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Forbidden transitions in nuclear weak processes relevant to neutrino detection, nucleosynthesis and evolution of stars

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Important roles of Gamow-Teller transitions have been studied for electron-capture and β -decay processes at stellar environments [1, 2] as well as ν -nucleus reactions [3]. Importance of first-forbidden transitions in β -decay rates of N=126 isotones have been shown, and the short half-lives obtained were used to study r-process nucleosynthesis in core-collapse supernova explosions (SNe) and binary neutron-star mergers [4]. Here, we focus more on the roles of forbidden transitions in nuclear weak processes. ν -induced reactions on ¹⁶O, where spin-dipole transitions are dominant, are studied with new shell-model Hamiltonians [5] and SN ν detection and ν mass hierarchy dependence of the cross sections [6] as well as nucleosynthesis of light elements such as ¹¹B and ¹¹C in SNe [5] are discussed.

Next, we study e-capture processes on 20 Ne which become important in late stage of the evolution of O-Ne-Mg cores in stars. The transition to the ground state in 20 F (2⁺) is a second-forbidden transition and is important in certain ranges of densities and temperatures [7]. Electron-capture rates for the transition are evaluated with the multipole expansion method, and compared with a simple evaluation using a constant parametrized strength obtained from the beta-decay experiment [8]. Energy dependence of the second-forbidden transition strength is found to lead to a significant difference in the capture rates from the simple parametrized method.

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Primary author: Prof. SUZUKI, Toshio (Nihon University)

Co-authors: Prof. CHIBA, Satoshi (Tokyo Institute of Technology); Dr YOSHIDA, Takashi (Department of Astronomy, the University of Tokyo); Dr TAKAHAHSI, Koh (Universitat Bonn); Prof. UMEDA, Hideyuki (Department of Astronomy, the University of Tokyo); Prof. NAKAZATO, Ken'ichiro (Kyushu University); Prof. SAKUDA, Makoto (Okayama University); Prof. NOMOTO, Ken'ichi (WPI, the University of Tokyo)

Presenter: Prof. SUZUKI, Toshio (Nihon University)

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