





IKTP Institute seminar

From the interior of stars and tunnels Nuclear astrophysics in a nutshell

Steffen Turkat 07.01.2021

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Nuclear astrophysics

 \rightarrow The origin of the elements





The new underground facility at Felsenkeller

 \rightarrow How to study the universe from underground



Recent achievements and outlook

 \rightarrow Experimental campaign on ³He(α,γ)⁷Be



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Chemical evolution of the universe

How, when & in which amounts were all the elements in our universe formed?





https://sciencenotes.org/periodic-table-2017-edition-black-white/



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Elemental abundance of our earth

What are the four most abundant elements of our earth? → Please visit Slido.com & enter #1444 → Leave it like that, the rest will appear automatically



 \equiv Active poll



Join at slido.com #1444

What are the four most abundant elements on our earth?	000
• H	
• He	
• C	
• N	
• 0	
• Na	
• Mg	
• Al	
• Si	
• K	
• Ca	

Elemental abundance of our earth



The composition of the universe





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The birthplaces of the elements

Credit: NASA



Credit: NASA / GSFC



Credit: ESO/M.Kornmesser (https://www.eso.org/public/germany/images/eso1229a/)



Credit: ESA (https://www.cosmos.esa.int/documents/332075/979553//788px-Cassiopeia_A_Spitzer_Crop.jpg)

Credit: ESO (https://www.eso.org/public/images/eso1733q/)



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The Big Bang Nucleosynthesis







- Chromodynamic binding energy p/n: ~1 GeV
- ²H bottle neck: Literally the whole universe had to wait for ²H
- Spoiler: Upcoming paper on ${}^{2}H(p,\gamma) {}^{3}He$ in Phys. Rev. C (*Turkat et al.*)



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The origin of the elements





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Elemental abundance of the solar photosphere



Data from: M. Asplund et al. Annual Reviews of Astronomy and Astropysics, Vol. 47, 481 (2009)



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Data from: M. Asplund et al. Annual Reviews of Astronomy and Astropysics, Vol. 47, 481 (2009)



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Isobaric abundance of the solar system



Data from: E. Anders & N. Grevesse, Geochimica et Cosmochimica Acta, Vol. 53, 197 (1989)



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During the last 13.6Gyr...



https://particleadventure.org/images/history-of-the-universe-2015.jpg



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Recreating nucleosynthesis environments

- \rightarrow Large scale simulation ~ \mathcal{O} (Mpc)
- \rightarrow Simulation of galaxy supercluster



→ "Small" scale simulation $\sim \mathcal{O}(kpc)$ → Simulation of a single galaxy



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Osmium

→ Osmium → density: ~ 22 g/cm³ → densest material on earth

Credit: The TNG Project (https://www.tng-project.org/media/)



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Join at slido.com #1444 How much more dense does the center of a protostar need to get in order to $\begin{array}{c} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{array}$ finally start nucleosynthesis?

- 5 times more than Os
- 300 times more than Os
- 8000 times more than Os

Protostar formation + stellar nucleosynthesis



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nuclear_binding_energy





https://www.astro.ex.ac.uk/people/mbate/ Animations/Beta0_01_RT_1M_DensSplash.mov



Courtesy: Matthew Bate (University of Exeter)



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Stellar nucleosynthesis





https://www.astro.keele.ac.uk/~hirschi/animation/anim.html



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Stellar nucleosynthesis





https://www.astro.keele.ac.uk/~hirschi/animation/anim.html



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Nuclear astrophysics in summary





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Explosive nucleosynthesis



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Type_II_supernova#



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Explosive nucleosynthesis





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Nuclear astrophysics during stellar evolution





Credit: ESO/M.Kornmesser (https://www. eso.org/public/germany/images/eso1229a/)









Credit: NASA (https://www.accessscience.com/media/EST/media/654000FG0010.jpg)



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From the interior of stars to the interior of tunnels





Credit: Blake Stacey, based on SOHO (ESA, NASA)





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Credit: TU Dres The new Felsenkeller laboratory **Scientific leader Technical leader** D. Bemmerer K. Zuber Google Earth





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The benefit of going underground

- Protection from cosmic muons (reduce background)
- Investigate rare processes in nuclear astrophysics
 - Measure close to Gamow window



F. Ludwig et al. Astroparticle Physics 112 (2019) 24-34



Adapted from: T. Szücs et al. European Physics Journal A 55, 174





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The new Felsenkeller underground laboratory



\rightarrow External ion source

- \rightarrow Carbon beam (¹²C⁻) in tandem mode
- \rightarrow 5MV Pelletron accelerator
 - \rightarrow Carbon beam in tandem mode
- \rightarrow Interal ion source
 - \rightarrow H & He beam in single end mode
- \rightarrow Current experimental setup
 - \rightarrow ³He(α,γ)⁷Be campaign



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TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT DRESDEN

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Timeline of the last three years



28.06.2017: Topping out ceremony



03.07.2019: First light at FK (external ion source)



09.11.2020: Stable beam (internal ion source)



26.11.2020: Beam quality improvements

13.08.2018: Last beam line component underground



04.07.2019: Inauguration



16.11.2020: First ³He(α,γ)⁷Be reaction





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