

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI TRIESTE



Osservatorio Astronomico di Trieste Astronomical Observatory of Trieste



Neutron capture processes in the Early Galaxy

Gabriele Cescutti in collaboration with Federico Rizzuti & Lorenzo Cavallo



The oldest stars in our Galaxy formed from the gas ejected by few stellar generations:

The oldest stars in our Galaxy formed from the gas ejected by few stellar generations:

Massive Stars – short lifetimes

Core collapse Supernova

First polluters in the Universe

The oldest stars in our Galaxy formed from the gas ejected by few stellar generations:

Massive Stars – short lifetimes

Core collapse Supernova

First polluters in the Universe

The oldest stars in our Galaxy formed from the gas ejected by few stellar generations:

Massive Stars – short lifetimes

Low mass stars — long lifetimes

Core collapse Supernova

First polluters in the Universe



Imprints of the first stars

Chemical abundances in stars

VLT ESO, Paranal, Chile

High resolution spectra of stars

Abundances of chemical elements



alpha-elements

Neutron capture elements

Bonifacio+12





ratio ~ constant Mg/Fe All the SNe II

Large dispersion-> rare events





Sneden+08

Electron Capture SNe (Wanajo+11)

Cescutti+13

Neutron star mergers (Rosswog+13)

(Cescutti+15, Matteucci+14,...)

Magnetorotat. driven SNe (Winteler+12)



Cescutti+14

Neutrino winds SNe (Arcones+07,Wanajo 13)

other possible sites?

r-process



Neutron stars mergers

(GR considered, nucleosynthesis computed for the dynamical ejecta)

Wanajo+14

Bovard+17



After GW170817...



Credit: LIGO/Virgo/NASA/Leo Singer



After GW170817...



Credit: LIGO/Virgo/NASA/Leo Singer





After GW170817...

Aug 26, 2017

Aug 22, 2017

Aug 28, 2017



Credit: LIGO/Virgo/NASA/Leo Singer



Caserta, GIANTS XI 20 Ottobre 2022

After GW170817...







Wavelength (Å)

Neutron stars mergers

Progenitors are rare: only few percent of the massive stars are formed in binary system which can produce a NS merger.

This percentage is not constrained at all the metallicities, the rate can be constrained only at the present time.

A key feature of NS merger is the delay between the formation of the binary system of neutron stars and the merging event. We investigate delay of 1, 10 and 100Myr. Neutron star mergers (Rosswog+13)

Stochastic chemical evolution models

Problem: Neutron capture elements present a spread alpha elements do not





Bonifacio+12

Stochastic chemical evolution models



[Ti/Fe]

[Ca/Fe]

[Si/Fe]

[Mg/Fe]

Problem: Neutron capture elements present a spread alpha elements do not



Solution:

The volumes in which the ISM is well mixed are discrete. Assuming a SNe bubble as typical volume with a low regime of star formation the IMF is not fully sampled. This promotes spread among different volumes if nucleosynthesis of the element is is different among different SNe,

-3.5

[Fe/H]

-3.0

-2.5

Stochastic chemical evolution models



-2.5

 $\log N_{stars}$

-5

-2.5

Solution:

The volumes in which the ISM is well mixed are discrete. Assuming a SNe bubble as typical volume with a low regime of star formation the IMF is not fully sampled. This promotes spread among different volumes if nucleosynthesis of the element is is different among different SNe,



Neutron stars mergers

delay for the merging 1Myr

Cescutti, Romano, Matteucci, Chiappini and Hirschi 2015



Results with alpha=0.04 (NSM/SNe)

What about the impact of increasing the delay for the merging?

Neutron star mergers

delay for the merging 100 Myr

Cescutti+15



mergers enriches in timescale <10Myr, the scenario can be supported.

What about a distribution of delays?



This is not a new result, it has been shown by Argast+ 2004, Matteucci+2014, Komiya+2014... just an exception the astro-ph Shen+2014

Stochastic model with a delay time distribution: t^{-1.5}





NSM with alpha variations a delay time distribution: t^{-1.5}



similar to Simonetti+19



Cavallo+21

Reticulum II: the final answer?



Ji+16

Caserta, GIANTS XI 20 Ottobre 2022

Rare

R

Enrichment of satellites by NSM: Problematic?



Bonetti+19

Applied to the Galactic halo



Cavallo+22

Other solutions?

Magneto Rotationally Driven SN scenario (MRD)

(Winteler+12, Nishimura+15) SEE ALSO COLLAPSAR (Siegel+20)

The progenitors of MRD SNe are believed to be rare and possibly connected to long GRBs. Only a small percentage of the massive stars (~1–5%)

Our results use an higher value (10%), but this percentage is not well constrained, in particular for the early Universe.

Therefore in the stochastic model not all the massive stars produce neutron capture elements.



Magneto Rotationally Driven SN scenario (MRD) 10%

Cescutti+14

In the best model shown here the amount of r-process in each event is about 2 times the one assumed in NSM scenario

The assumed percentage of events in massive stars is higher than expected (at least at the solar metallicity), but it is reasonable to increase toward the metal poor regime (Woosley and Heger 2006)



What about other neutron capture elements?

Neutron capture elements





Puzzling result for the "heavy to light" n.c. element ratio

For Sr yields: scaled Ba yields according to the r-process signature of the solar system (Sneden et al '08)







Puzzling result for the "heavy to light" n.c. element ratio

For Sr yields: scaled Ba yields according to the r-process signature of the solar system (Sneden et al '08)



It is impossible to reproduce the data, assuming only the r-process component, enriching at low metallicity. (see Sneden+ 03, François+07, Montes+07)

Puzzling result for the "heavy to light" n.c. element ratio

For Sr yields: scaled Ba yields according to the r-process signature of the solar system (Sneden et al '08)

It is impossible to reproduce the data, assuming only the r-process component, enriching at low metallicity. (see Sneden+ 03, François+07, Montes+07)

Hansen+12

Hansen+16

Cescutti+16 ★

Another ingredient (process) is needed to explain the neutron capture elements in the Early Universe!

[Fe/H]

-2

-1

Caserta, GIANTS XI 20 Ottobre 2022

-5

-4

Low metallicity and rotating massive stars

Frischknecht et al. 2012, 2016 (self-consistent models with reaction network including 613 isotopes up to Bi)

Low metallicity and rotating massive stars

Frischknecht et al. 2012, 2016 (self-consistent models with reaction network including 613 isotopes up to Bi)

Ba

Rotating massive stars can contribute to s-process elements!

Sr

Low metallicity and rotating massive stars

Frischknecht et al. 2012, 2016 (self-consistent models with reaction network including 613 isotopes up to Bi)

Ba

Rotating massive stars can contribute to s-process elements!

Sr

Can they explain the puzzles for Sr and Ba in halo?

Neutron capture elements

s-process from rotating massive stars

+ an r-process site (the 2 productions are not coupled!)

Cescutti et al. (2013) Cescutti & Chiappini (2014)

s-process from rotating massive stars

+ an r-process site (the 2 productions are not coupled!)

Cescutti et al. (2013) Cescutti & Chiappini (2014)

s-process from rotating massive stars

+ an r-process site (the 2 productions are not coupled!)

Cescutti et al. (2013) Cescutti & Chiappini (2014)

A s-process (from rotating massive stars) and an r-process (from rare events) can reproduce the neutron capture elements in the Early Universe

Results with an Sph simulation of the Galactic halo

Scannapieco, Cescutti & Chiappini (2022)

Confirmed in Rizzuti et al. (2019) adopting Limongi&Chieffi18

see also Prantzos et al. 2018

Rizzuti et al. (2021) adopting Limongi&Chieffi18

Rizzuti et al. (2021) adopting Limongi&Chieffi18

Conclusions

The neutron capture elements in the Galactic halo have been produced by (at least) 2 different processes:

A (main) r-process, rare and able to produce all the elements up to Th with a pattern as the one observed in r-process rich stars.

NSM are certainly the best candidate to play this role if they have a very short time scale, or if their frequency was higher at extremely low metallicity. Other sources like MRD SNe or Collapsar can also play this role.

Another process more frequent and that can produce both Sr and Ba (and [Sr/Ba]>0) with a production that is compatible with the s-process by rotating massive stars. We can use this to constrain the velocity distribution of the massive stars.

CAVEAT The only possible answer?

Another possible solution is the production of + a weak r-process (not able to produce all the elements up to thorium) + a main r-process

Wanajo 2013, r-process production in proto neutron star wind

Isotopic ratio for Ba

Cescutti and Chiappini (2014)

2 stars with a R~100'000 & $S/N \sim 500$ with UVES at VLT

"normal" value high R ~ 30'000 high S/N ~ 80-100

Caserta, GIANTS XI 20 Ottobre 2022

The rotating massive stars

scenario naturally predicts different Ba isotopic ratios

This prediction can be used to test our scenario.

to check these predictions

in halo stars.

Challenging

See results

on HD 140283

from Magain (1995)

to Gallagher+(2015)

Synthesis of barium lines with hyperfine splitting effects

Cescutti +21

Conclusions

Our inspection of the barium lines has found that the profiles of the lines (suffering hfs) are different in the 2 stars.

The most likely explanation is that:

HD 6268 has been polluted by an r-process source & HD 4306 by and s-process source,

validating Cescutti&Chiappini14 results

HR and high S/N still provide fundamental information to Galactic Archaeology, fully complementary to the amazing results coming from present and future Multiobjects spectrographs.