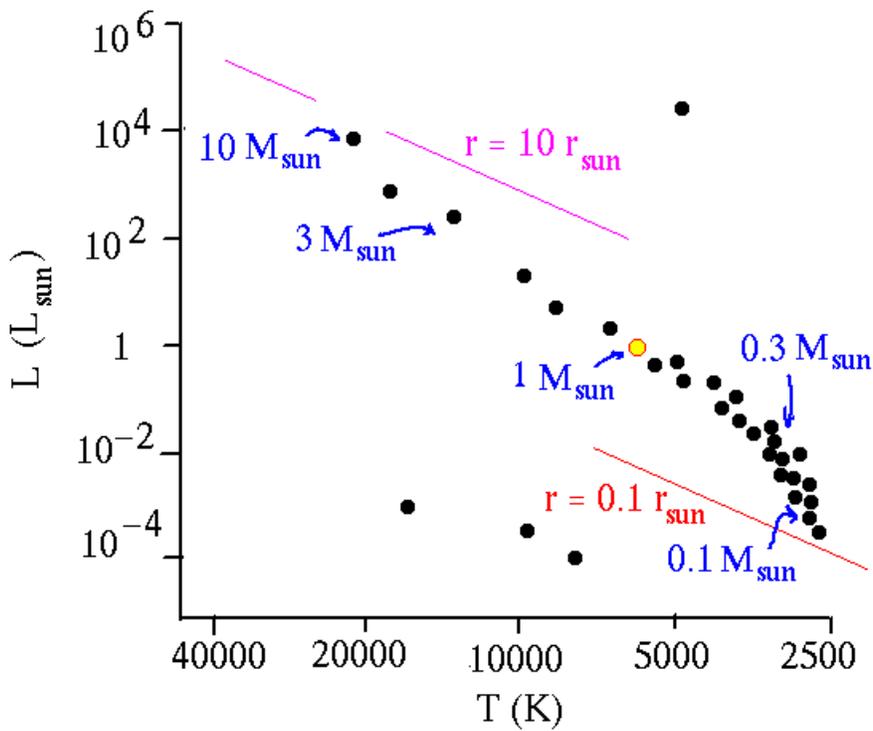
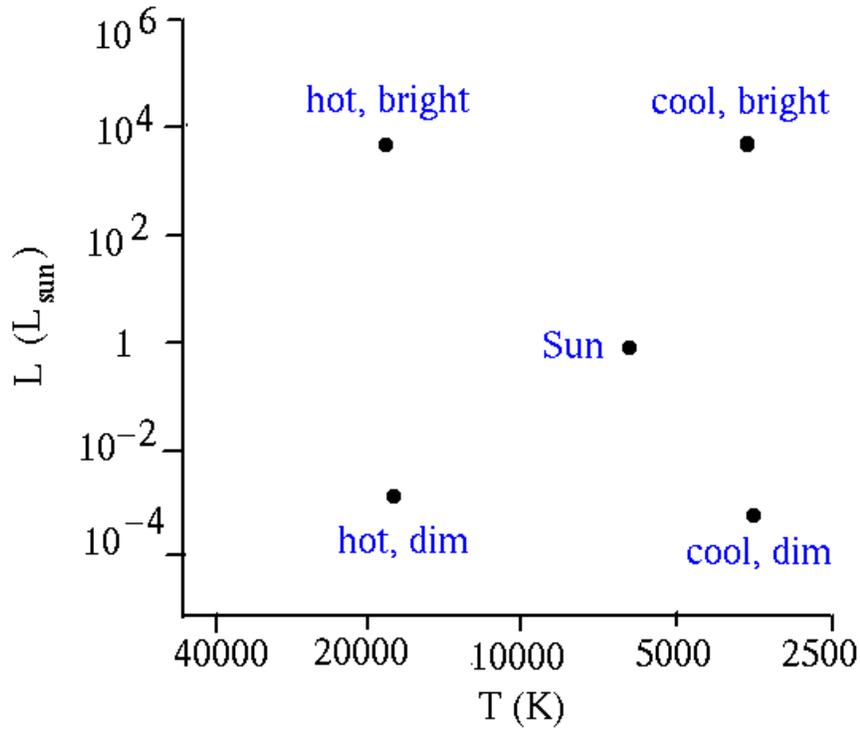
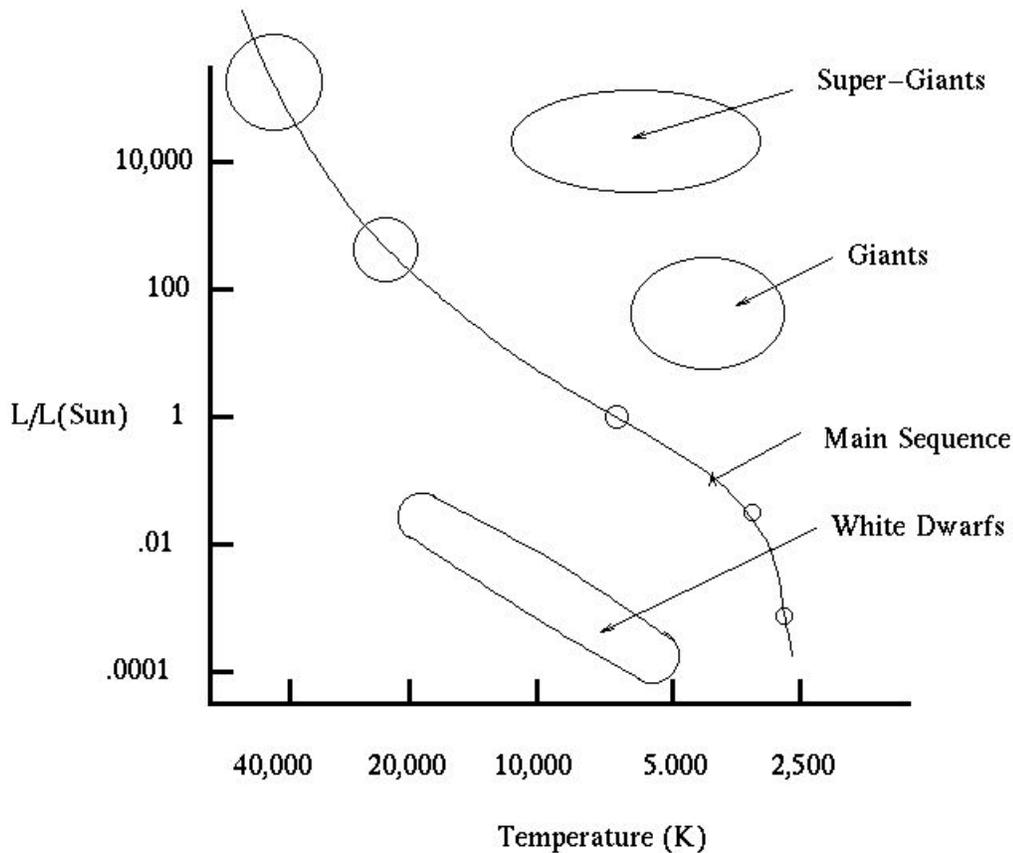


# Lecture 23: Origin of the Elements 2

## Hertzsprung Russell Diagram





## Temperature, size and luminosity

We know that for objects that are approximately blackbodies

- Hotter things are brighter.
  - Energy radiated per unit time per unit area is proportional to  $T^4$ ,
  - so bigger T means more energy radiated
- Bigger things are brighter.
  - so bigger surface area means more energy radiated.

Putting this together, we have

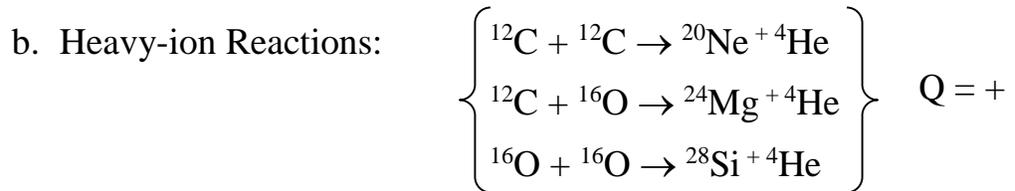
$$L = 4 \pi r^2 \sigma T^4$$

[Taken from <http://zebu.uoregon.edu/~soper/Stars/hrdiagram.html>]

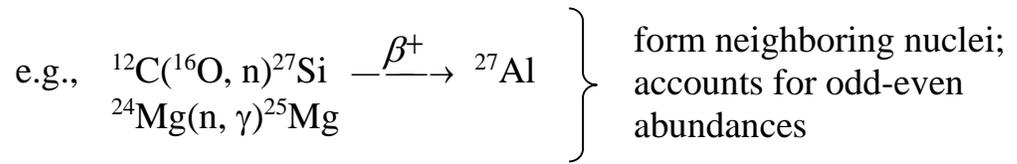
## C. Explosive Nucleosynthesis – Nova Explosions – Massive Stars

### 1. Carbon and Oxygen Burning: C/O core

a. Conditions  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rho \sim 5 \times 10^5 \text{ g/cm}^3 \\ T \sim 5 \times 10^8 \text{ K} \end{array} \right\}$



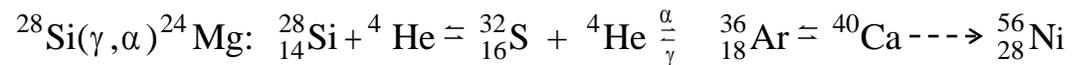
c. Reaction Rates now rapid – all strong, two-body interactions. Nuclide mixture becomes richer ; secondary reactions from odd-Z nuclei – less probable since must be made from even-Z nuclei.



### 2. Silicon Burning: e-process [e for equilibrium]

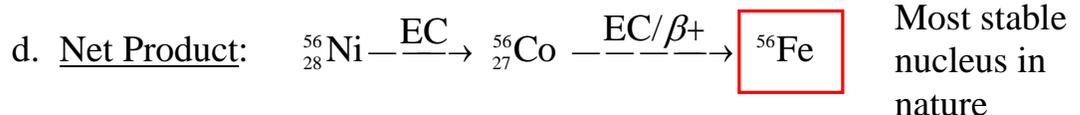
a. Conditions:  $\rho \sim 10^6 \text{ g/cm}^3$   
 $T \sim 5 \times 10^9 \text{ K}$

b. Reactions:  $(\alpha, \gamma)$  and  $(\gamma, \alpha)$  in "equilibrium" (i.e.,  $4n$  nuclei)



All reactions exothermic:  $Q = +$

c. Reactions are in "equilibrium", but material is processed towards  ${}_{28}^{56}\text{Ni}$



e. Schematic Diagram of Burning Envelopes

f. Beyond  $^{56}\text{Fe}$

- (1) Q-values less/not favorable
- (2) Coulomb Barriers increase

g. RESULT

Gravity overcomes thermal pressure; leads to destabilization of core  $\Rightarrow$  **IMPLOSION** – gravitational collapse.

**D. Supernova Explosions: r-process [r = rapid]**

1. Core Conditions =  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \rho \sim 10^8 \text{ g/cm}^3 \\ T \sim 6 \times 10^{10} \text{ K} \end{array} \right\}$

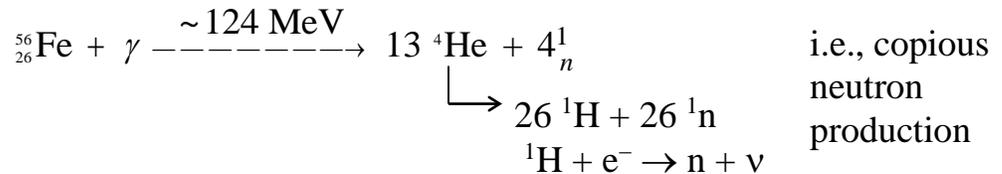
2. Collapse Time: 10-1000 seconds

3. Rebound: **EXPLOSION** (compression/decompression cycle)  
i.e., sudden heating from compression triggers shock wave in stars  
1987a ; Crab Nebula (1054 AD)

4. Nuclear Reactions – Two Zones

a. Core (highest temperature)

(1) Heat bath dissolves nuclei



(2) Implosion may lead to neutron star formation

i.e., a nuclear gas  $\rightarrow$  liquid phase transition

$$\rho \gtrsim 5 \times 10^{14} \text{ g/cm}^3 ; \text{ pulsars}$$

b. Envelope around Core: Heavy Element Synthesis

Cooler environment permeated by neutrons from core

(1) Rapid neutron capture in  $^{56}\text{Fe}$  seed nuclei

$\therefore$  A increases





2. Later-generation Stars: Richer mix of nuclei  
 adds to abundances of odd Z and odd A isotopes

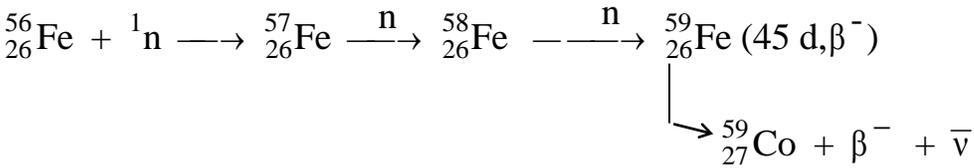
3. s-process [s = slow]  
 Later generation Red Giant Stars  
 Sequence of neutron captures and negatron decays on much longer  
 time scale  
 Evidence:  $_{43}\text{Tc}$  and  $_{61}\text{Pm}$  atomic spectra in these stars

a. Neutron Production: A increases

Secondary reactions on odd-A products from previous cycles  
 $^{13}\text{C}(\alpha, n)^{16}\text{O}$  ;  $^{17}\text{O}(\alpha, n)^{20}\text{Ne}$  ;  $^{21}\text{Ne}(\alpha, n)^{24}\text{Mg}$

b. Time scale:  $\langle t \rangle_{\text{capture}} \approx 10^3 \text{ y}$   
 Due to long lifetimes of Red Giants ( $10^7 - 10^8 \text{ y}$ ) and low  
 abundances of  $^{13}\text{C}$ ,  $^{17}\text{O}$ , &  $^{21}\text{Ne}$ , neutrons are produced SLOWLY

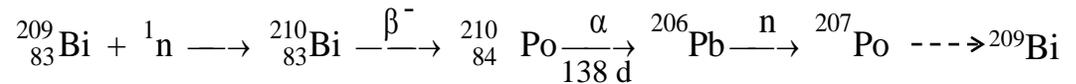
c. Negatron Decay: Z increases



Low capture rate means that negatron decay usually occurs  
 BEFORE another neutron can be captured (unless  $t_{\beta^-}$  long)

d. s-process follows the valley of  $\beta^-$  stability  
r-process follows a path far to the neutron excess side of  $\beta$  stability

e. Terminal Nucleus:  $^{209}_{83}\text{Bi}$



f. Summary: s-process makes medium-mass isotopes of an element  
 r-process makes heaviest isotopes of an element  
 rp-process – makes lightest isotopes

### III. GCR + ISM Nucleosynthesis:

**LiBeB**

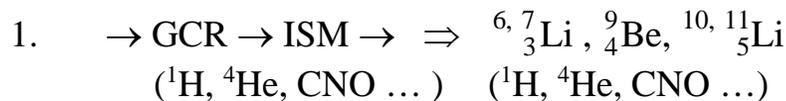
{  $^6_3\text{Li}$ ,  $^9_4\text{Be}$  and  $^{10,11}_5\text{B}$  only elements not accounted for }

GCR = Galactic Cosmic Rays  
 ISM = Interstellar Medium

#### A. Mechanism: Evidence – GCR abundances (much richer in LiBeB)

Need a cold environment for LiBeB to survive due to weak binding

\*Scenario:\*



2. Abundances of both GCR and ISM well-measured

3. Reaction cross sections provide test of model

#### B. Fit to model is quantitative (except for $^7\text{Li}$ -- ? Big Bang)

#### C. Permits estimate of baryon density of universe

D. **Experimentalists conclusion:** not enough mass present in the universe to reverse expansion;  $\therefore$  Universe will expand forever

E. **Theorists: Inflation theory (creates inhomogeneous Universe)** says there should be  $\sim 10\times$  more mass than we measure;  $\nu$  mass; dark matter, etc.