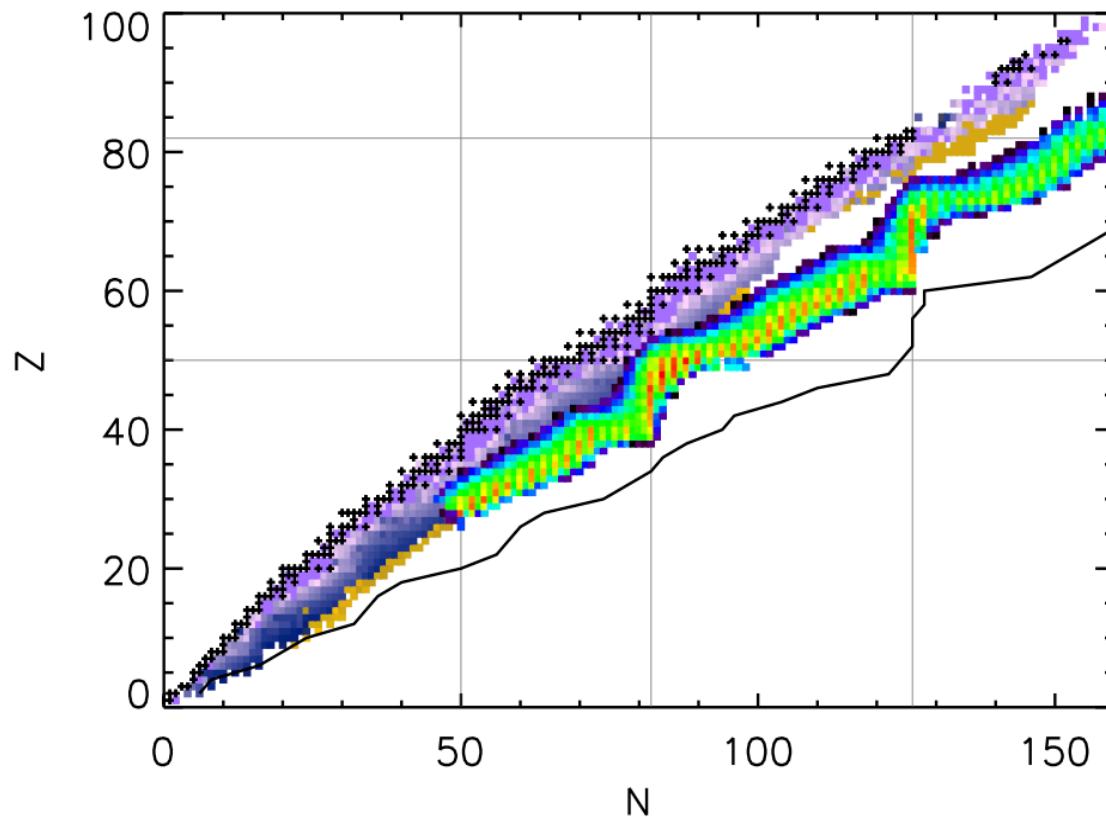


# sensitivity studies for *r*-process nucleosynthesis

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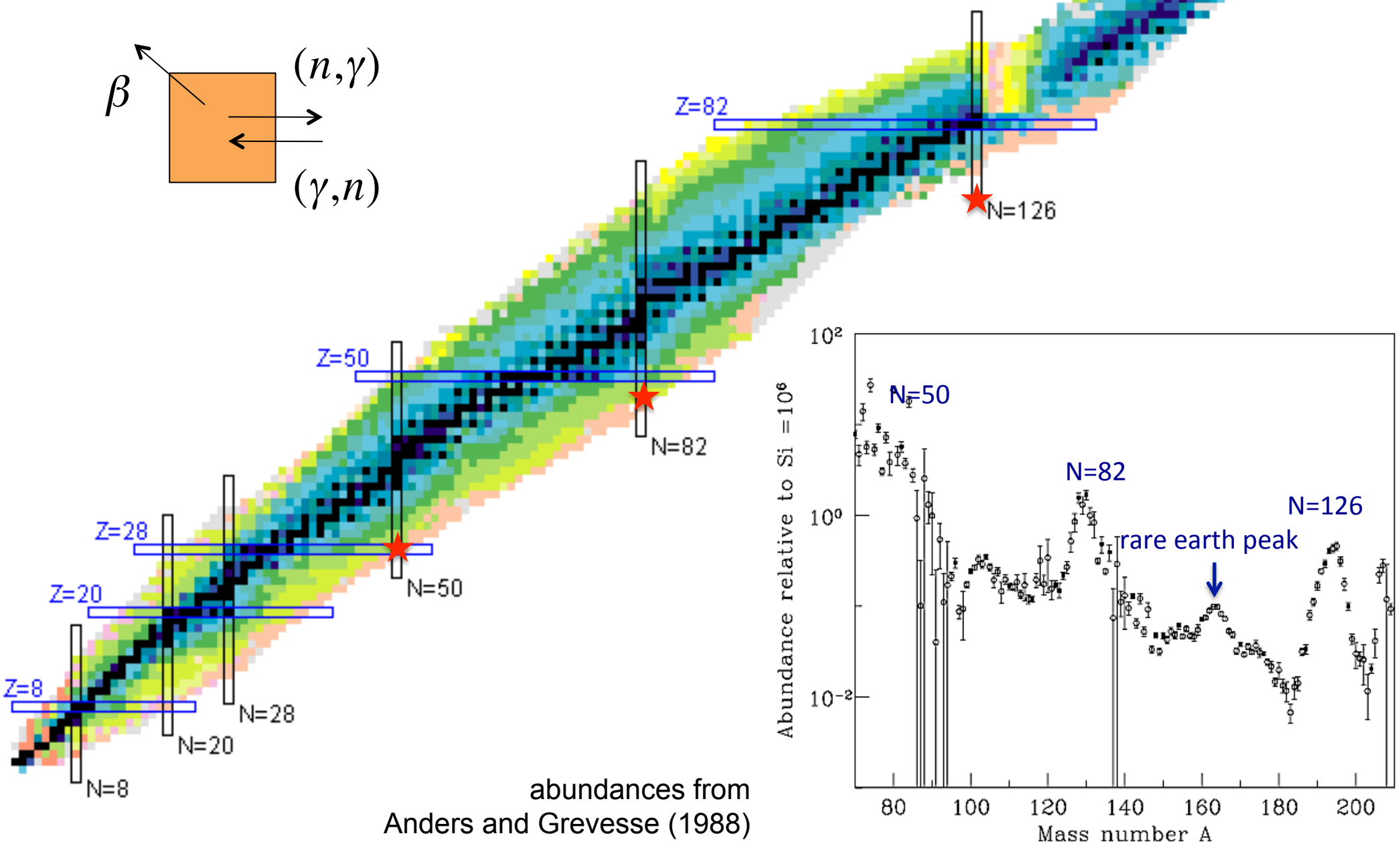


Rebecca Surman  
Union College  
University of Notre Dame

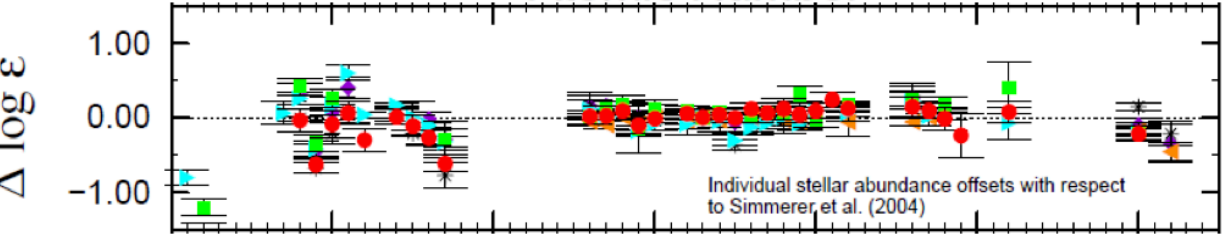
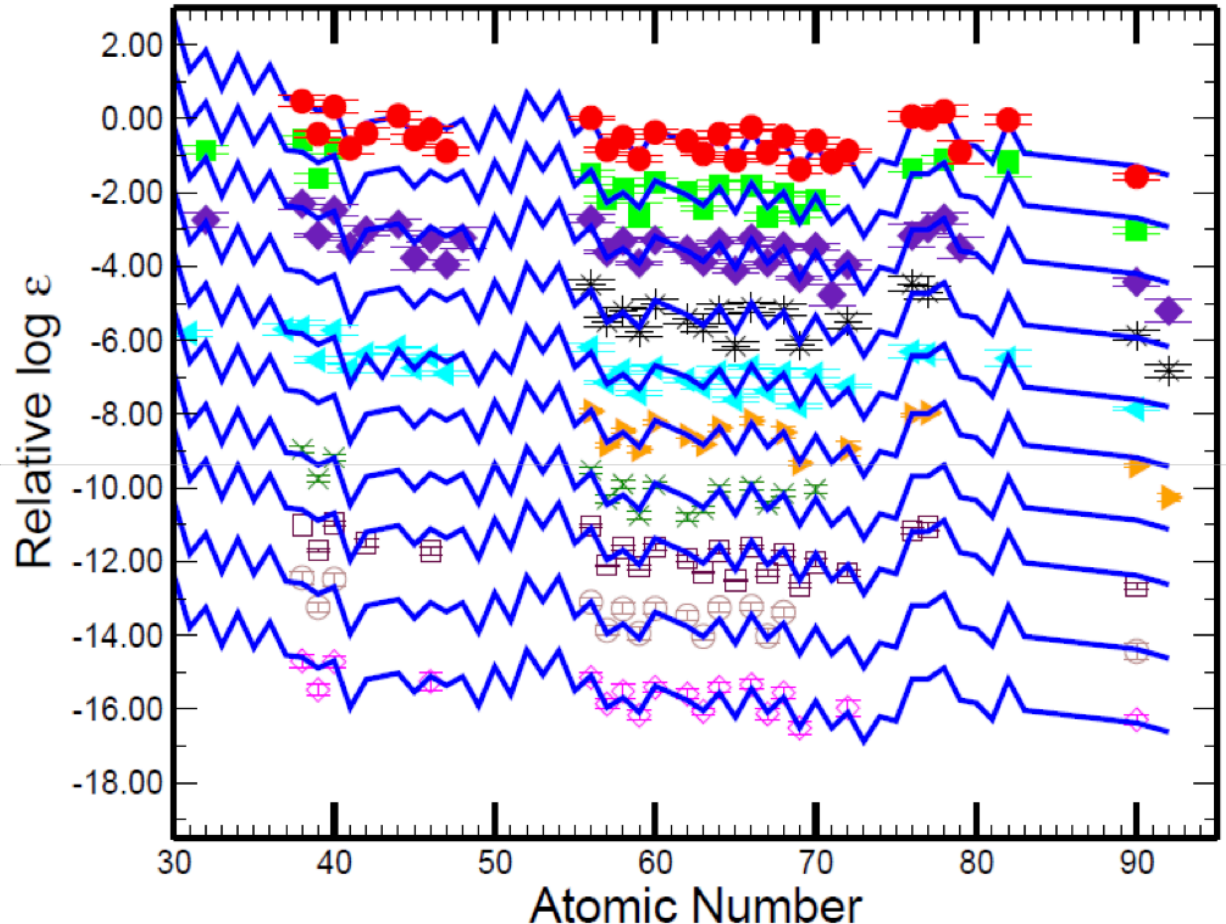
ARIS 2014  
2014 June 4



# r-process nucleosynthesis

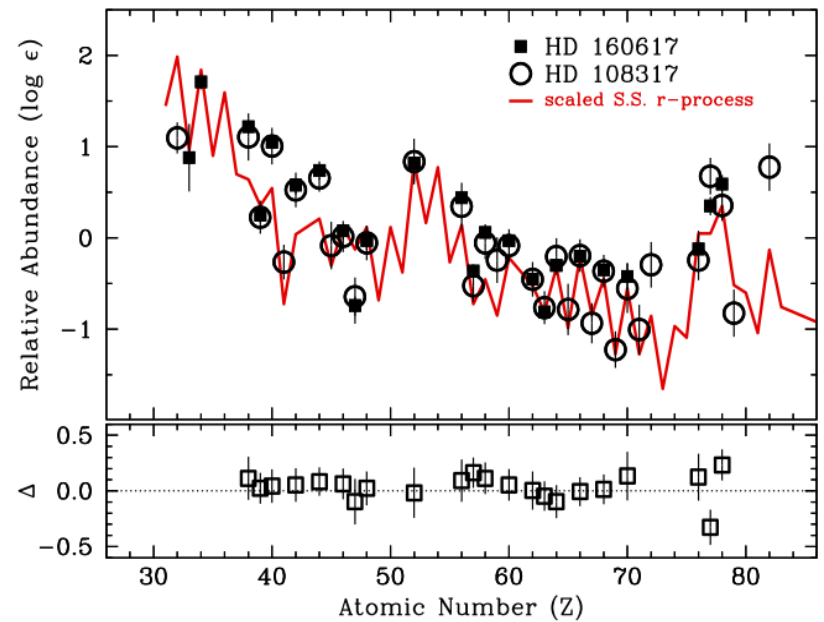


# r-process observations



Observations suggest the *r*-process site:

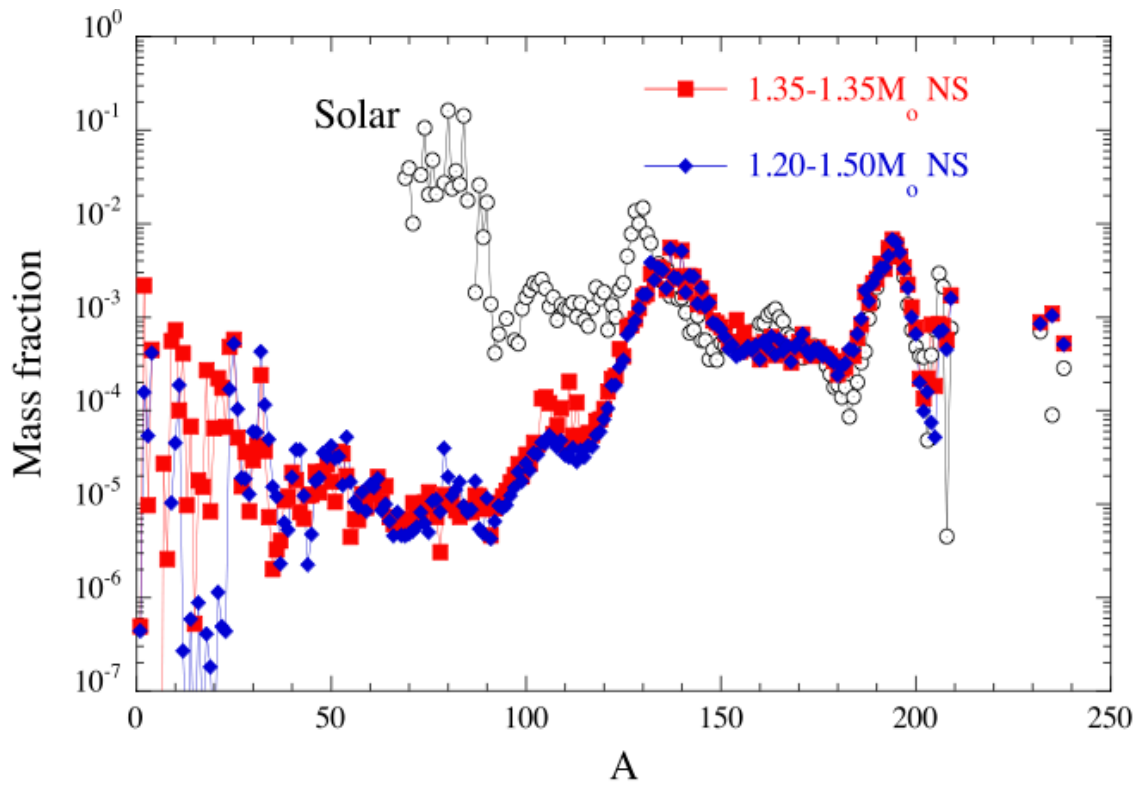
- produces a robust  $A > 130$  abundance pattern
- was in operation early in galactic history



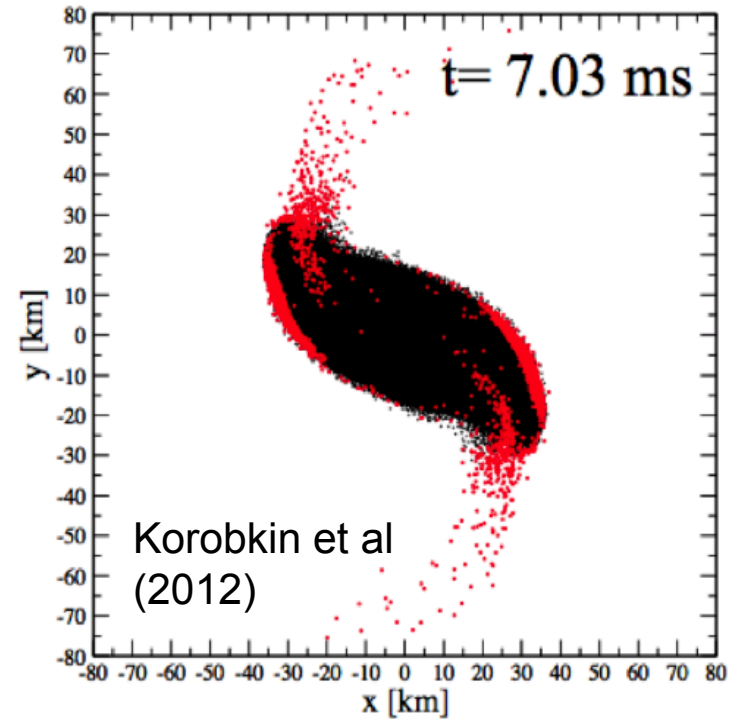
Cowan et al (2011)

Roederer & Lawler (2012)

# *r*-process astrophysical site: compact object mergers?



neutron star-neutron star or  
black hole-neutron star  
mergers

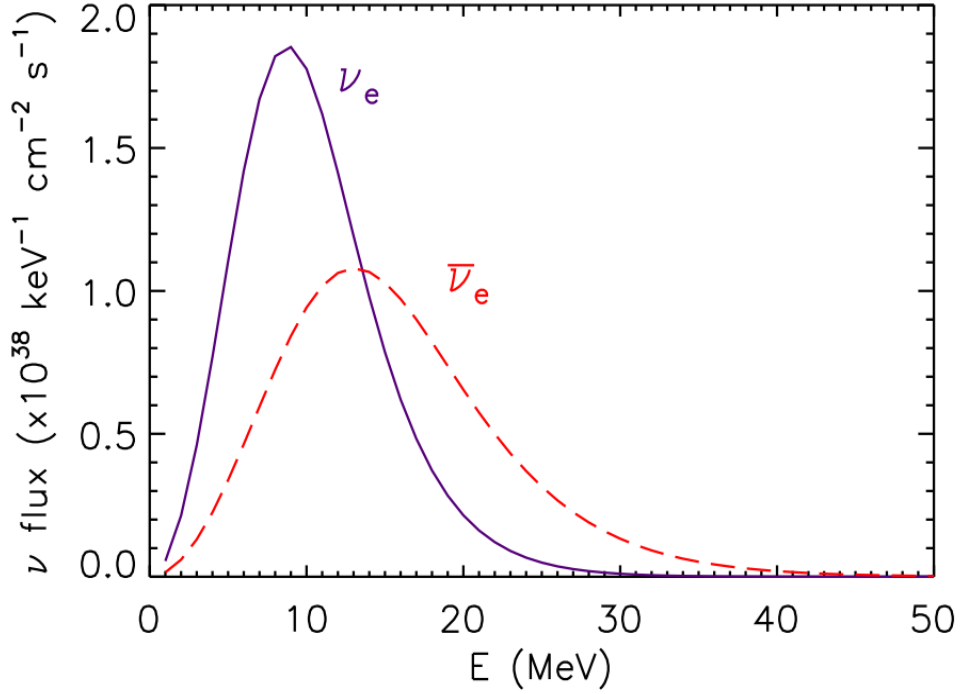


Goriely et al (2012)

Korobkin et al  
(2012)

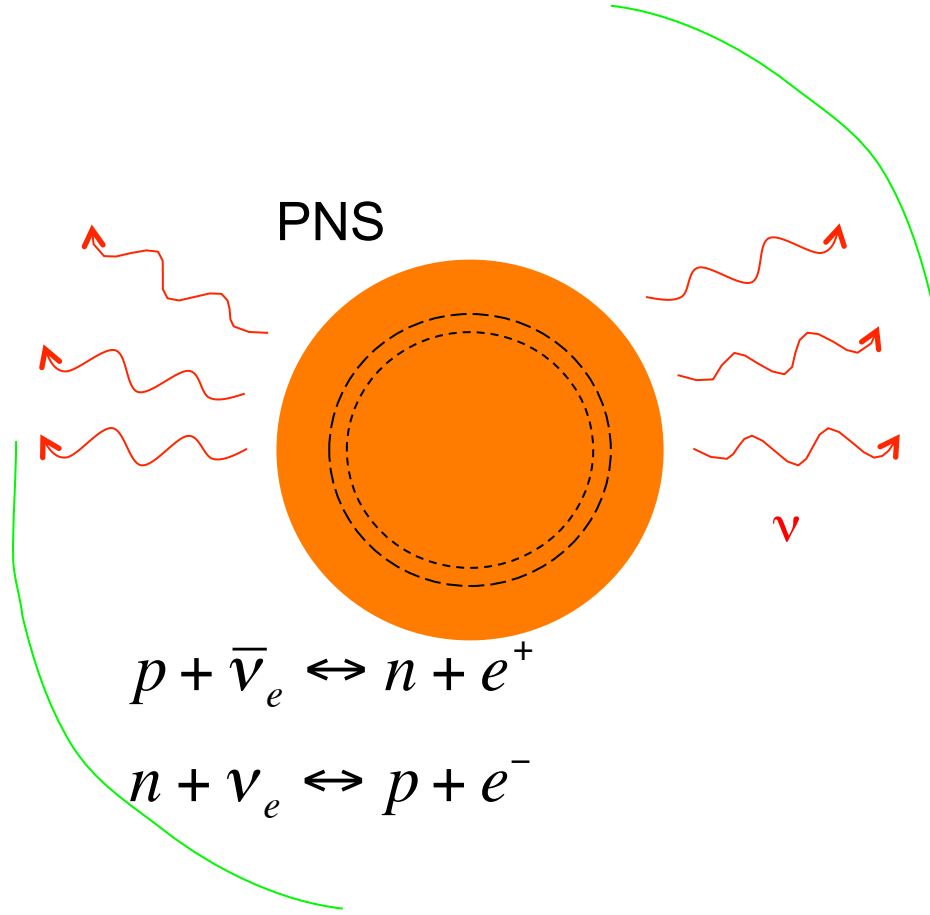
*e.g.*, Lattimer & Schramm (1974, 1976), Meyer (1989), Frieburghaus et al (1999), Goriely et al (2005), Wanajo & Ishimaru (2006), Oechslin et al (2007), Nakamura et al (2011), Goriely et al (2012), Korobkin et al (2012), Rosswog et al (2013), Wanajo et al (2014)

# r-process astrophysical site: core-collapse supernovae?



late-time  $\nu$  fluxes from Keil et al (2003)

## supernova neutrino-driven wind



e.g., Meyer et al (1992), Woosley et al (1994), Takahashi et al (1994), Wittl et al (1994), Fuller & Meyer (1995), McLaughlin et al (1996), Meyer et al (1998), Qian & Woosley (1996), Hoffman et al (1997), Cardall & Fuller (1997), Otsuki et al (2000), Thompson et al (2001), Terasawa et al (2002), Liebendorfer et al (2005), Wanajo (2006), Arcones et al (2007), Huedepohl et al (2010), Fischer et al (2010), Roberts & Reddy (2012), Wanajo (2013), Martinez-Pinedo et al (2014), etc.

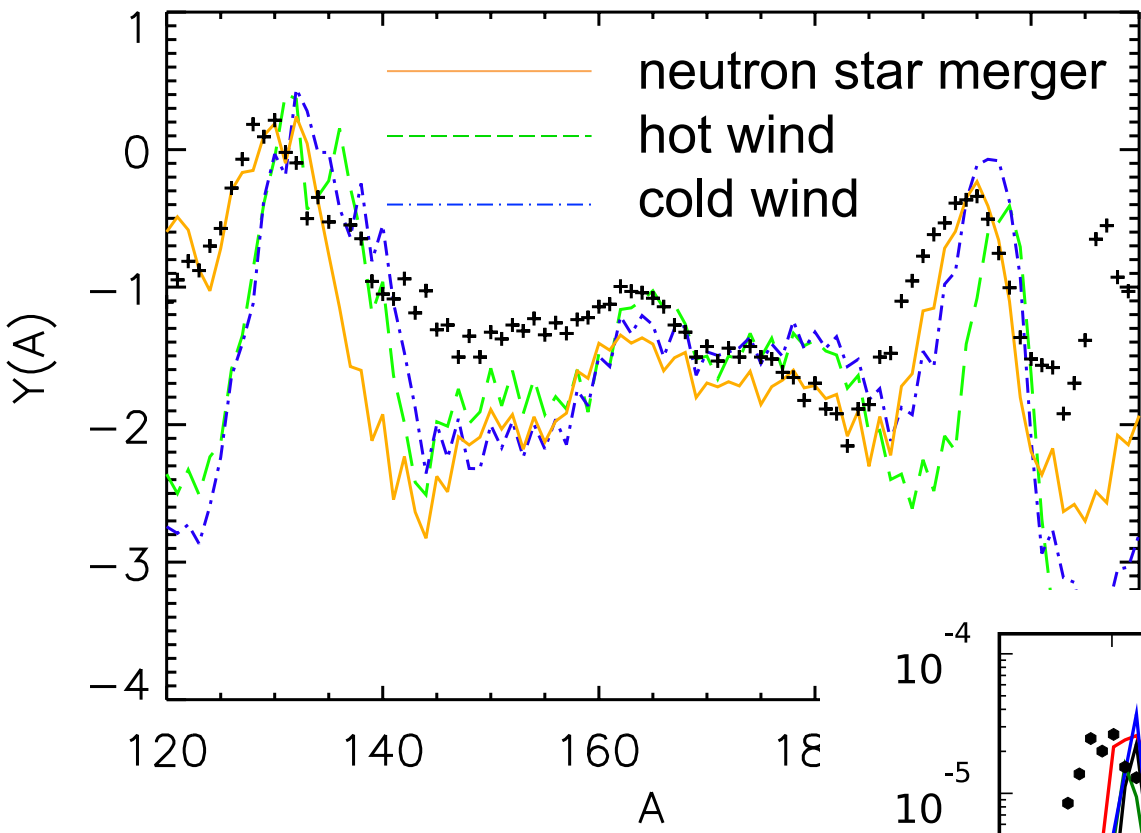
## *r*-process astrophysical site: current status

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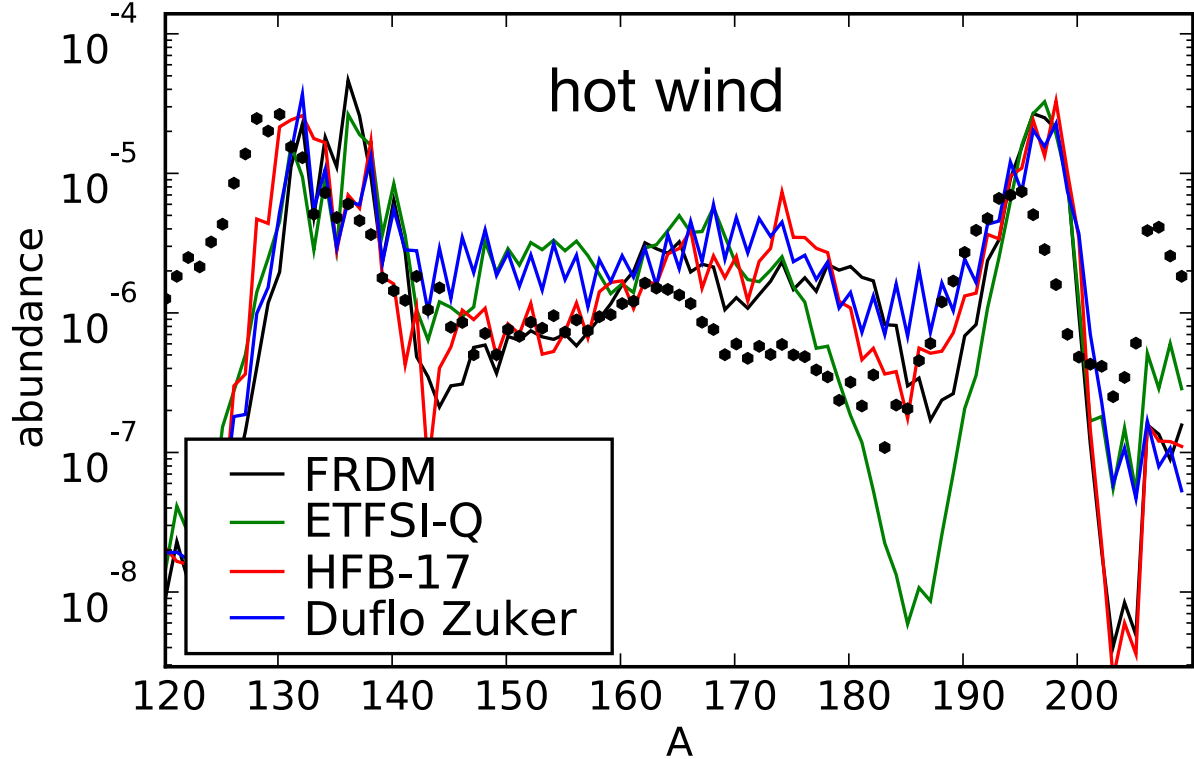
Compact object mergers have plenty of neutrons, but may not evolve on short enough timescales to explain the halo star data

Core-collapse supernovae evolve on the correct timescale to explain the halo star data, but may not produce enough neutrons

# r-process abundance pattern: site vs nuclear data



Mumpower, Cass, Passucci,  
Surman, Aprahamian (2014)



Arcones & Martinez-Pinedo, 2011

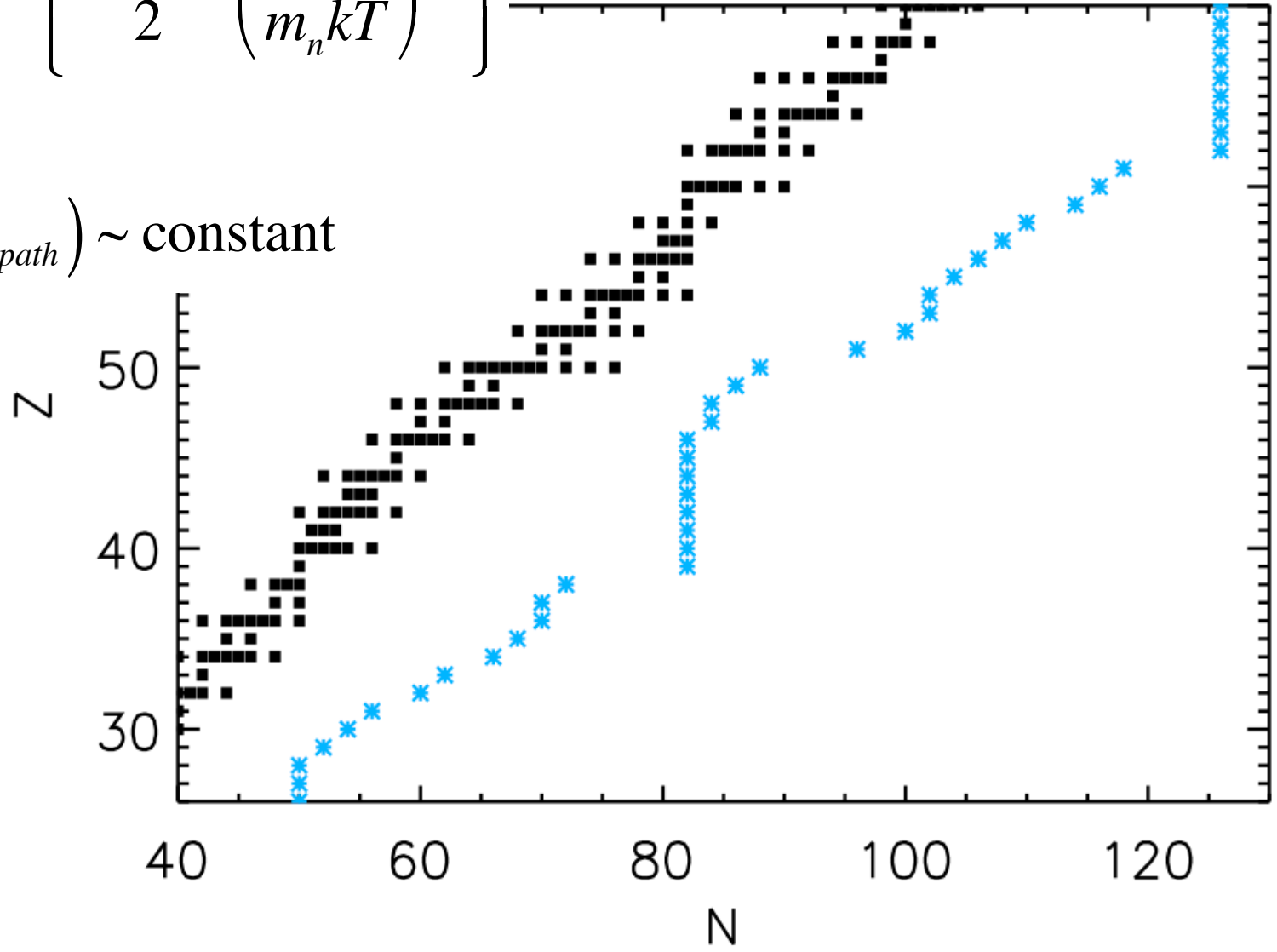
# classic (n,γ)-(γ,n) equilibrium r process

equilibrium path:

$$S_n(Z, A_{path}) \sim -kT \ln \left\{ \frac{\rho N_A Y_n}{2} \left( \frac{2\pi\hbar^2}{m_n kT} \right)^{3/2} \right\}$$

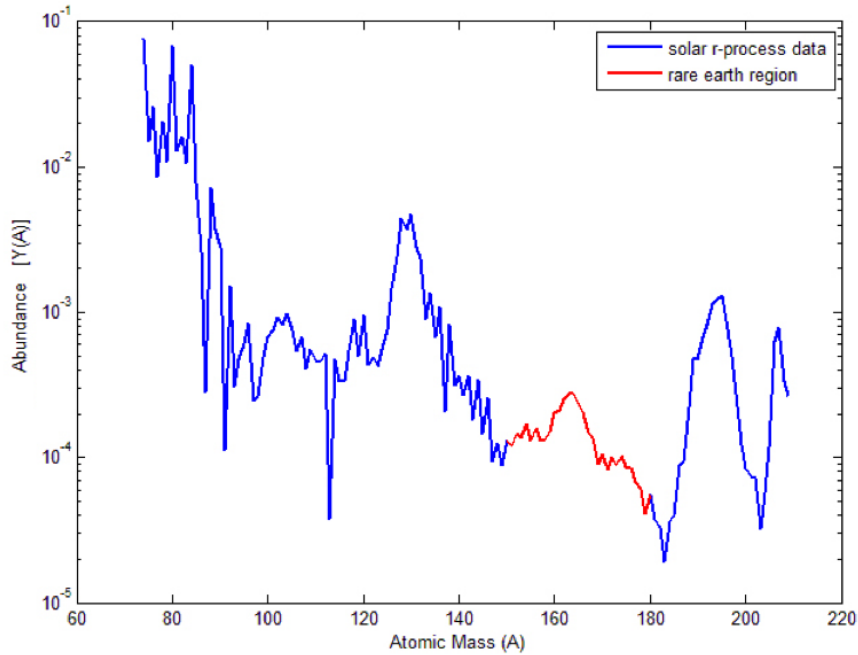
steady beta flow:

$$\lambda_\beta(Z, A_{path}) Y(Z, A_{path}) \sim \text{constant}$$



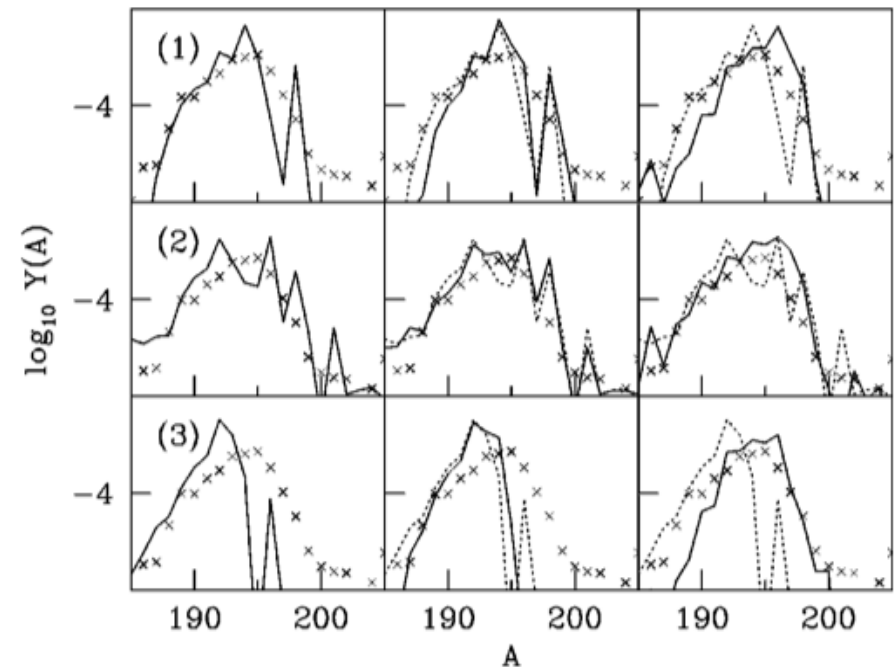


# freezeout from $(n,\gamma)$ - $(\gamma,n)$ equilibrium



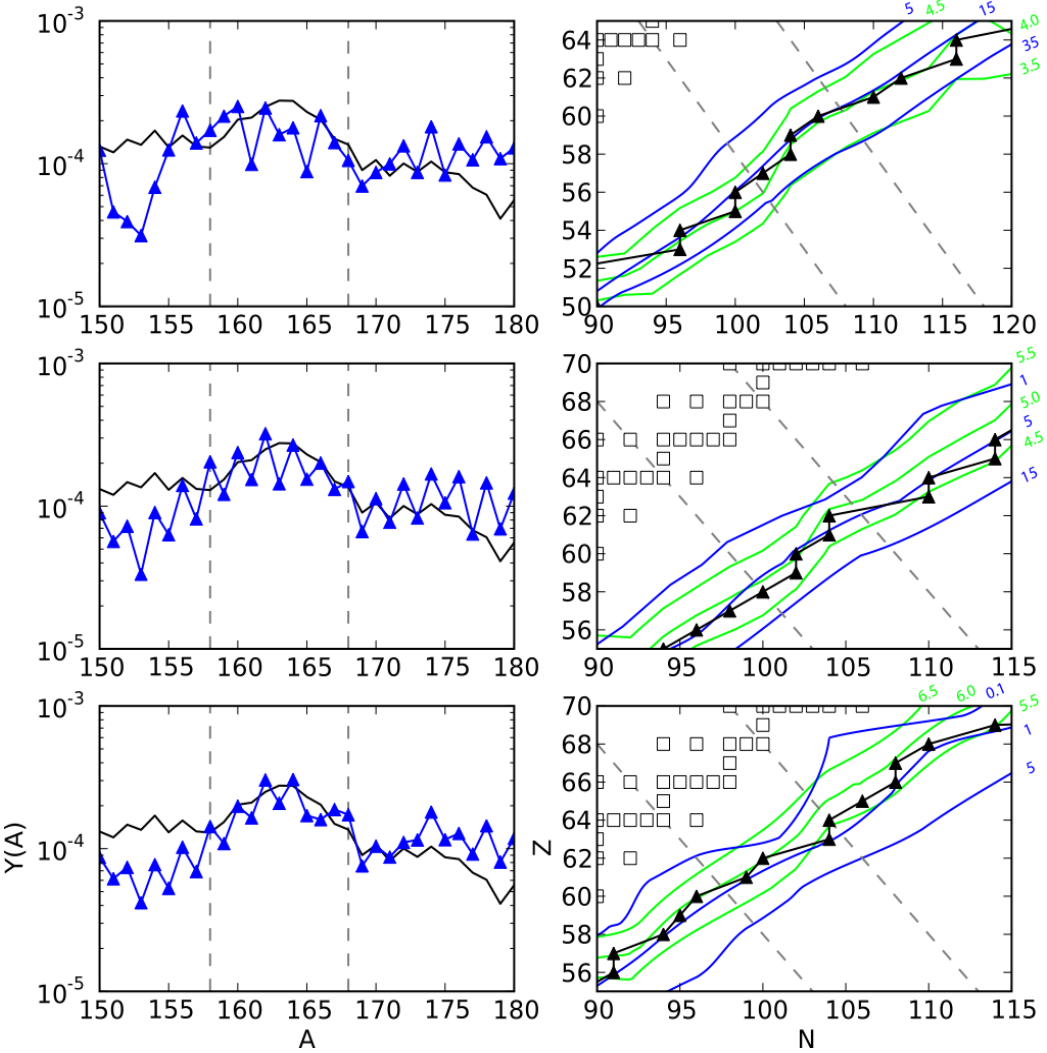
Mumpower, McLaughlin, &  
Surman (2012)

- rare earth peak forms
- main peaks can shift, spread, or narrow



Surman & Engel (2001)

# freezeout and nuclear data

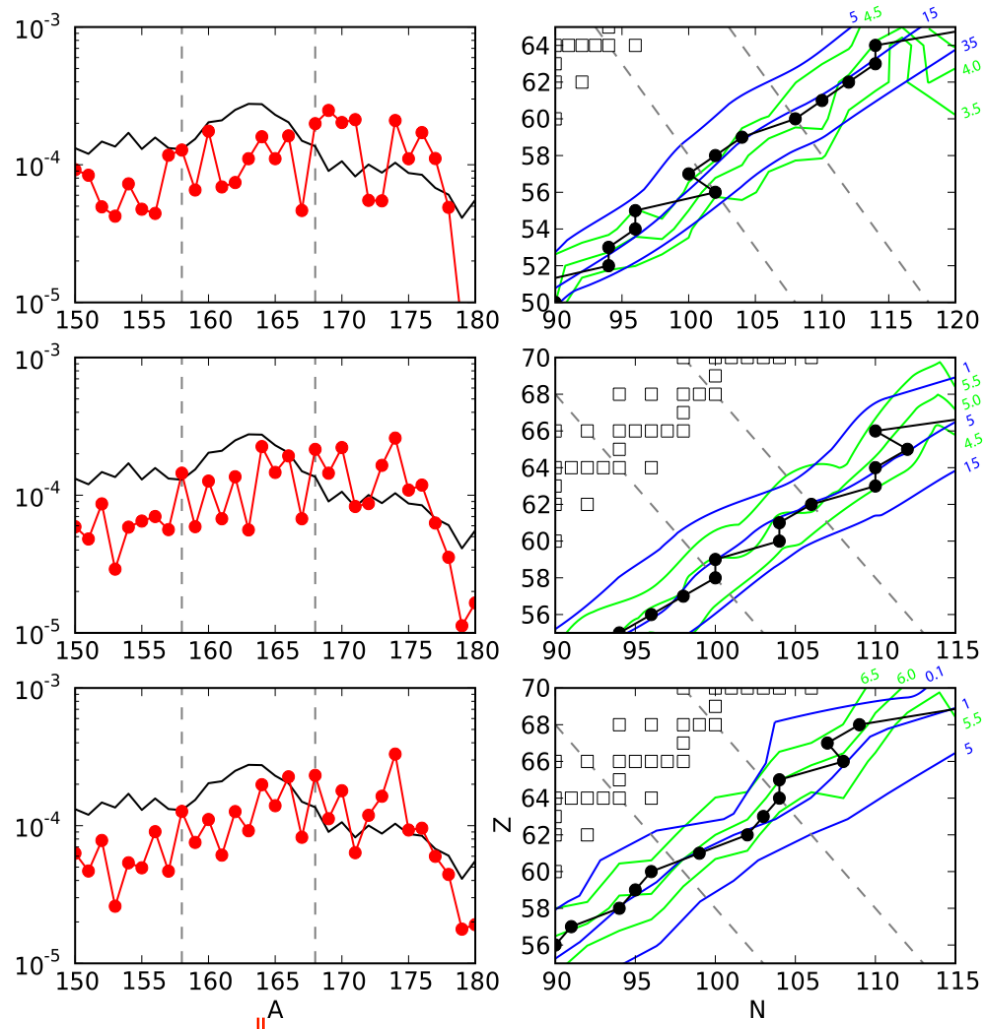


FRDM

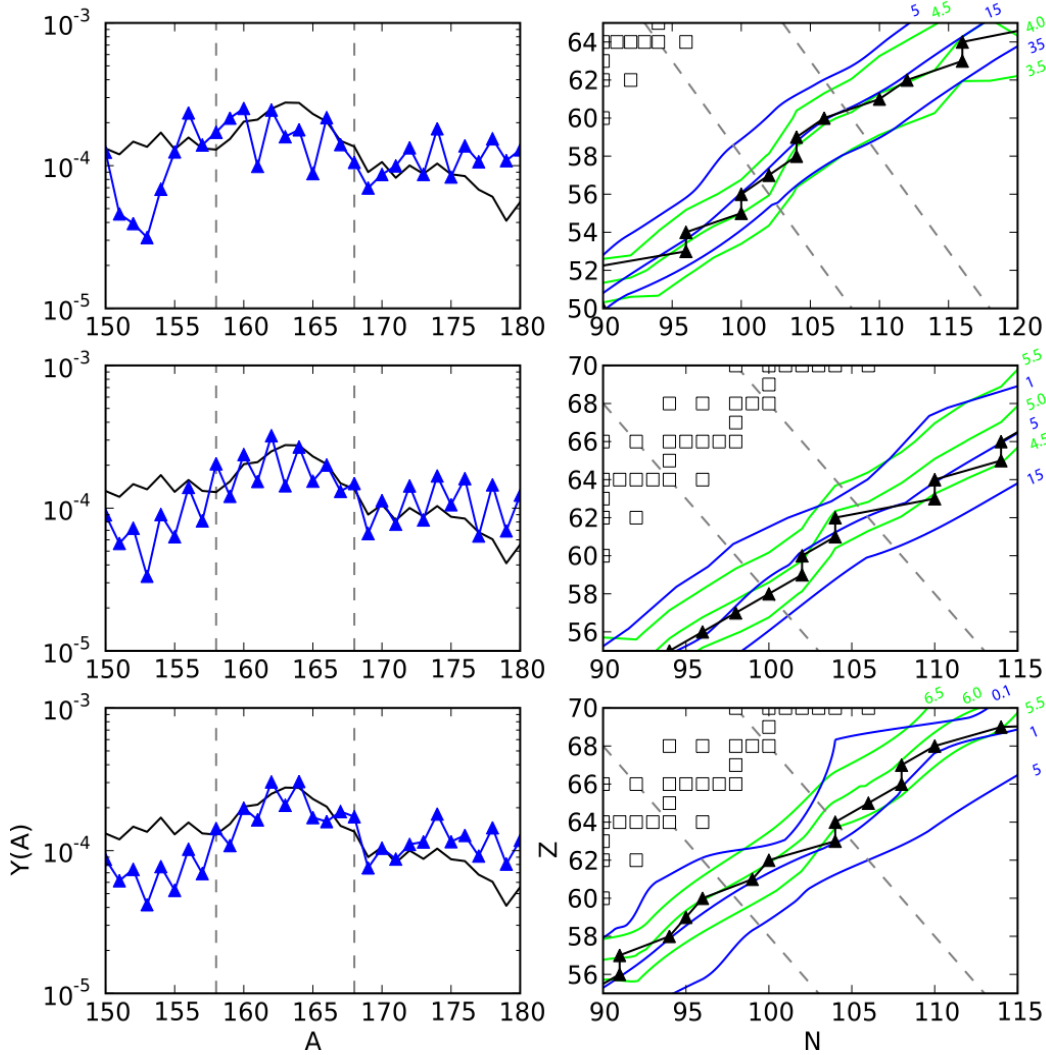
- $\beta$  decay contours
- neutron separation energy contours

Mumpower, McLaughlin, and Surman, PRC (2012)

HFB-17



→ no REP formation

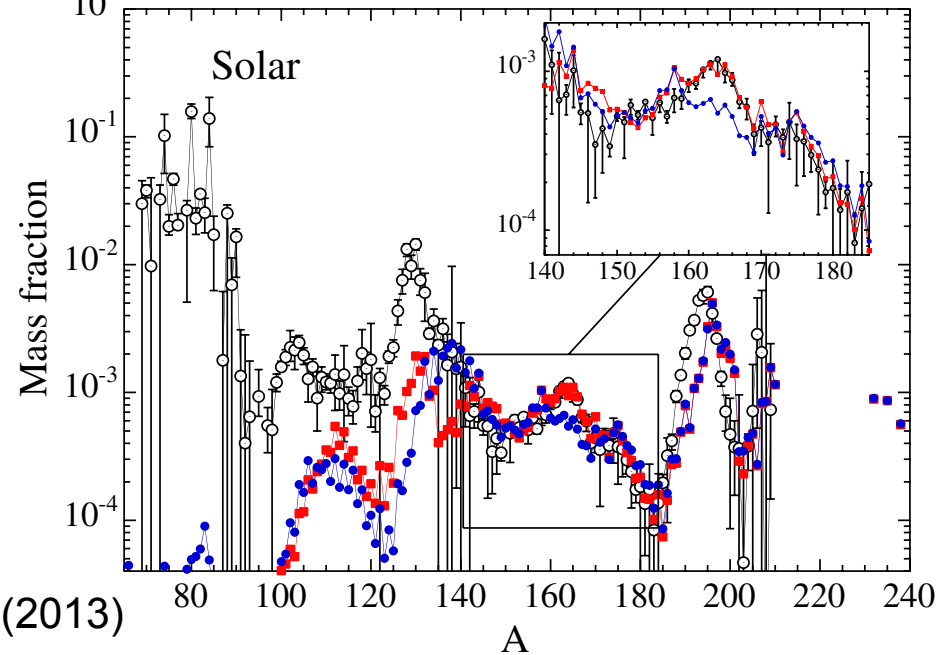
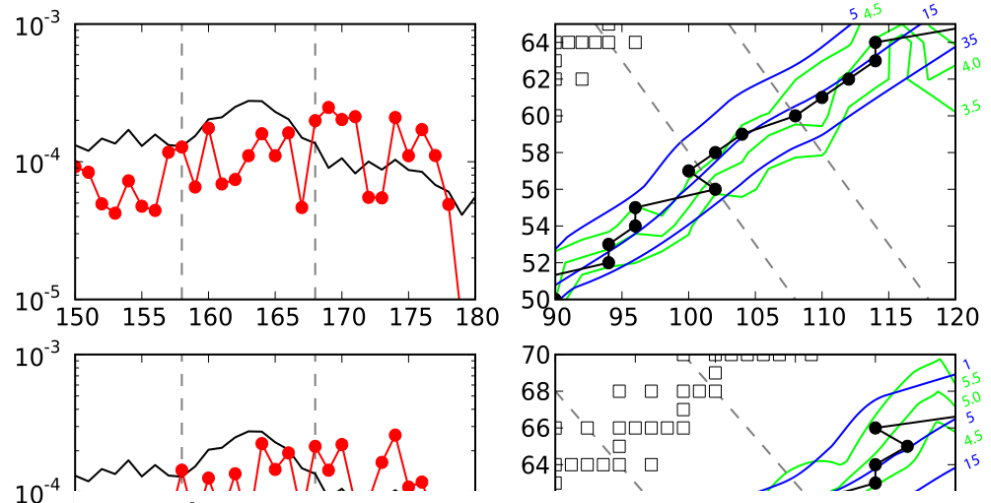


FRDM

- $\beta$  decay contours
- neutron separation energy contours

Mumpower, McLaughlin, and Surman, PRC (2012)

HFB-17



Goriely et al (2013)

# *r*-process sensitivity studies

Choose a baseline simulation

Vary one piece of nuclear data by a set amount, rerun the simulation, and compare the final abundance pattern to the baseline

Repeat for each nucleus in the network

## neutron capture rates

Beun, Blackmon, Hix, McLaughlin, Smith, Surman, J. Phys. G (2008)

Surman, Beun, McLaughlin, Hix, PRC (2009)

Surman, Sinclair, Hix, Jones, Mumpower, McLaughlin, CGS-14 (2011)

Mumpower, McLaughlin, Surman, PRC (2012)

Surman, Mumpower, Sinclair, Jones, Hix, McLaughlin, AIP 'Stardust' (2014)

## masses/neutron separation energies

Brett, Bentley, Paul, Aprahamian, Surman, EPJA (2012)

Surman, Mumpower, Cass, Aprahamian, ICFN5 proceedings (2013)

Aprahamian, Bentley, Mumpower, Surman, AIP 'Stardust' (2014)

## beta decay rates

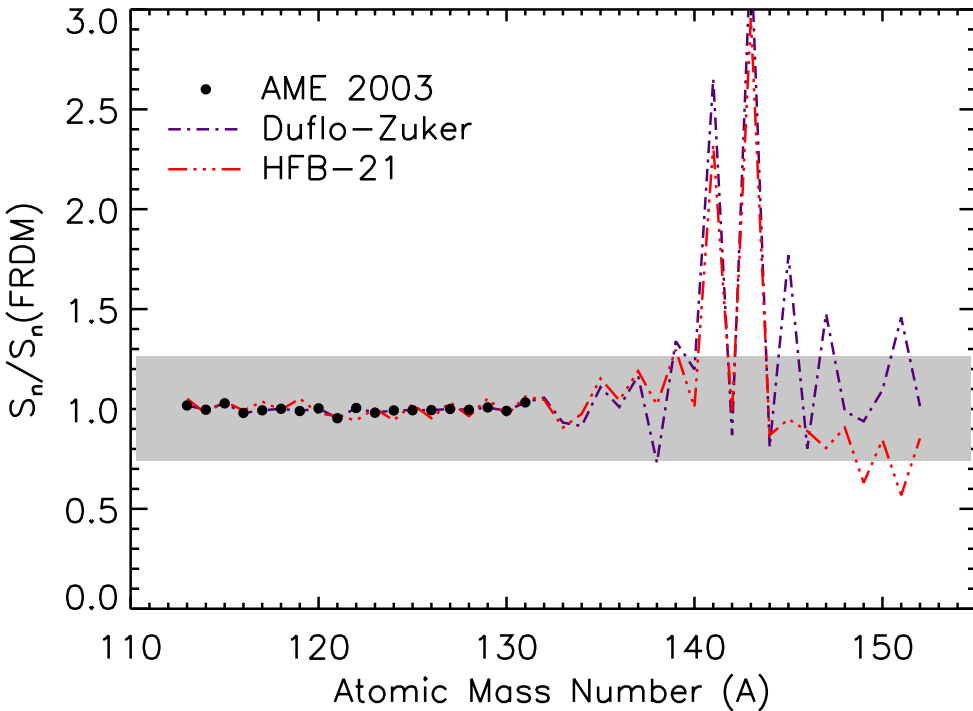
Cass, Passucci, Surman, Aprahamian, NIC proceedings (2012)

Mumpower, Cass, Passucci, Surman, Aprahamian, AIP 'Stardust' (2014)

## masses/capture rates/beta decay rates

Surman, Mumpower, Cass, Bentley, Aprahamian, McLaughlin, INPC proceedings (2013)

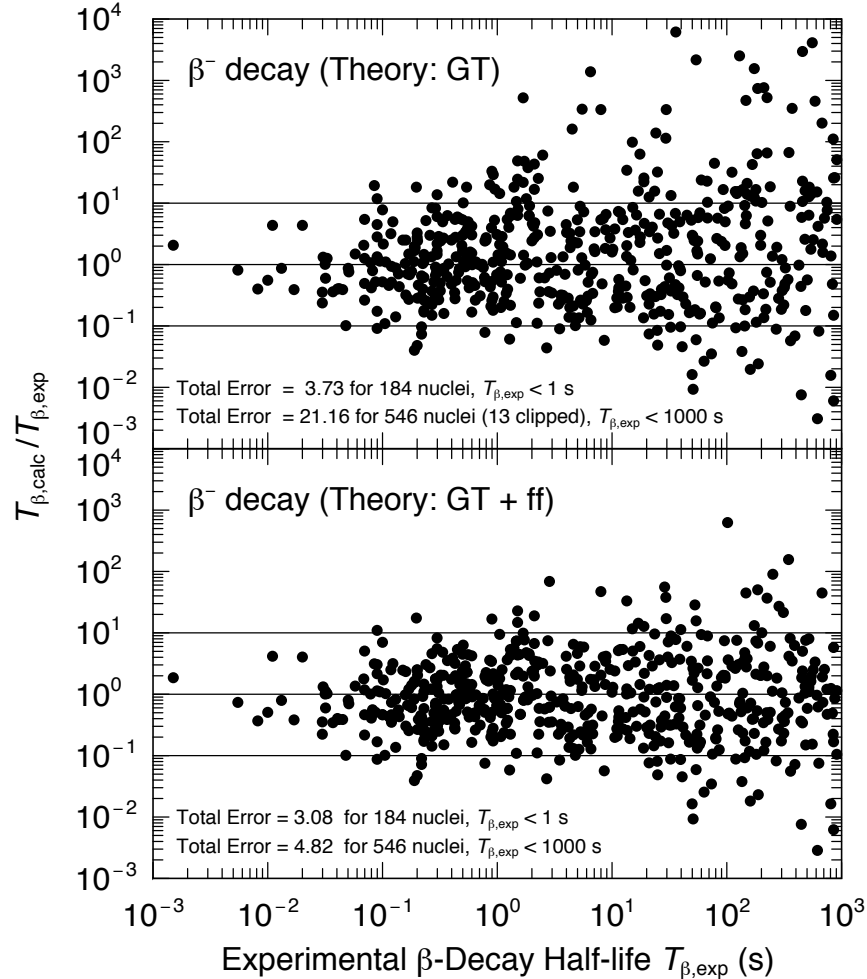
# nuclear data uncertainties far from stability



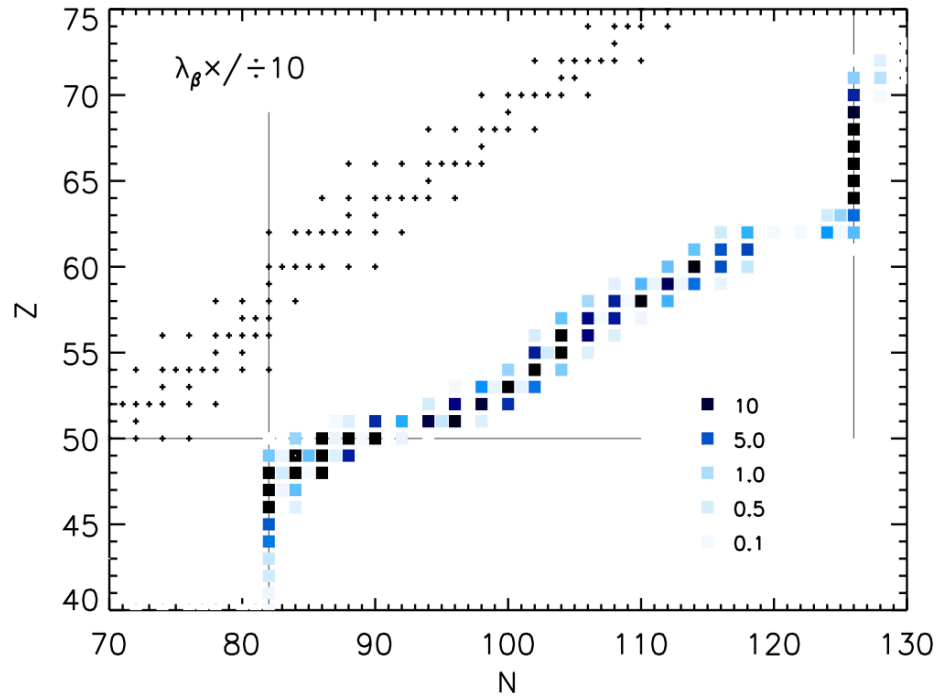
one-neutron separation energies for the tin isotopes, compared to FRDM values

Brett, Bentley, Paul, Aprahamian, Surman, EPJA (2012)

Möller et al (2003)



# $r$ -process sensitivity studies: $\beta$ -decay rates

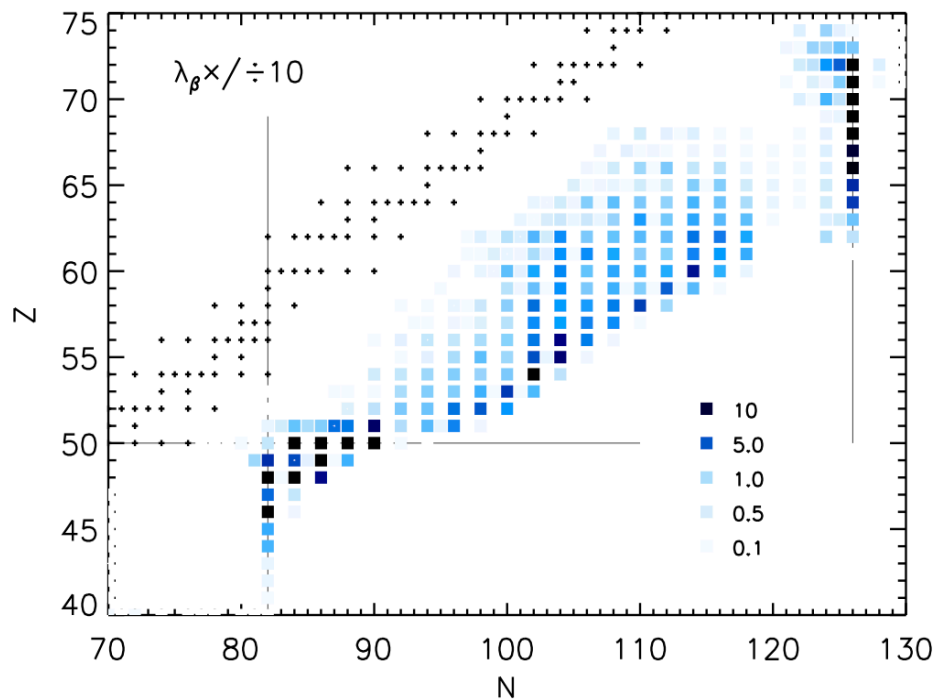


hot wind  $r$  process

parameterized as in Meyer (2002)  
with  $s/k = 100$ ,  $Y_e = 0.25$

$$F = 100 \times \sum_A |X_{baseline}(A) - X(A)|$$

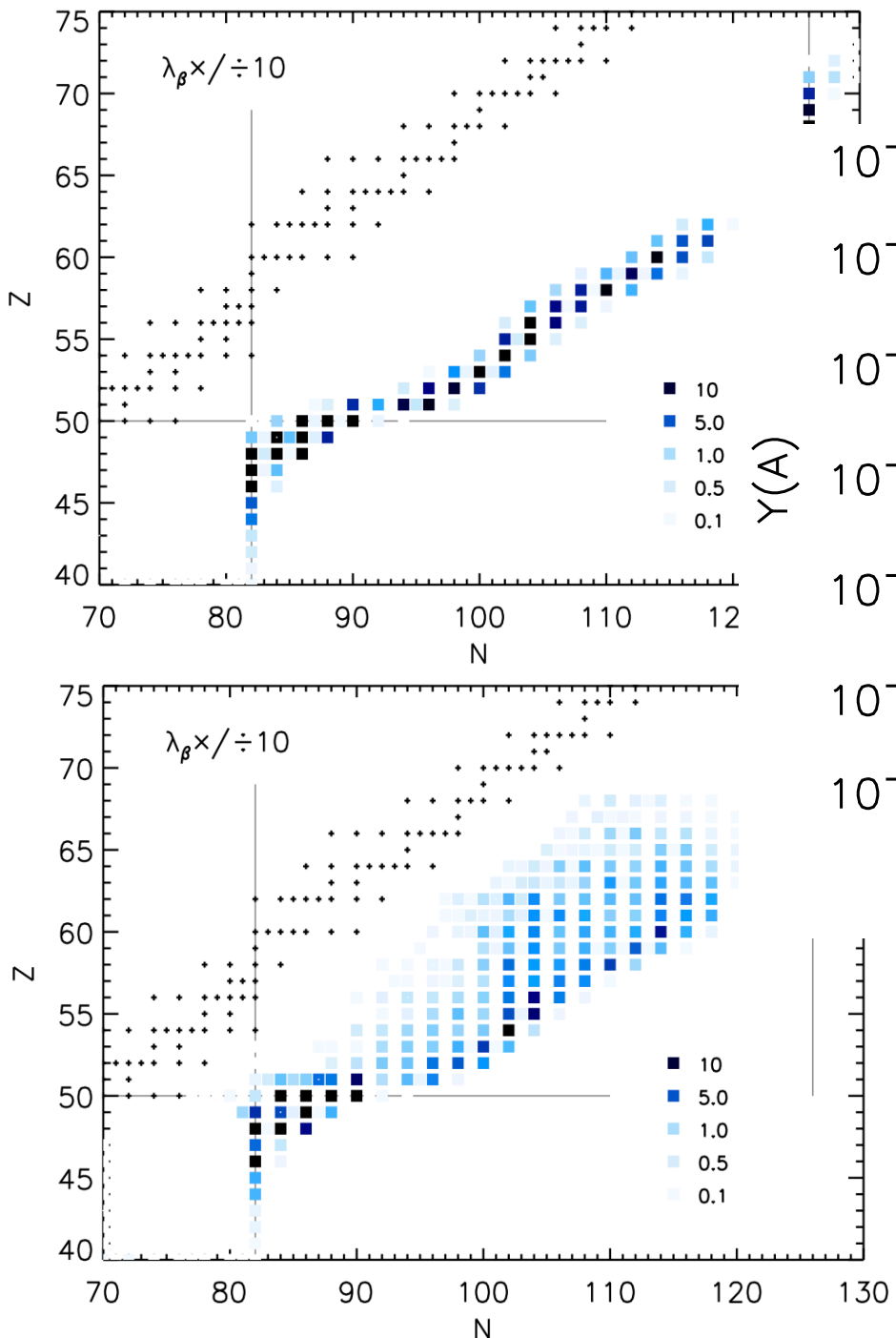
equilibrium phase only



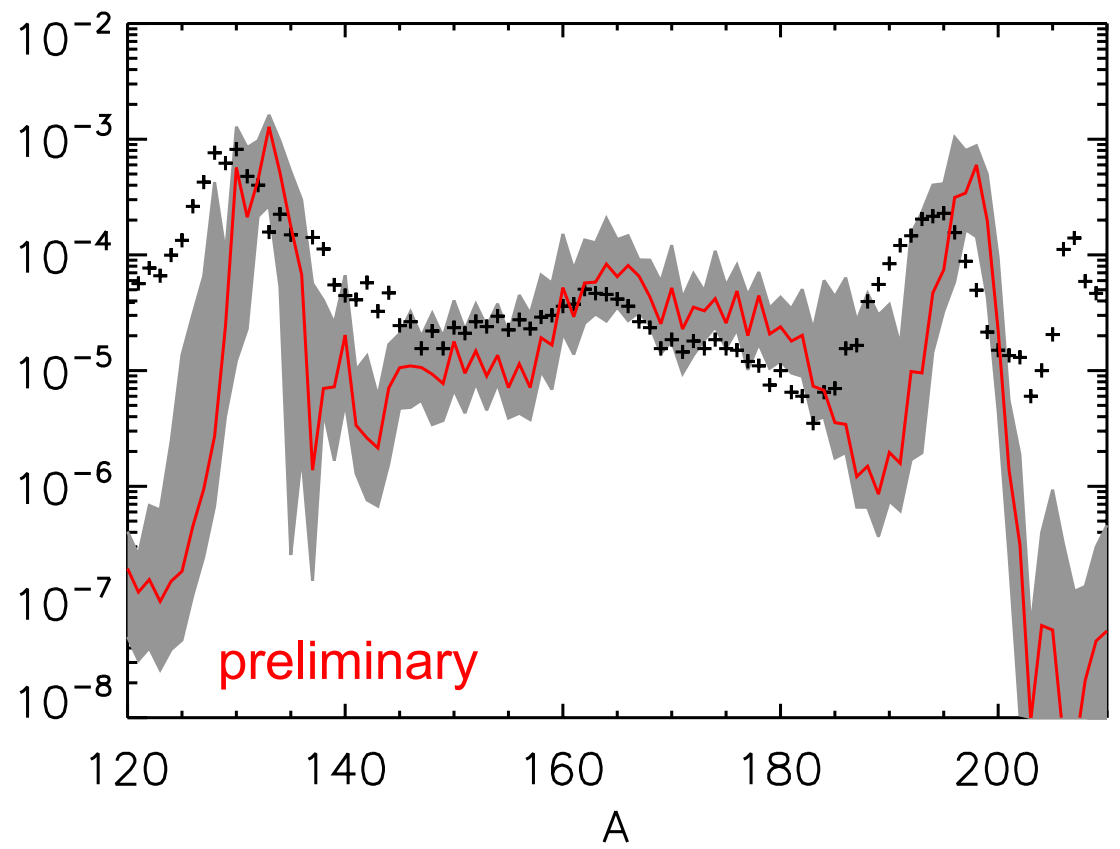
full simulation

Surman et al (2013)

# r-process sensitivity studies: $\beta$ -decay rates



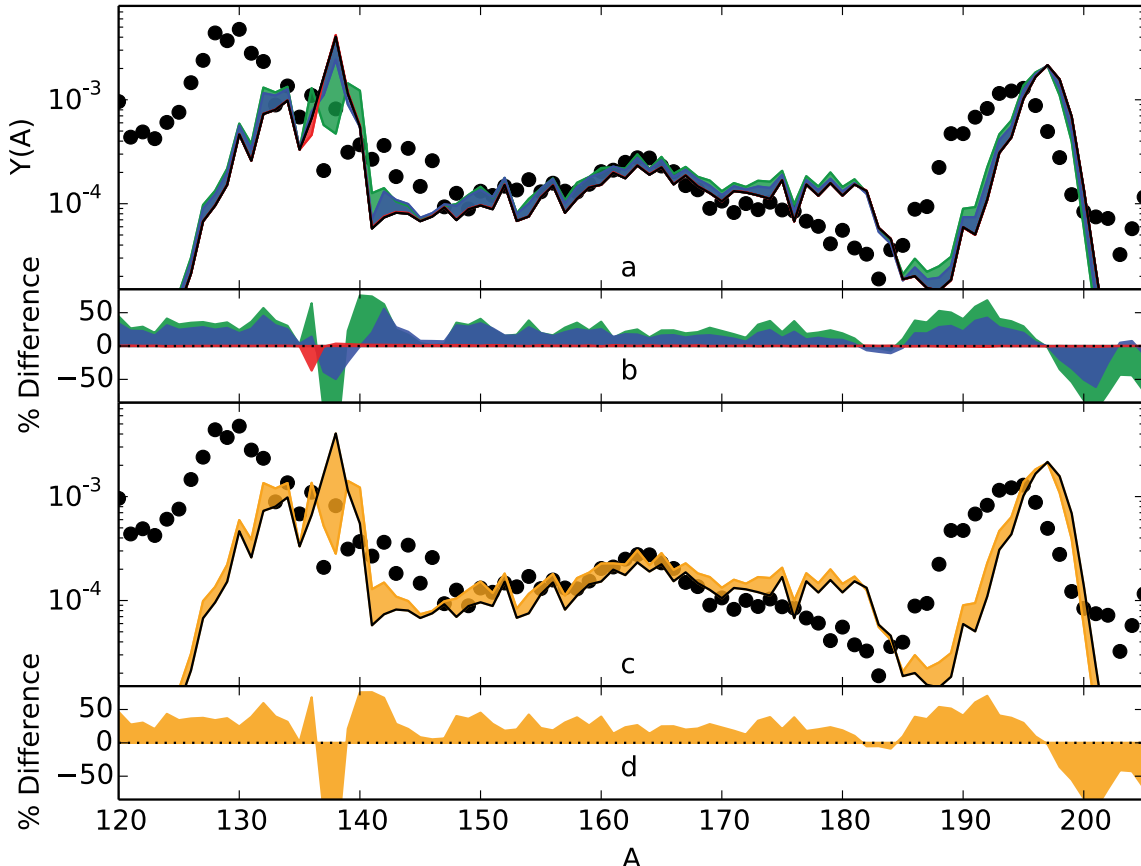
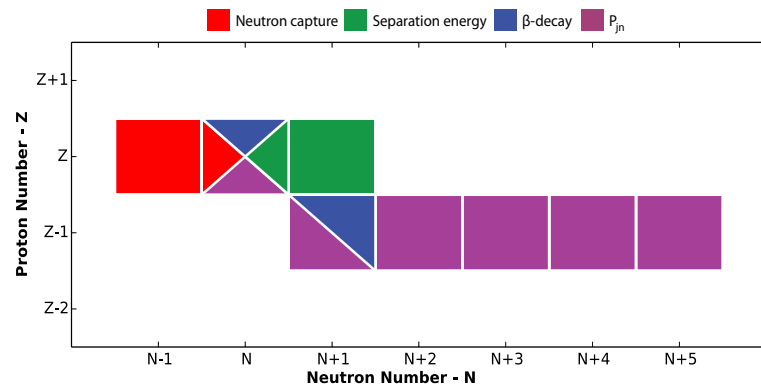
hot wind r process



Surman et al (2013)

# r-process sensitivity studies: nuclear masses

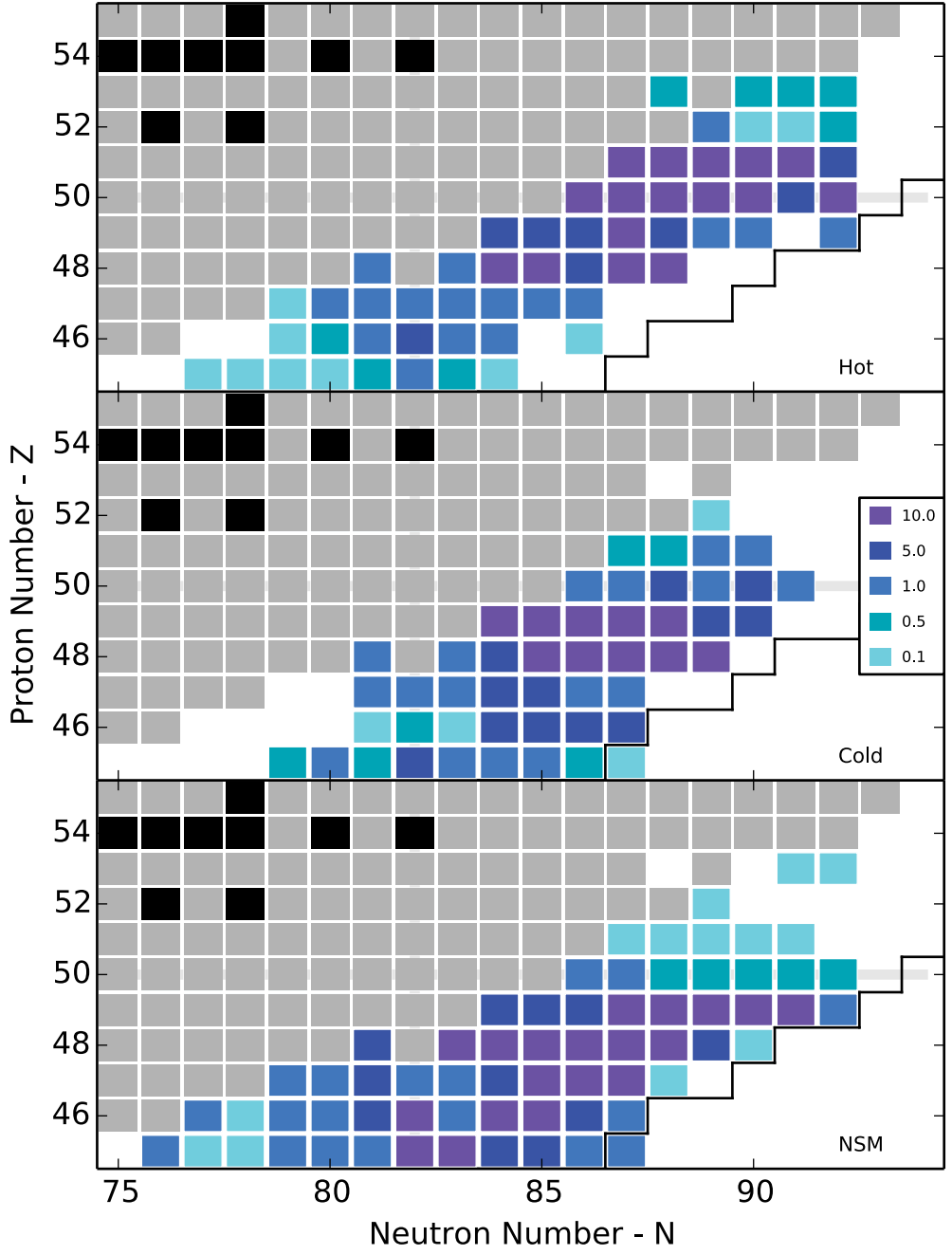
- a change in the mass of nucleus  $(Z, A)$  also modifies:
  - neutron separation energies for  $(Z, A)$  and  $(Z, A+1)$
  - neutron capture rates for  $(Z, A)$  and  $(Z, A-1)$
  - beta decay rates for  $(Z, A)$  and  $(Z-1, A)$
  - beta-delayed neutron emission probabilities for  $(Z-1, A)-(Z-1, A+3)$



Mumpower, Fang,  
 Surman, Beard,  
 Aprahamian, submitted  
 (2014)

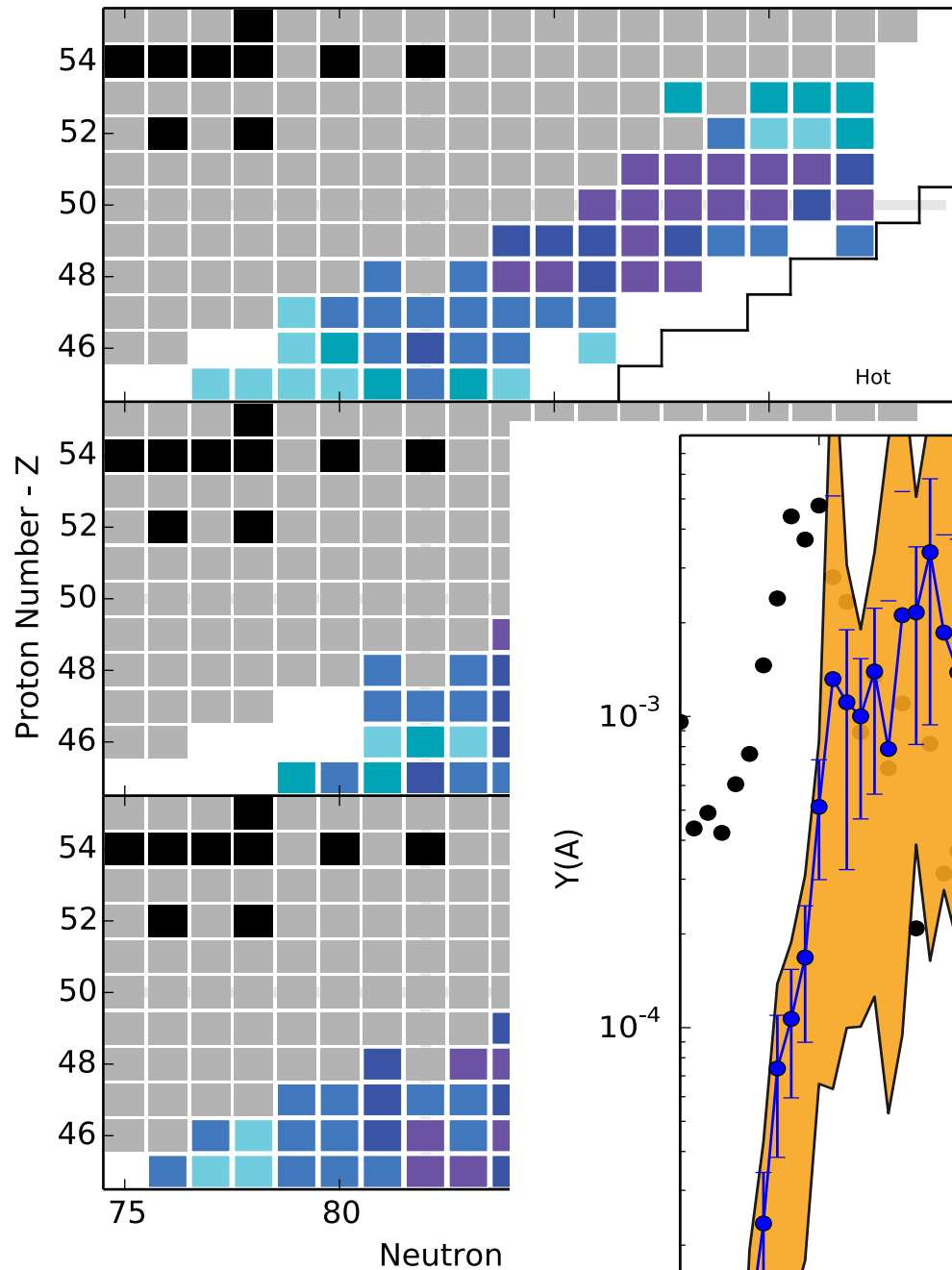


# r-process sensitivity studies: nuclear masses

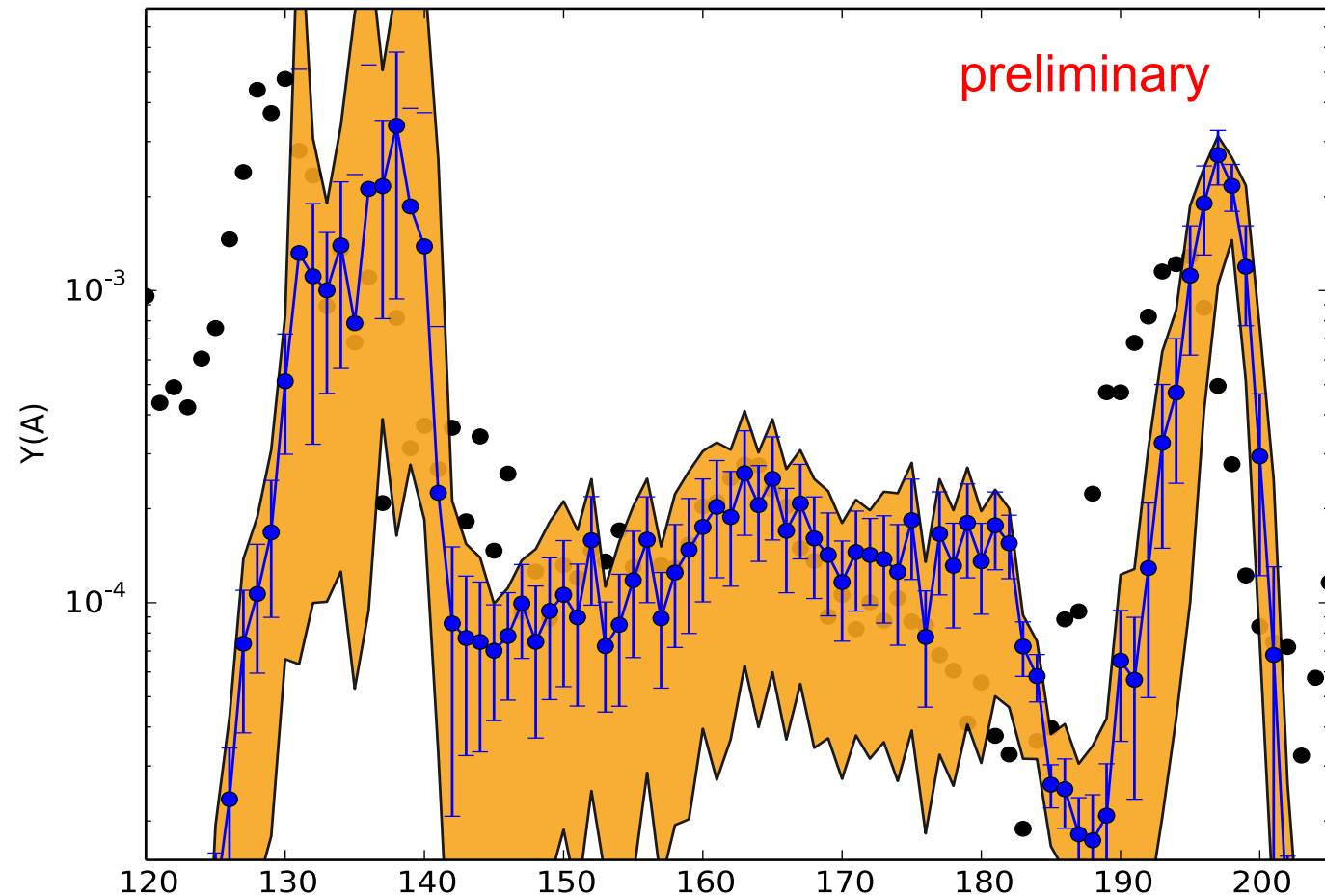


Mumpower, Fang,  
Surman, Beard,  
Aprahamian, in  
preparation

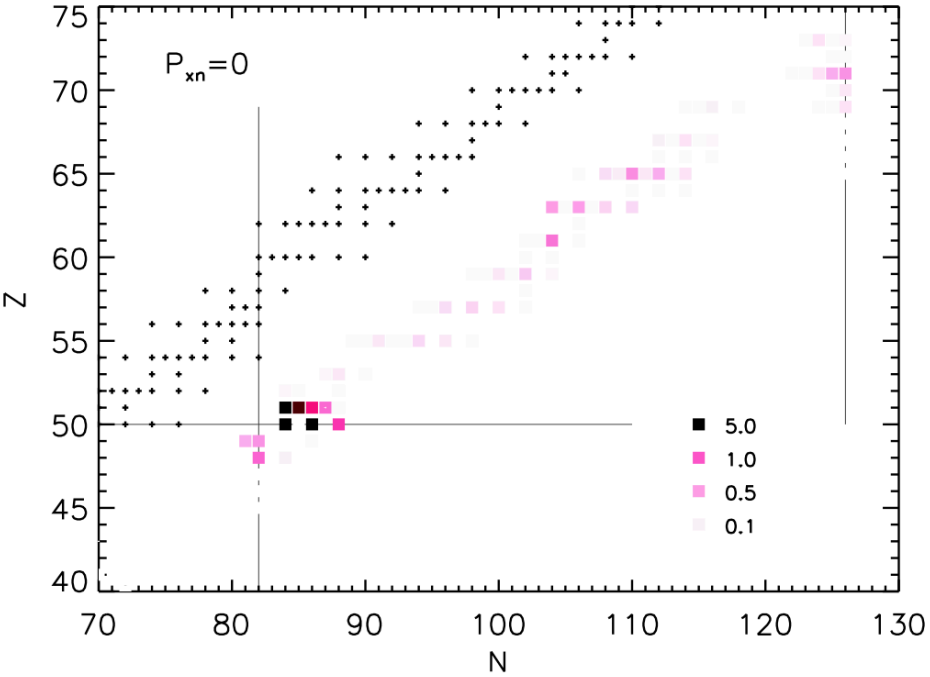
# r-process sensitivity studies: nuclear masses



Mumpower, Fang,  
Surman, Beard,  
Aprahamian, in  
preparation

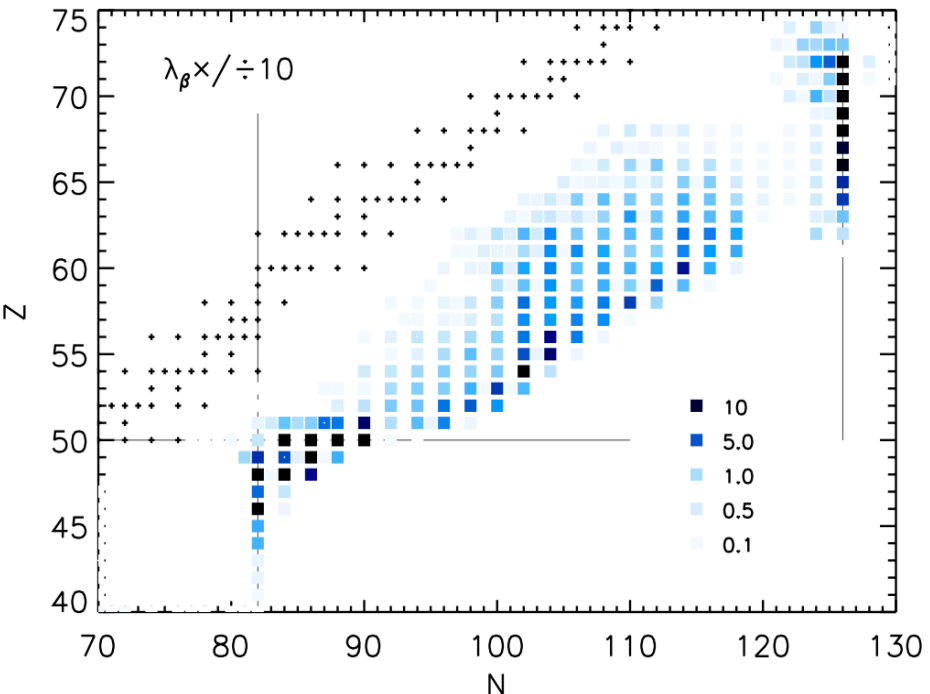


# r-process sensitivity studies: $\beta$ -delayed neutron emission



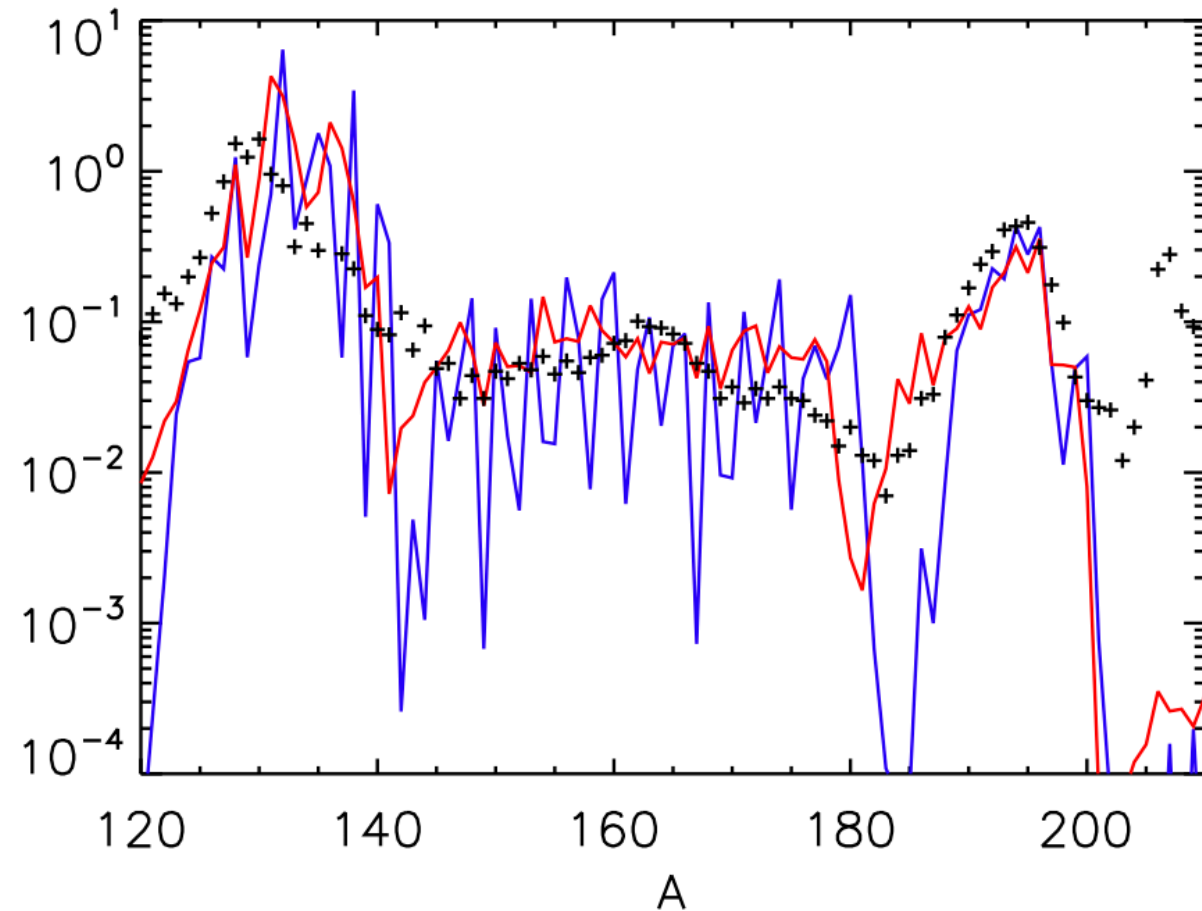
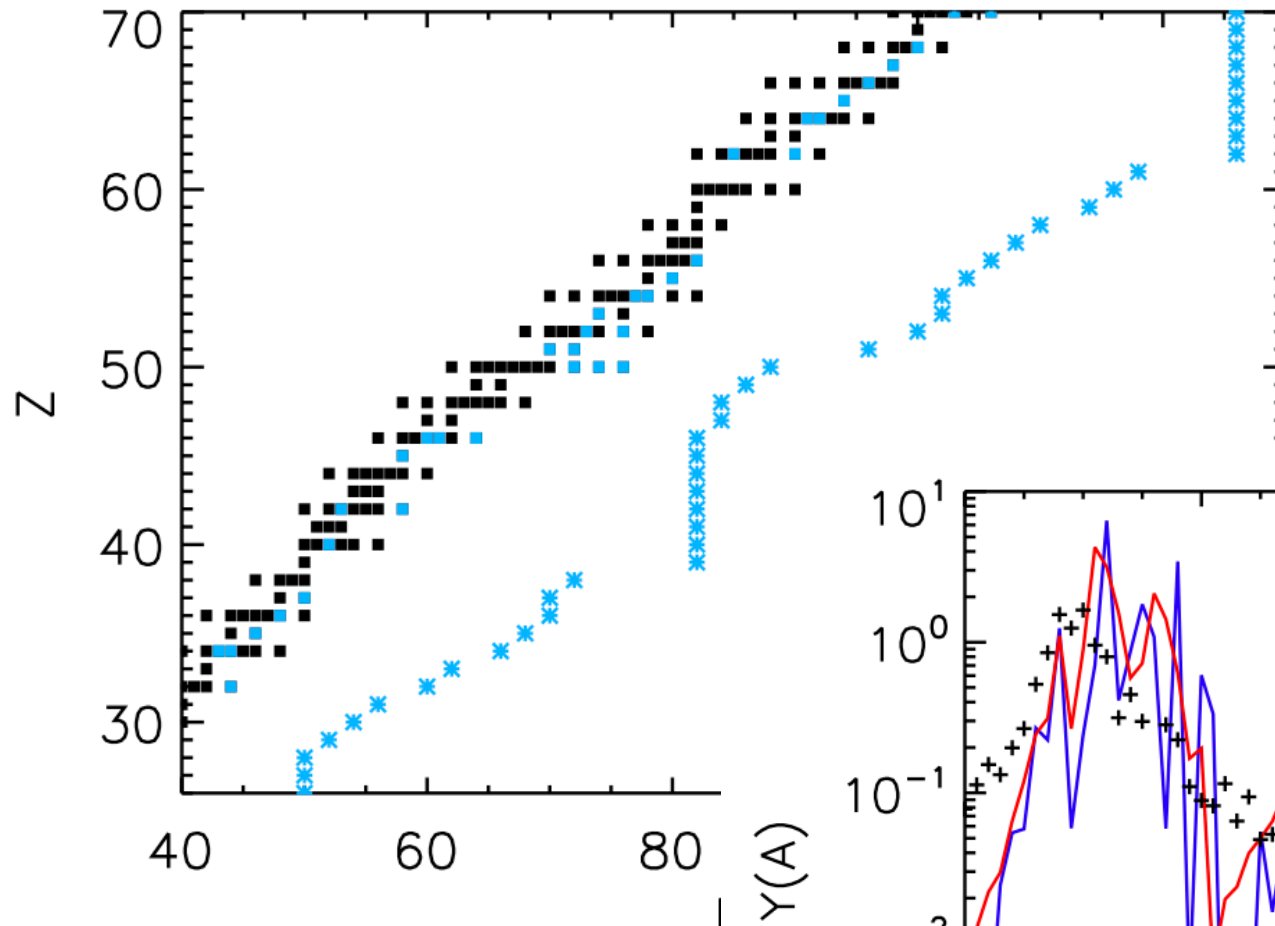
hot wind  $r$  process  
parameterized as in Meyer (2002)  
with  $s/k = 100$ ,  $Y_e = 0.25$

$$F = 100 \times \sum_A |X_{baseline}(A) - X(A)|$$



Surman and Mumpower,  
in preparation

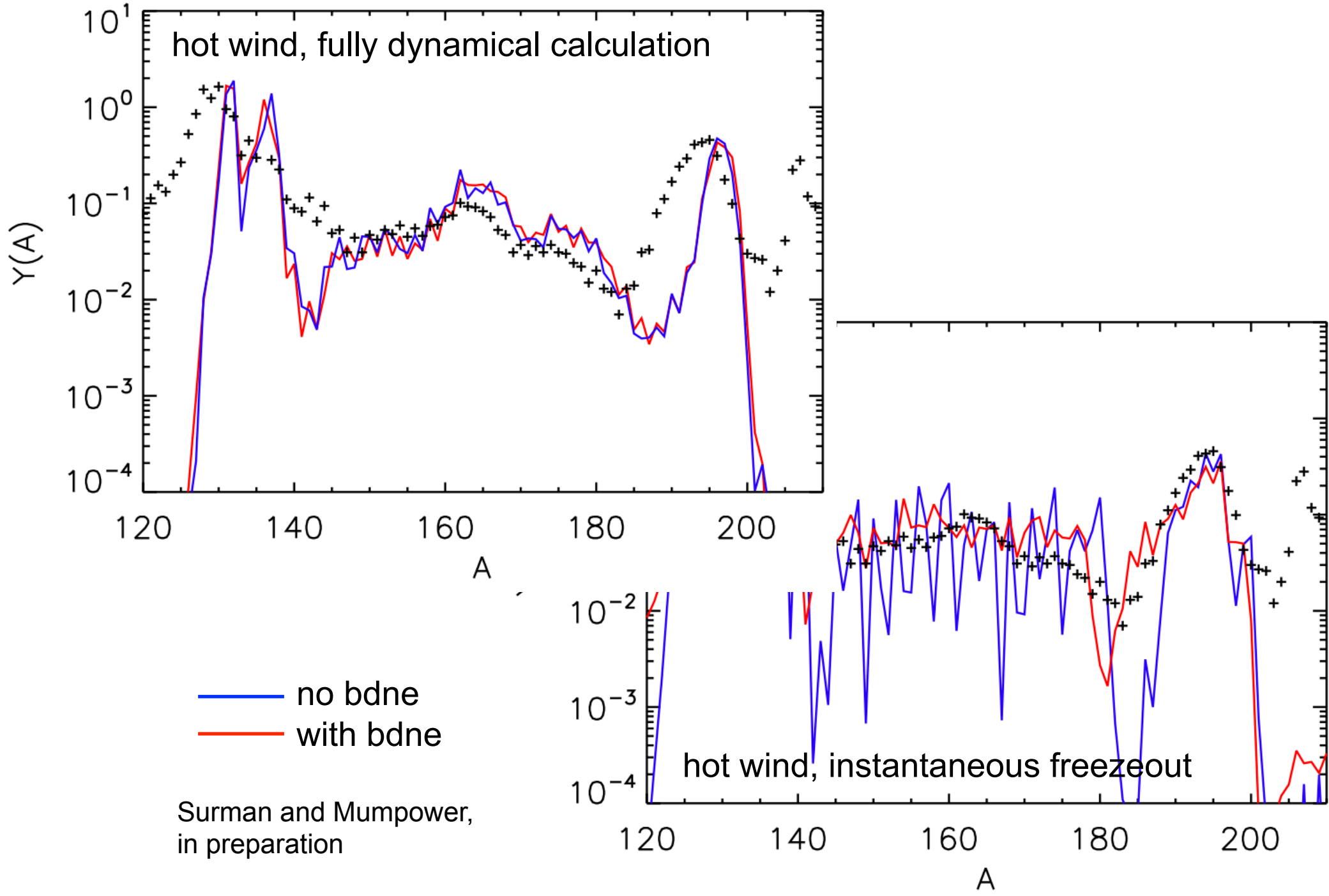
# $\beta$ -delayed neutron emission: instantaneous freezeout



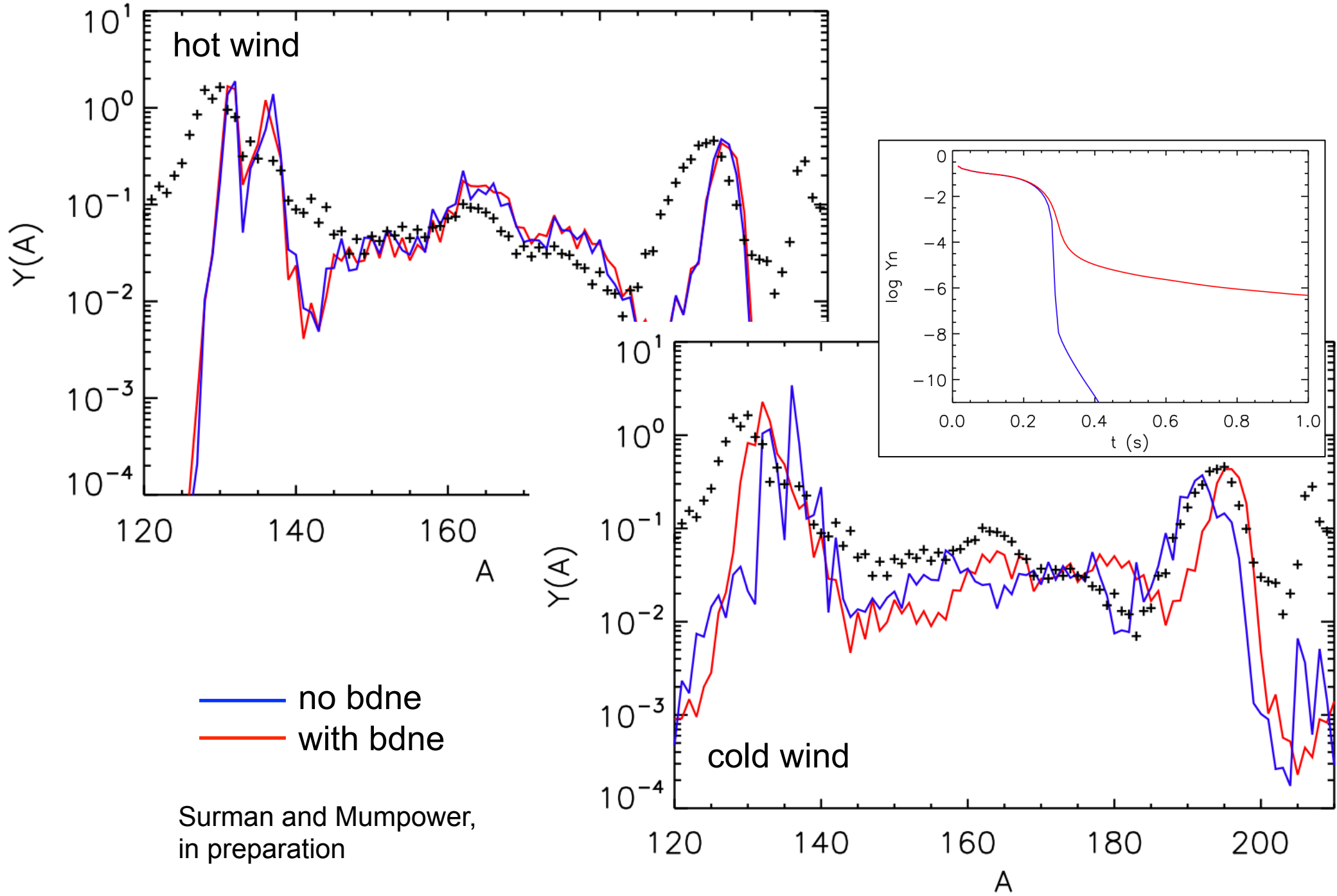
— no bdne  
— with bdne

Surman and Mumpower,  
in preparation

# $\beta$ -delayed neutron emission: dynamical freezeout

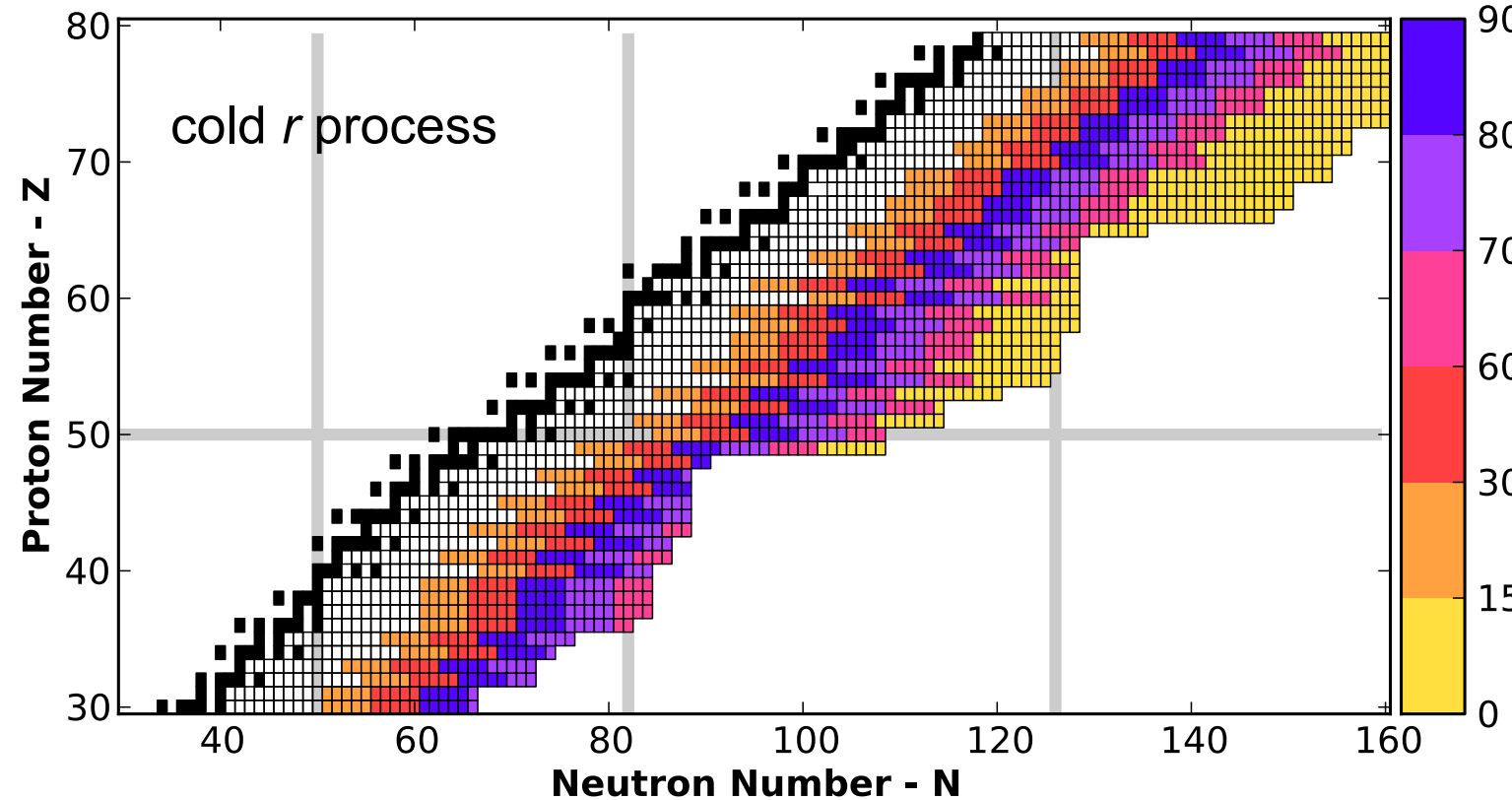
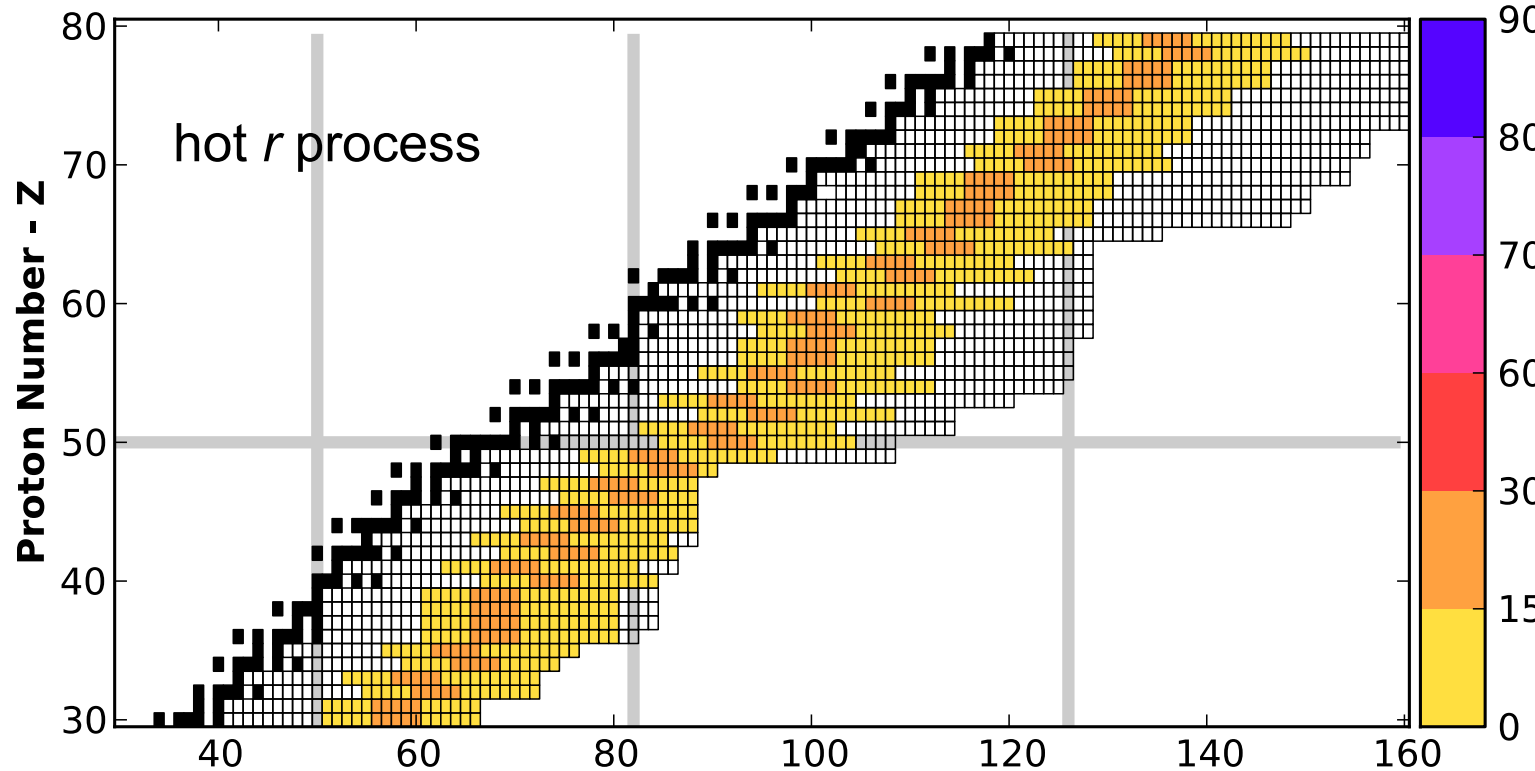


# $\beta$ -delayed neutron emission: dynamical freezeout



# key $P_n$ values

Here BDNE is switched off for ranges of nuclei (0-5, 5-10, 10-15, etc. neutrons from stability)



Surman and Mumpower,  
in preparation

The site of the  $r$  process remains one of the greatest mysteries of nuclear astrophysics

After decades of progress the question is still unanswered: mergers or supernovae? (or both??)

Advances in spectroscopic observations, radioactive beam experiments, and the nuclear theory of neutron-rich nuclei have opened up a new avenue of approach to solving this mystery

Once nuclear physics uncertainties are reduced, we can exploit how the abundance pattern is finalized during freezeout to constrain the  $r$ -process astrophysical conditions