
Observational constraints on nucleosynthesis from AGB and post-AGB stars in our Galaxy and its satellites

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The chemical analysis of the envelopes of AGB and post-AGB stars provide a valuable tool to study the late phases of the evolution of low and intermediate mass stars. Depending on stellar mass and metallicity the resulting abundance patterns exhibit characteristic features, which provide information on the nucleosynthesis processes occurring in the interior of these stars, and on their role in the chemical evolution of galaxies. Recent progress in abundance determinations of a number of elements (e.g. Li, CNO isotopes, F, and s-elements) in AGB, post-AGB stars belonging to our Galaxy and the Local Group is reviewed. The constraints that these observations put to stellar and nucleosynthesis models are also briefly discussed.