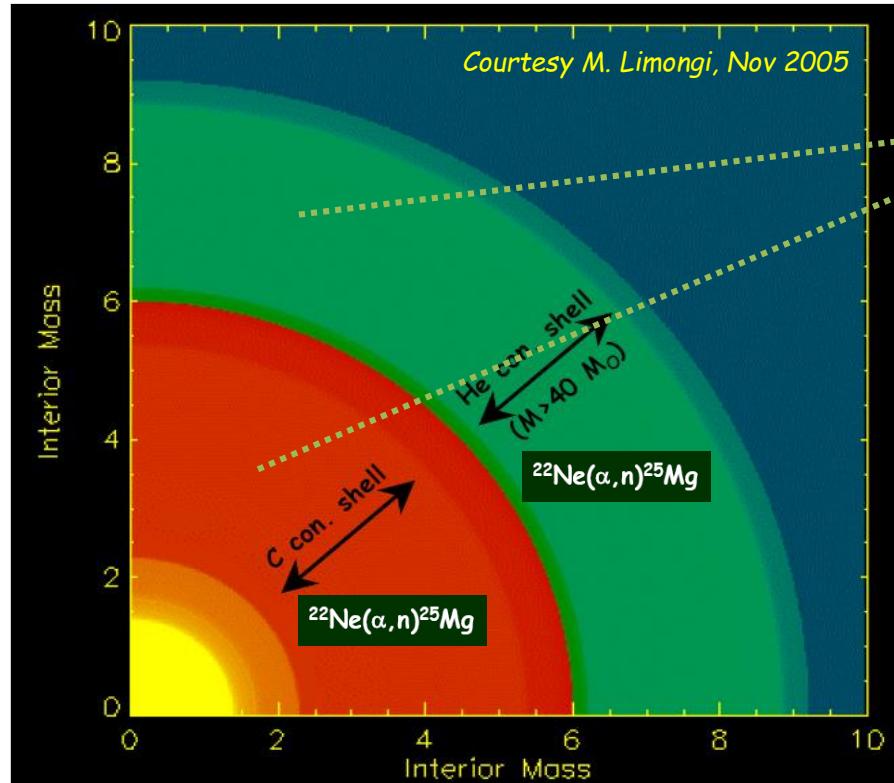


Slanic-Prahova salt mine

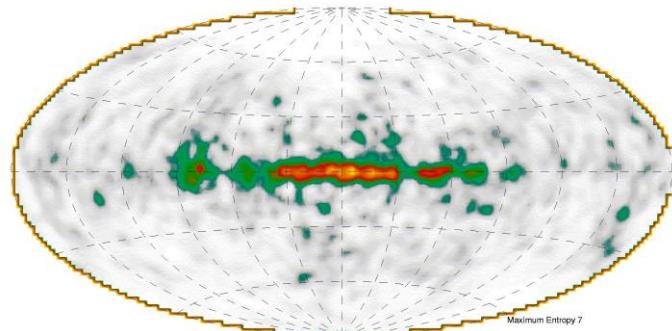
Basement

Courtesy of N.T. Zhang

# Cosmic gamma emitter



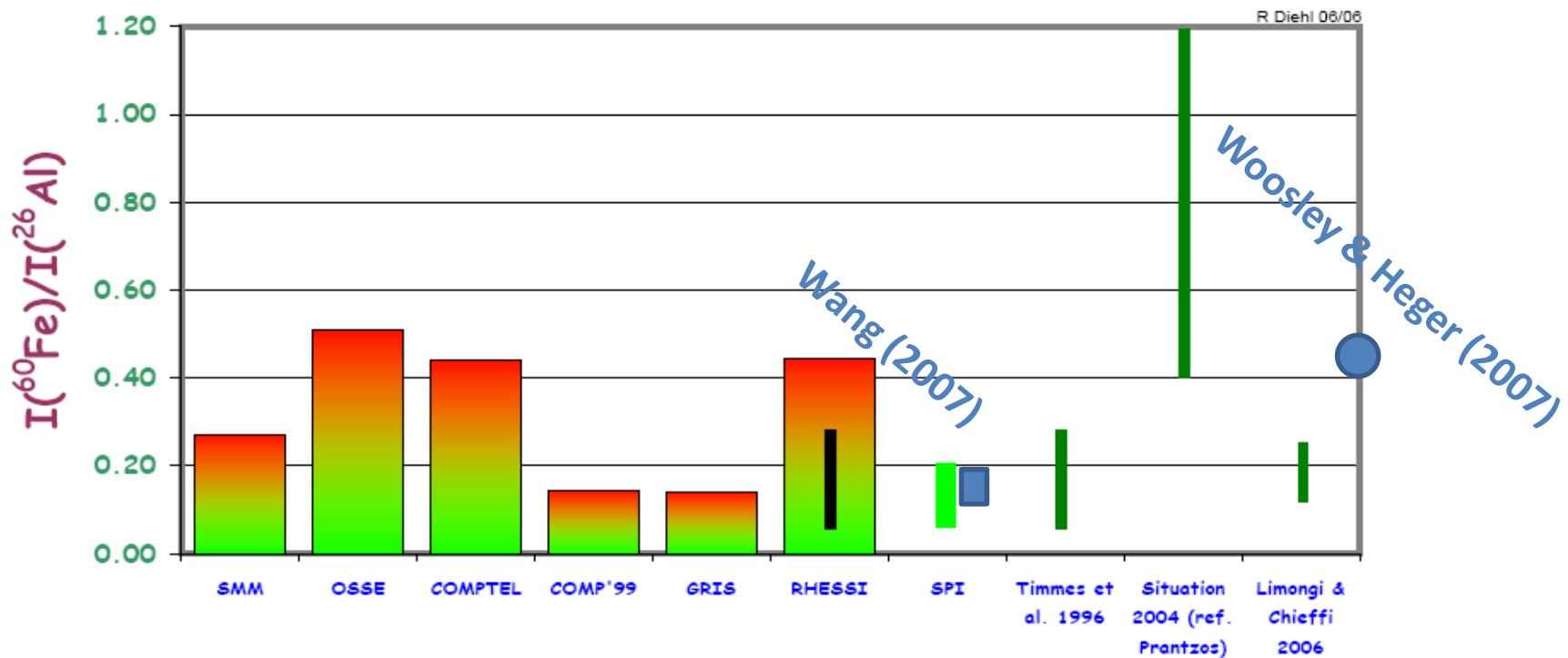
# Milky Way:



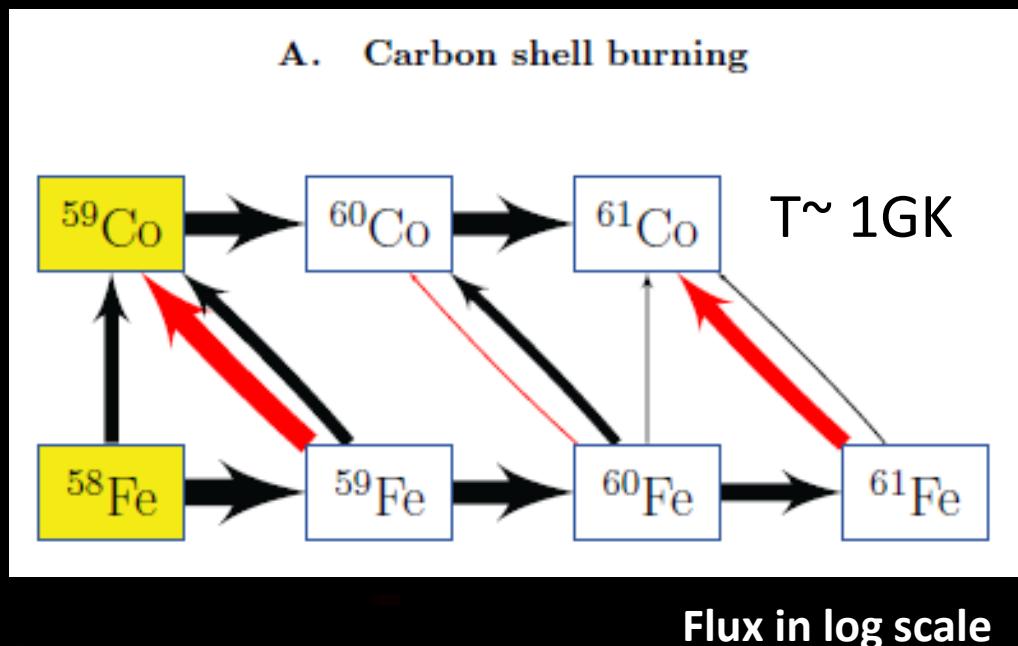
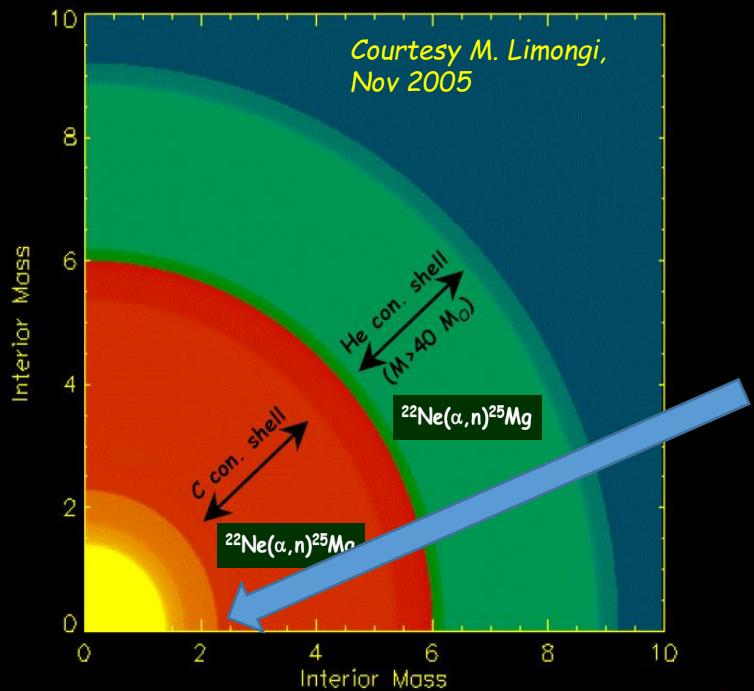
$$^{60}\text{Fe}/^{26}\text{Al} = 0.15 \pm 0.04$$

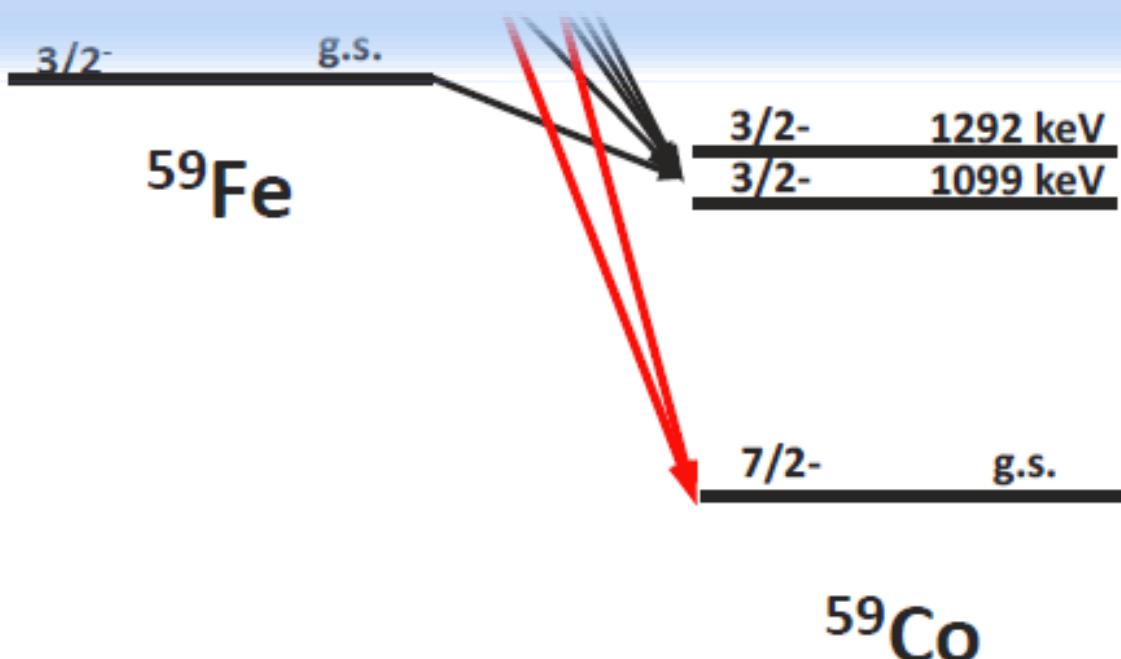
(Wang et al. 2007)

$^{60}\text{Fe}/^{26}\text{Al}$  Flux Ratio: Observations versus Theory

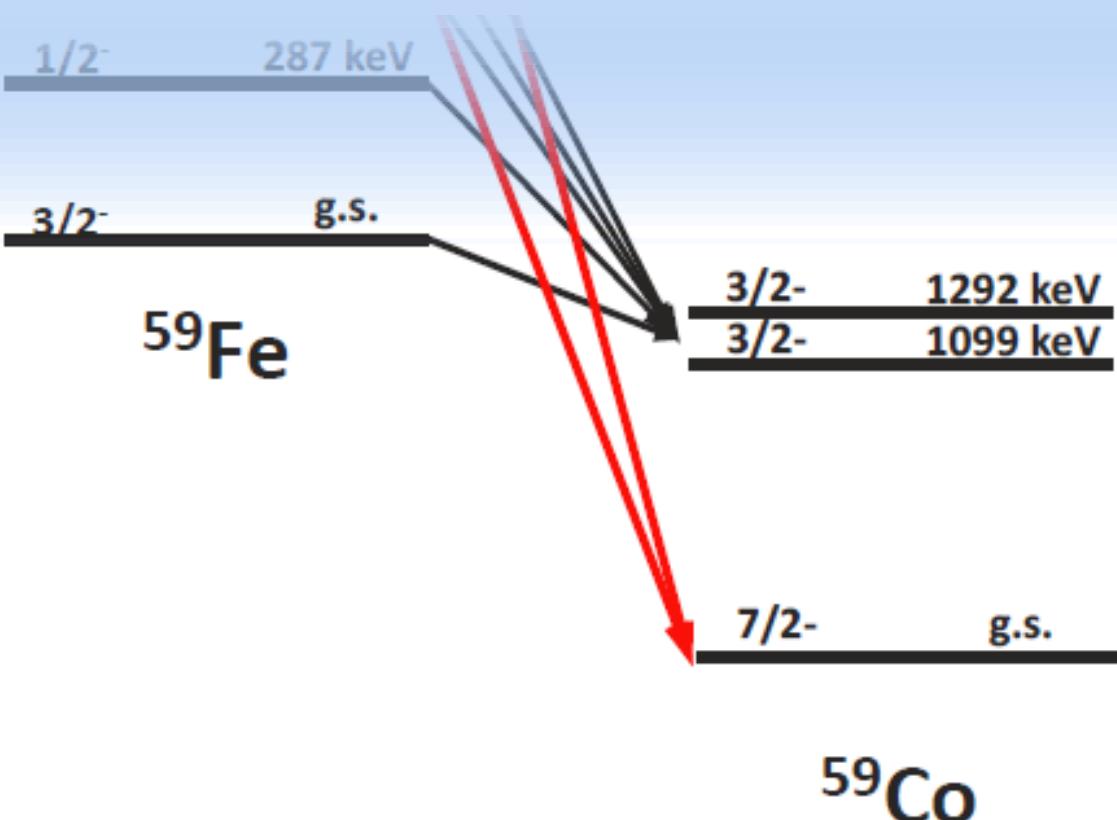


# $^{59}\text{Fe}$ decay in carbon shell burning

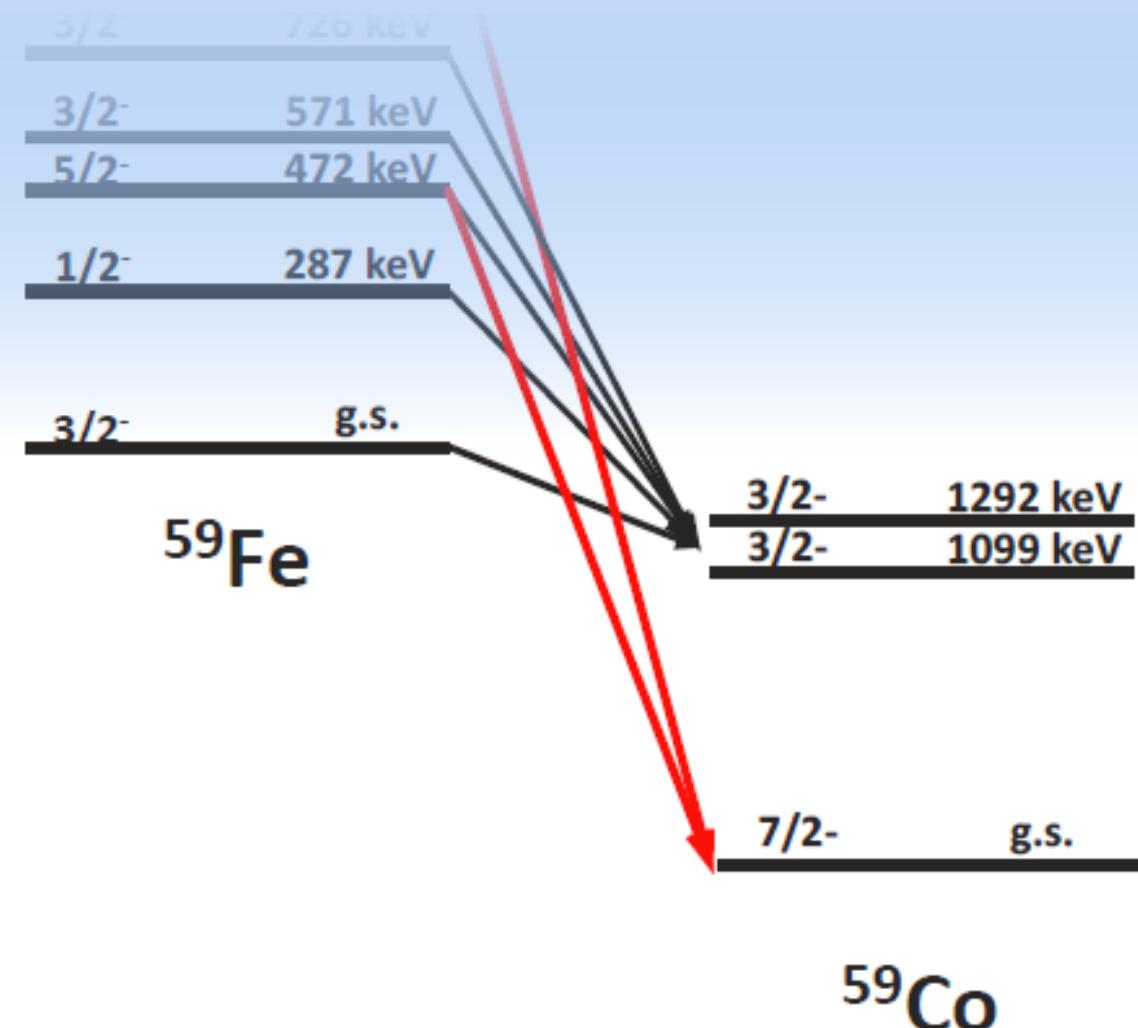




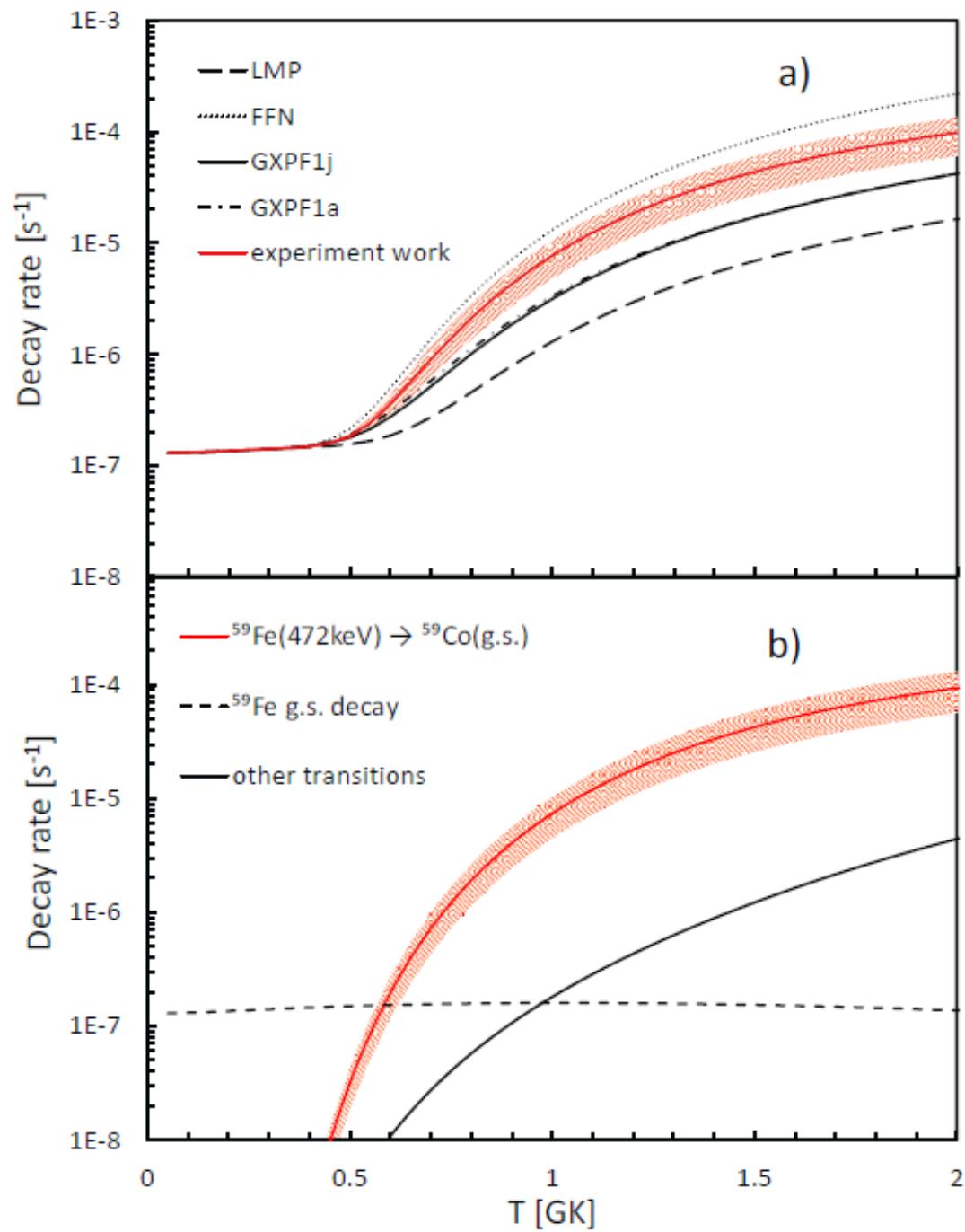
Laboratory

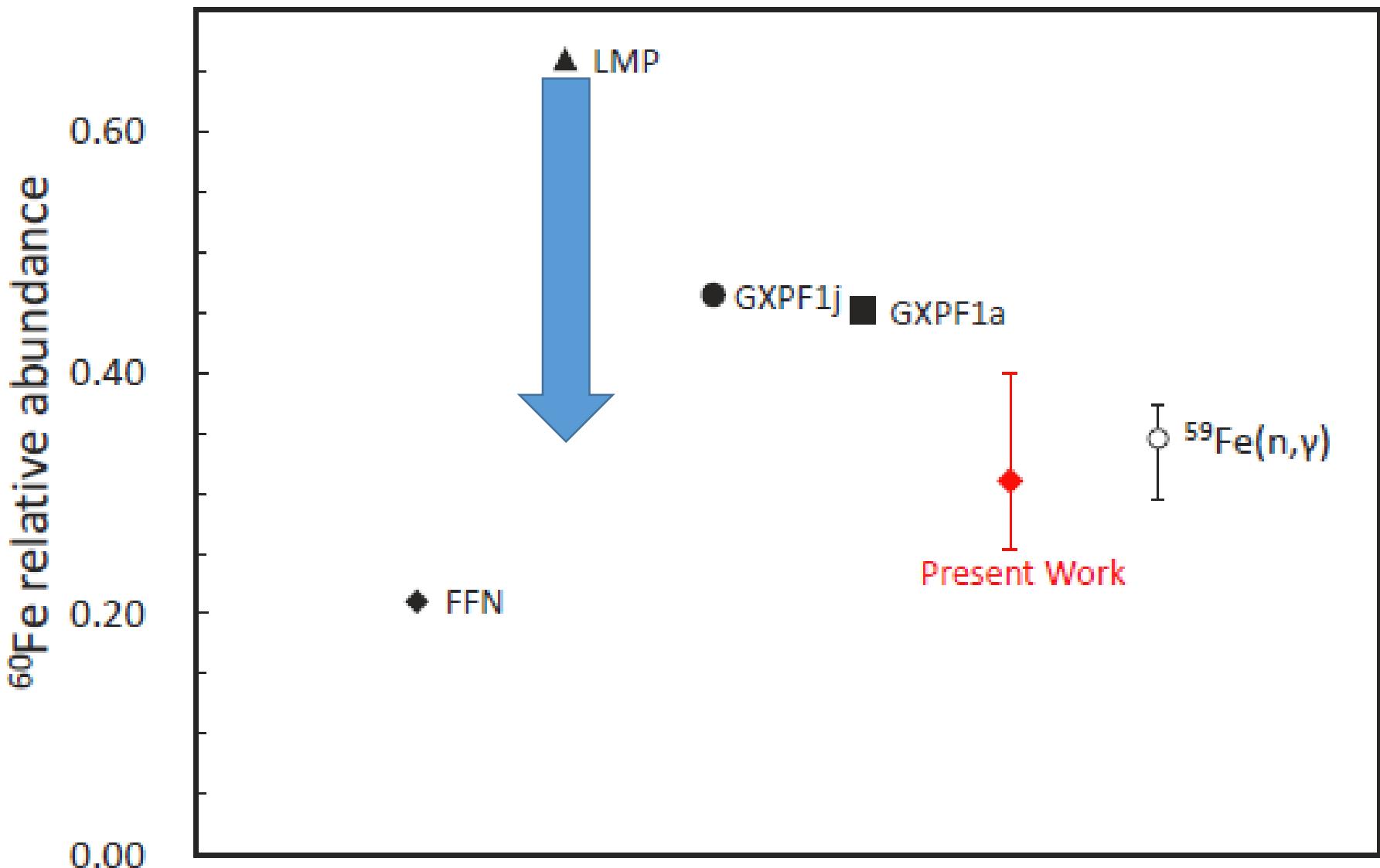


Star (low temperature)



Star (higher temperature)



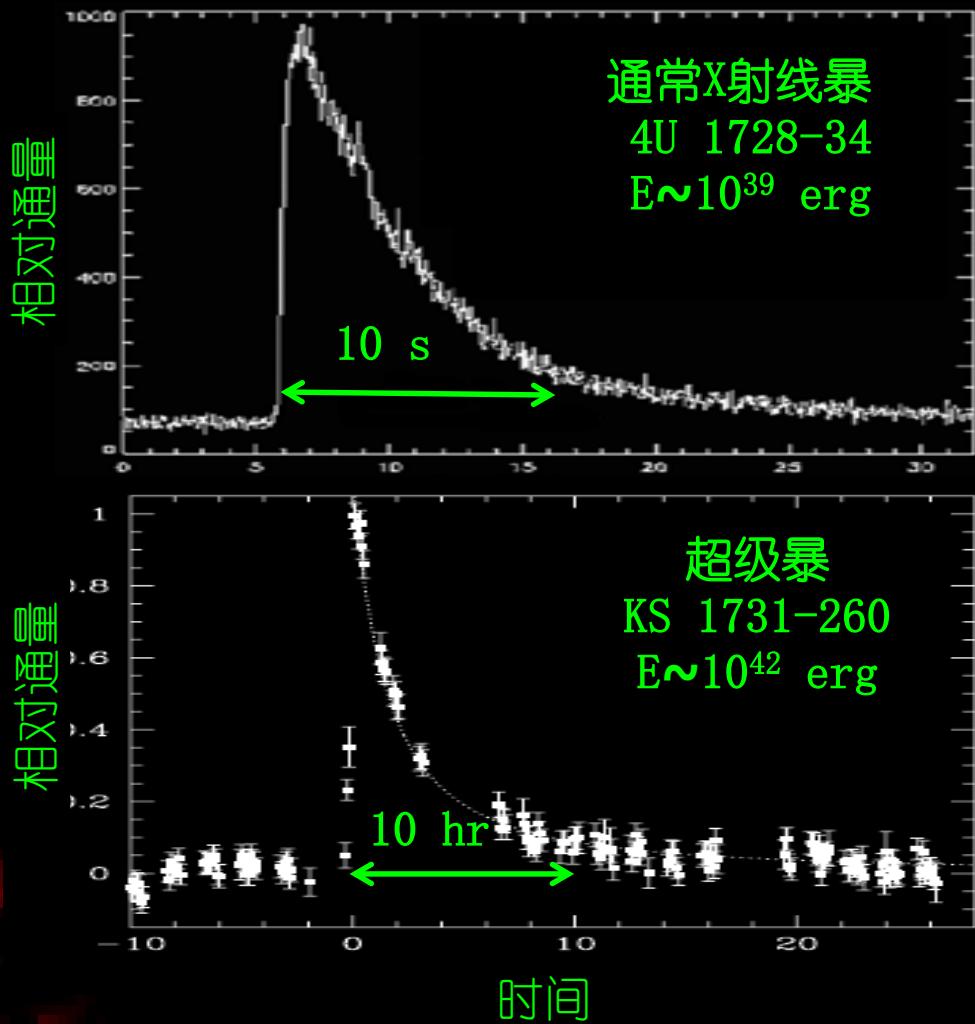




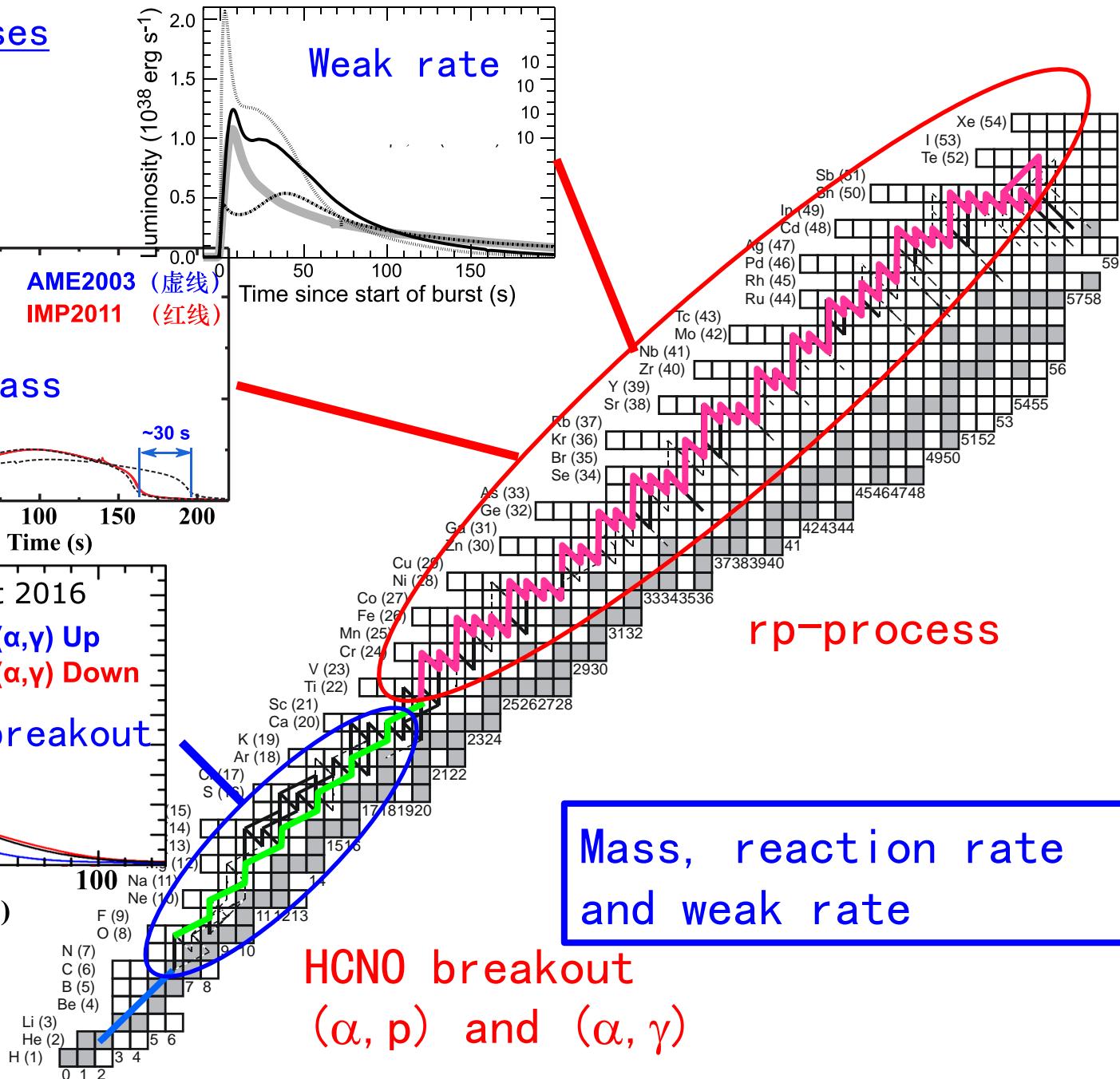
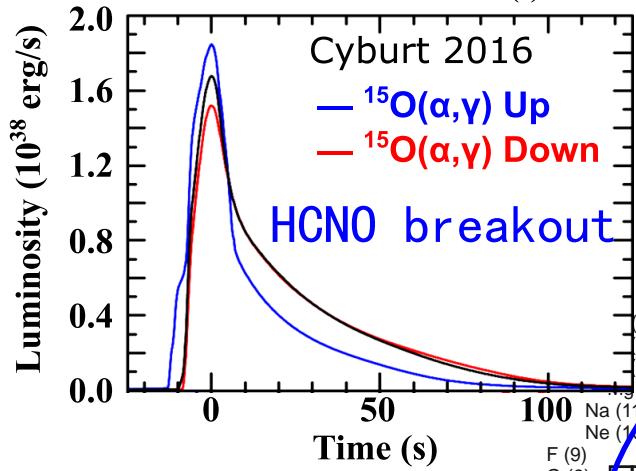
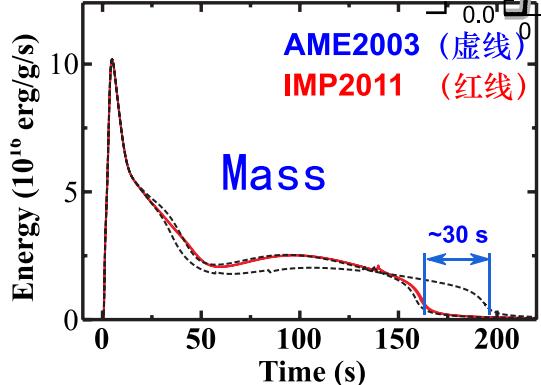
# **High Intensity heavy ion Accelerator Facility in Lanzhou (HIRFL)**

**Currently ongoing activities**

# X-Ray burst



# Nuclear Processes in X-Ray Burst



# Nuclear Astrophysics at HIRFL



# Nuclear Astrophysics at HIRFL

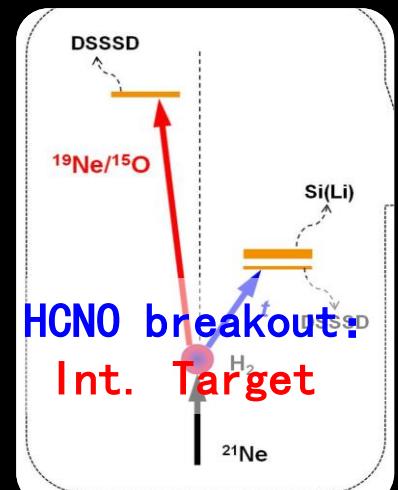
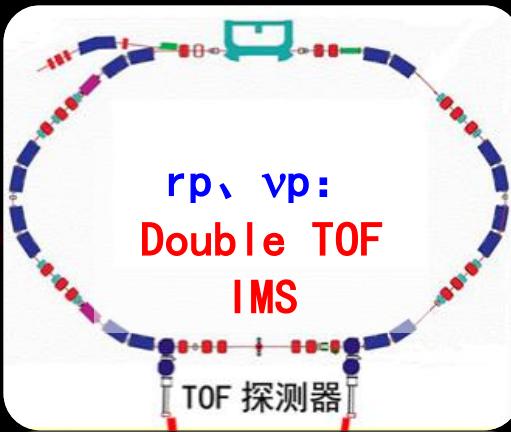
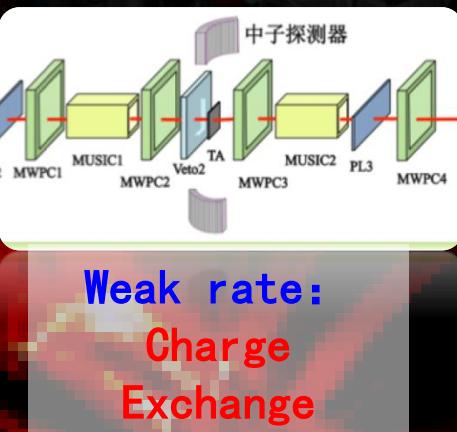
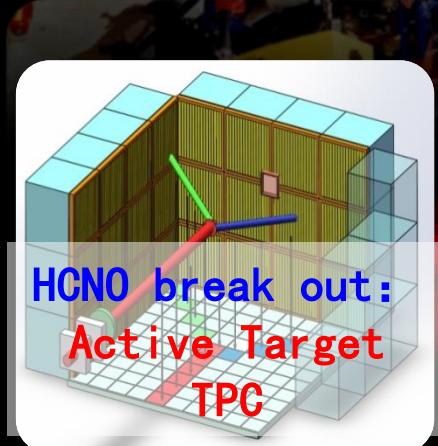


Providing ion beams from H to U in the range of keV/u to GeV/u

# New experimental initiatives

2016-2021

6 million USD awarded



Reaction

Weakrate

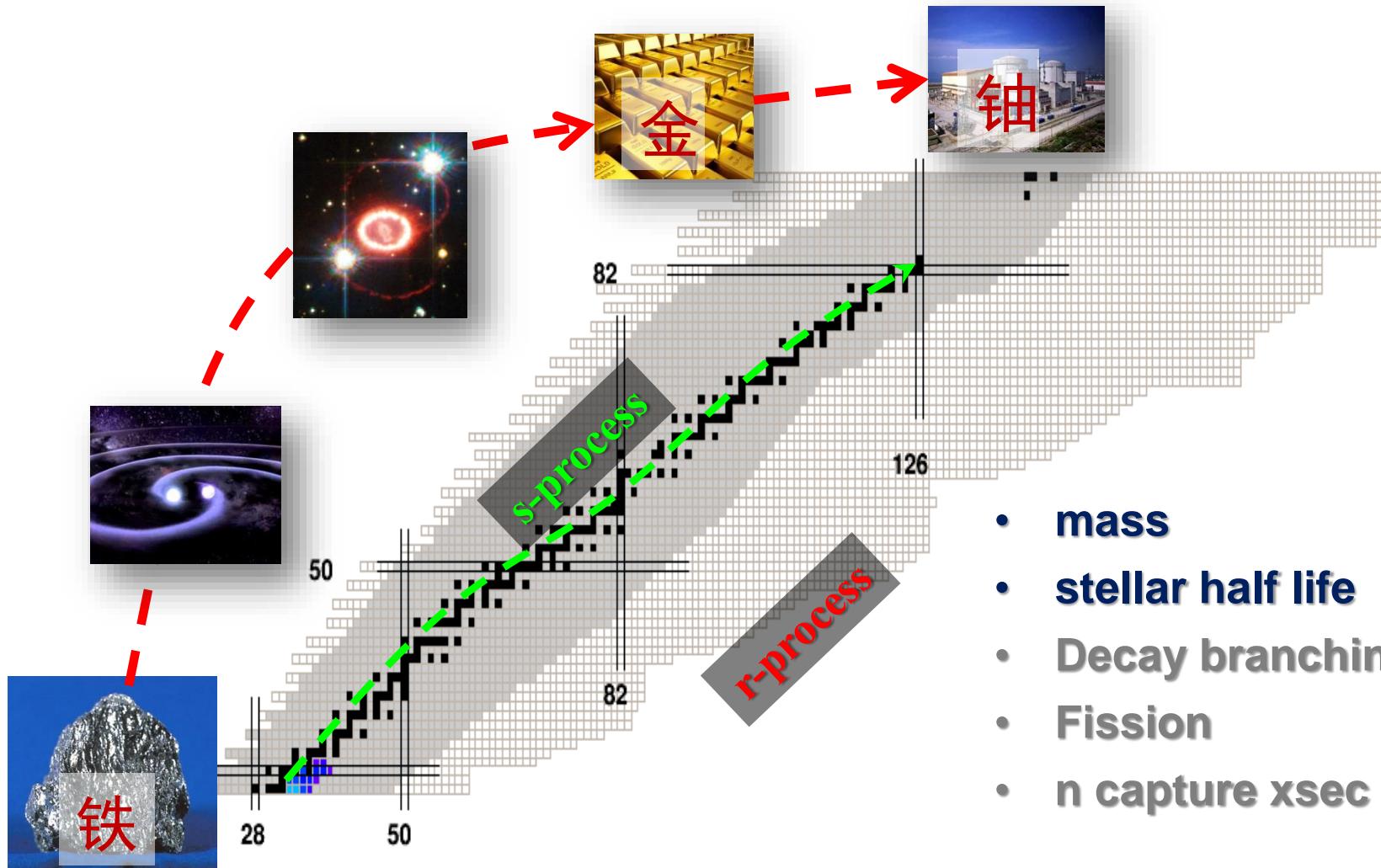
Mass

Reaction

# **High Intensity Accelerator Facility (HIAF)**

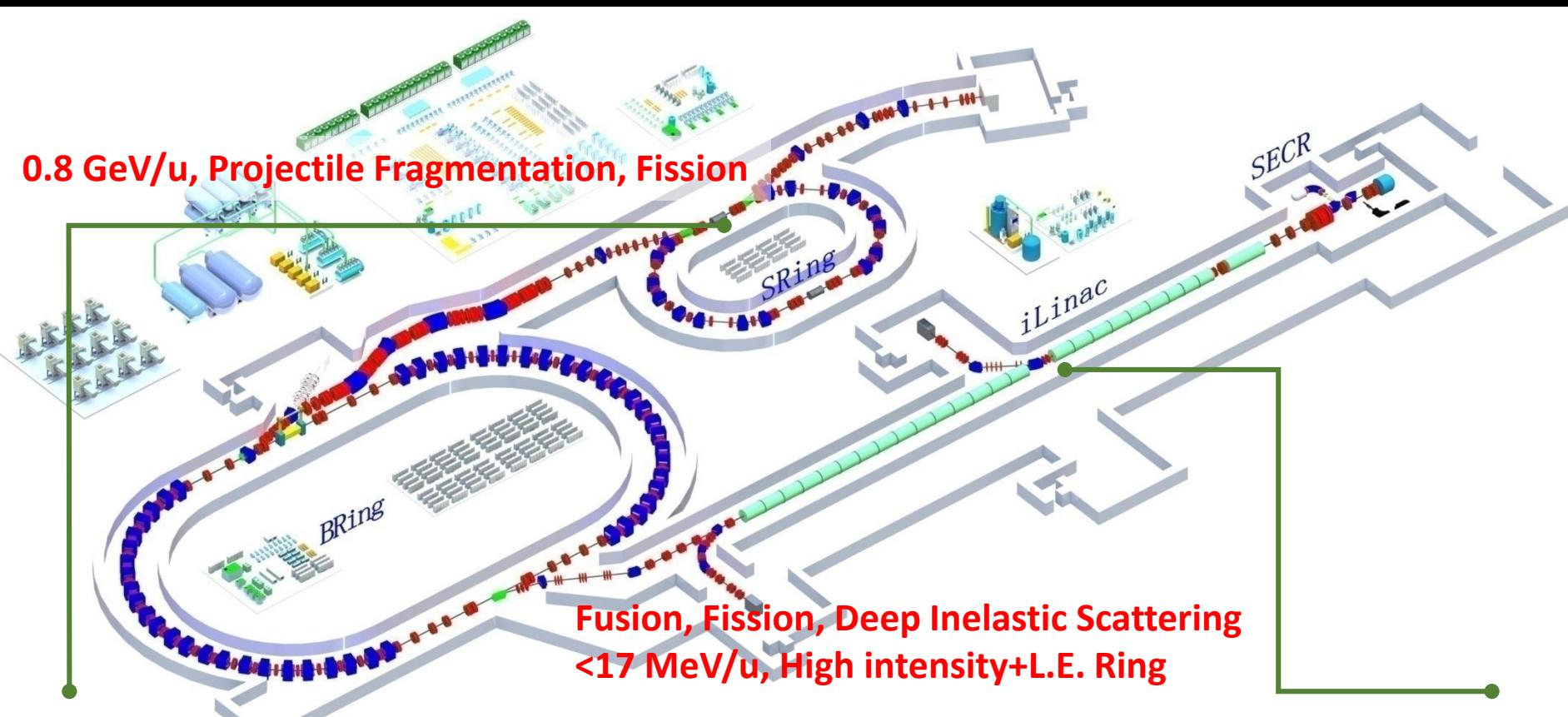
**A recently funded new Chinese project funded**

# How were the heavy elements from iron to uranium made?



- mass
- stellar half life
- Decay branching
- Fission
- n capture xsec

# Nuclear Astrophysics with High Intensity Accelerator Facility



- Mass Decay
- Internal target experiment
- Reactions with deaccelerated RI beams

Recoil Separator

Separator

Nuclear Reaction  
(Direct reaction, Fusion, Fission, DIS)

Gas Catcher

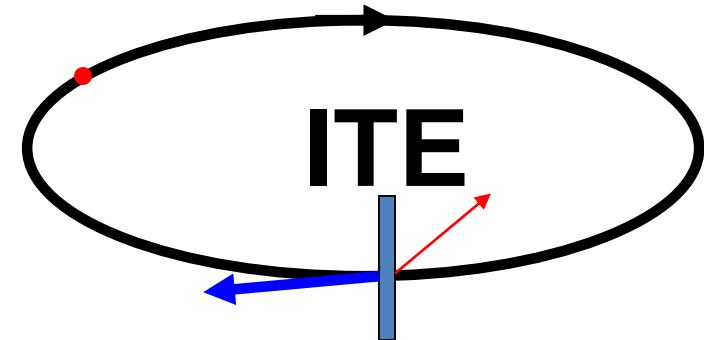
Mass Ring MTOF

Laser+decay Spectroscopy



# Internal target experiment

- Boost beam current ( $10^8$  particles,  $10^6$  Hz → max effective intensity :  $10^{14}$  pps)
  - Free of beam induced background
  - Ultra-thin target ( $10^{13}$  atoms/cm $^2$ )  
Conventional target:  $10 \text{ } \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^2$  Carbon foil →  $>10^{17}$  atoms/cm $^2$
- Allow low energy particle escaping from the target
- Minimize beam particle energy loss in target





## $^{132}\text{Sn}$ ( $T_{1/2}=40$ s)

- HIAF: 3.5E6 pps → stored ion: 2.2E8 particles  
Effective intensity: **2.2E14** pps
- RIBF: 3E6 pps
- FRIB: 1E8 – 1E9 pps
- EURISOL: 4E11 pps
- BEIJING ISOL(CARIF): 5E10 pps



# Light ion induced direct reactions

elastic scattering ( $p,p$ ), ( $\alpha,\alpha$ ), ...

nuclear matter distribution  $\rho(r)$ , skins, halo structures

inelastic scattering ( $p,p'$ ), ( $\alpha,\alpha'$ ), ...

giant resonances, deformation parameters,  $B(E2)$  values, transition densities

charge exchange reactions ( $p,n$ ), ( $^3\text{He},t$ ), ( $d, ^2\text{He}$ ), ...

Gamow-Teller strength

transfer reactions ( $p,d$ ), ( $p,t$ ), ( $p, ^3\text{He}$ ), ( $d,p$ ), ...

single particle structure, spectroscopic factors

spectroscopy beyond the driplines

neutron pair correlations

nuclear structure relevant to nuclear reactions at stellar energy (ANC, energy, spin,  $J^\pi$ , decay branching ratio)

knock-out reactions ( $p,2p$ ), ( $p,pn$ ), ( $p,p$   $^4\text{He}$ )...

ground state configurations, nucleon momentum distributions, cluster correlations



- **In-flight beta-decay of light exotic nuclei**
- **Laser spectroscopy of rare isotopes with the TSR**
- **Capture reactions for the astrophysical process**
- **Nuclear astrophysics through transfer reactions**



# Summary and Outlook

- Nuclear reactions plays important role in the stars
- Chinese community is growing
- Welcome to China!

