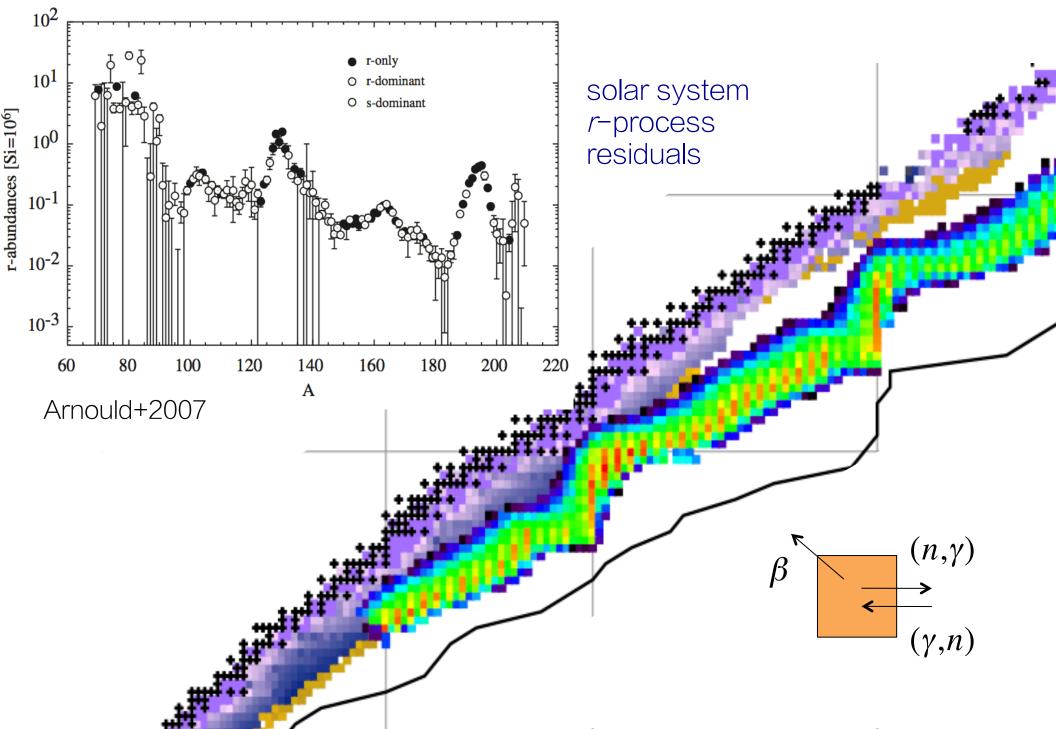




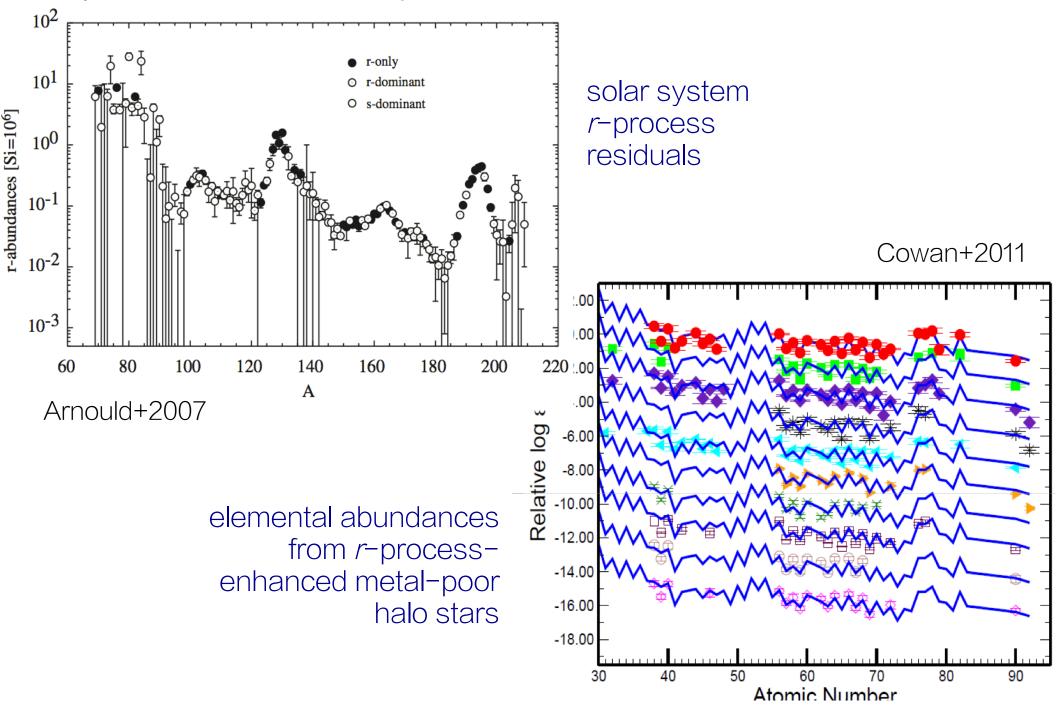


Office of Science

r-process nucleosynthesis



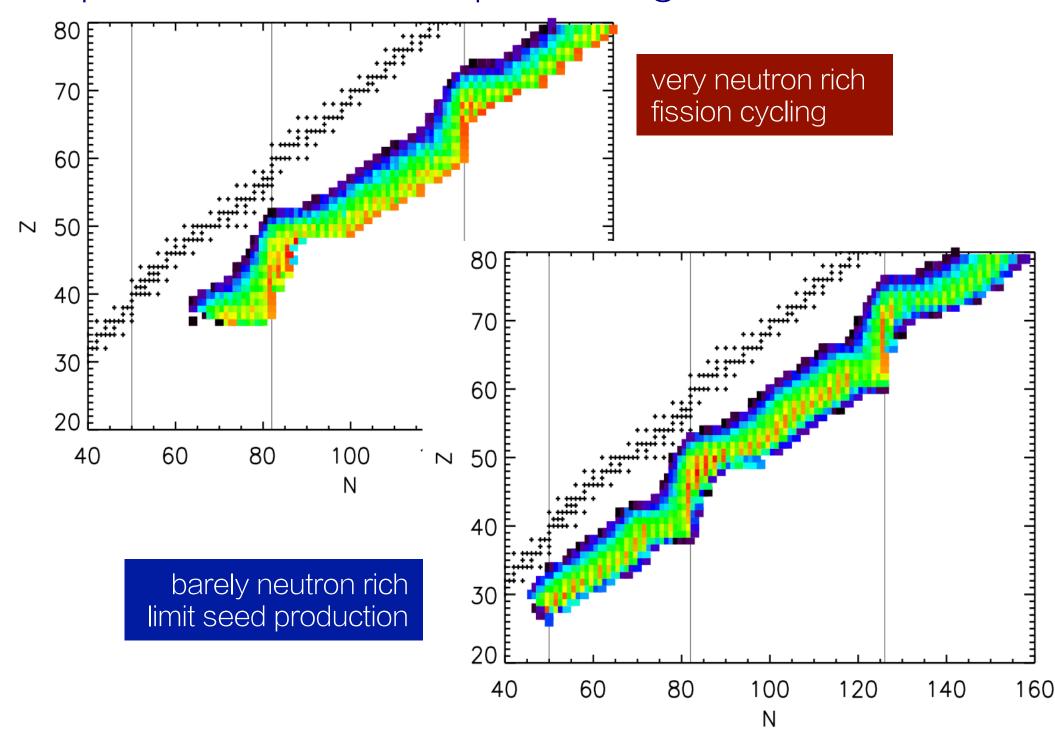
r-process nucleosynthesis

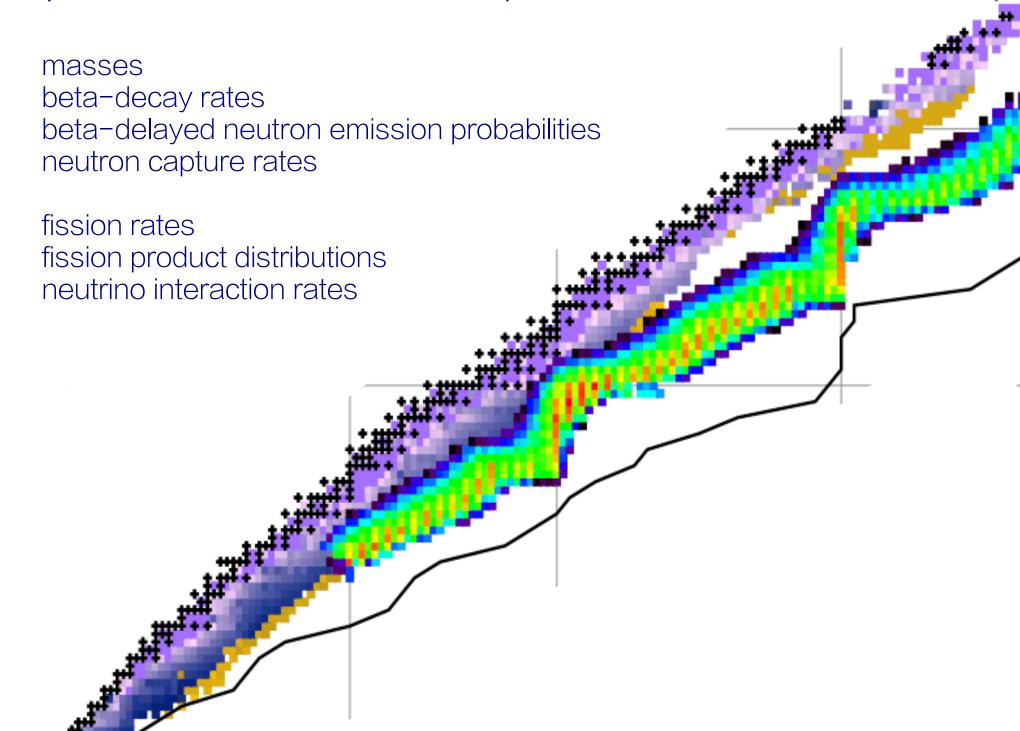


r-process astrophysical site: BNS/NSBH mergers?

- astrophysical modeling of BNS/NSBH mergers talks by A Bauswein, S Rosswog, M Wu, T Piran
- electromagnetic transient: macronova/kilonova talks by J Barnes, R Wollaeger
- gravitational waves from merger events talks by B Sathyaprakash, S Rosswog
- r-process elements in low metallicity stars talks by A Frebel, T Hansen, C Hansen
- galactic chemical evolution studies talks by F Matteucci, T Kajino
- neutrino physics of merger events talks by G McLaughlin, H Yasin, M Wu

r-process abundance pattern signatures





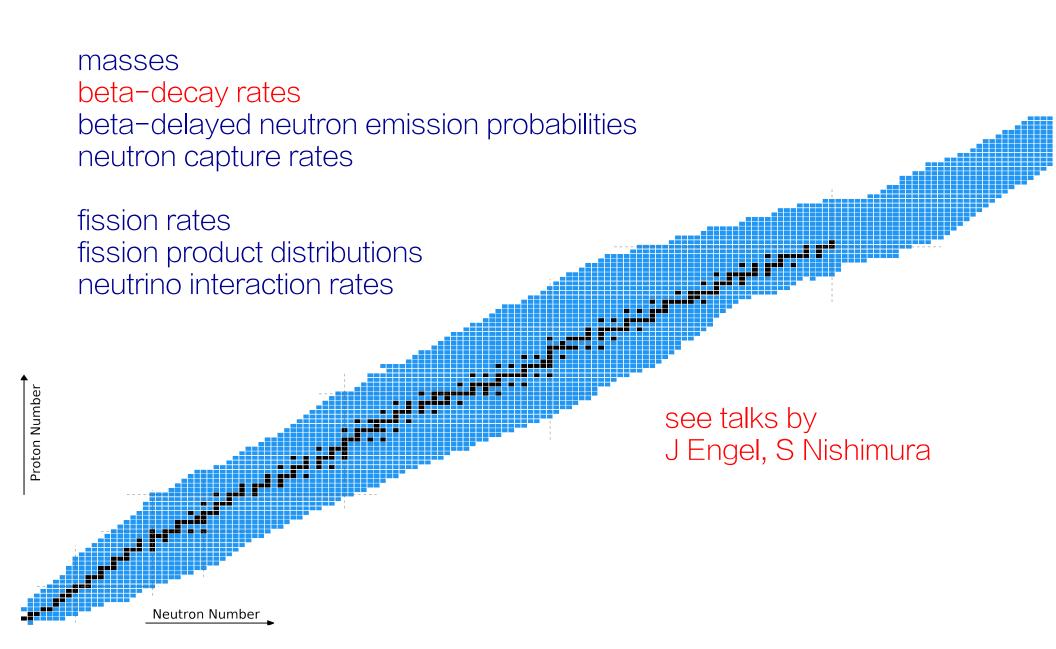


figure by M Mumpower

masses

Proton Number

beta-decay rates beta-delayed neutron emission probabilities neutron capture rates

fission rates fission product distributions neutrino interaction rates



2012 Atomic Mass Evaluation

Neutron Number

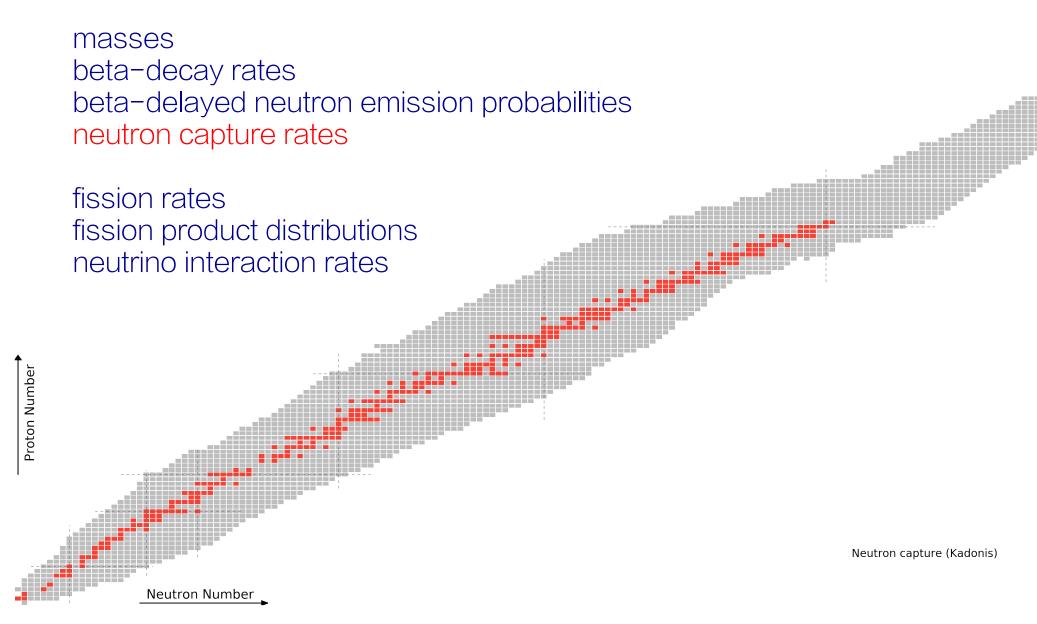


figure by M Mumpower

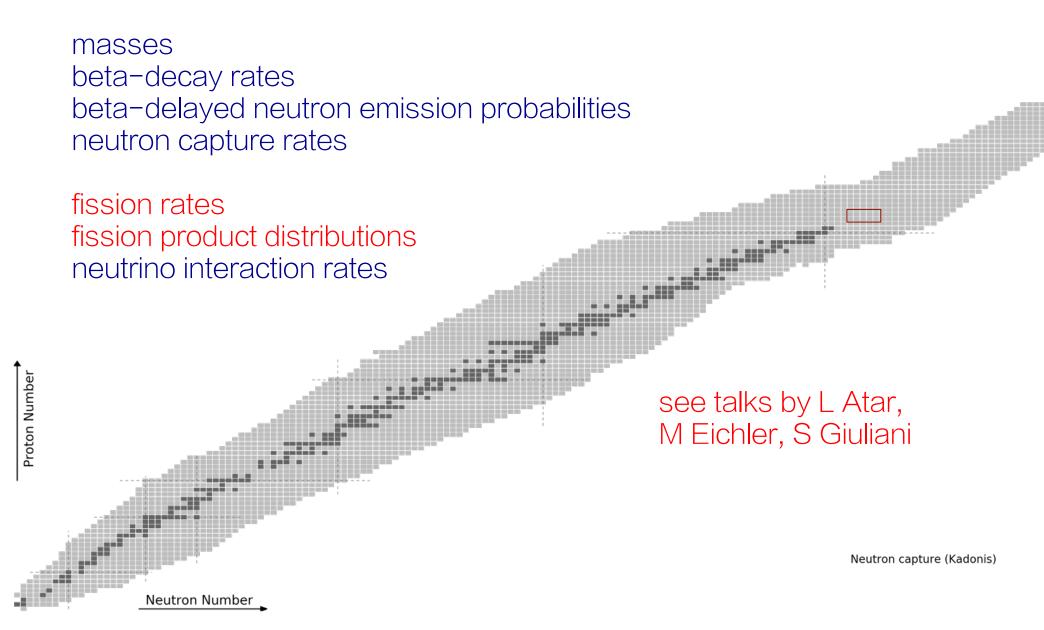


figure by M Mumpower

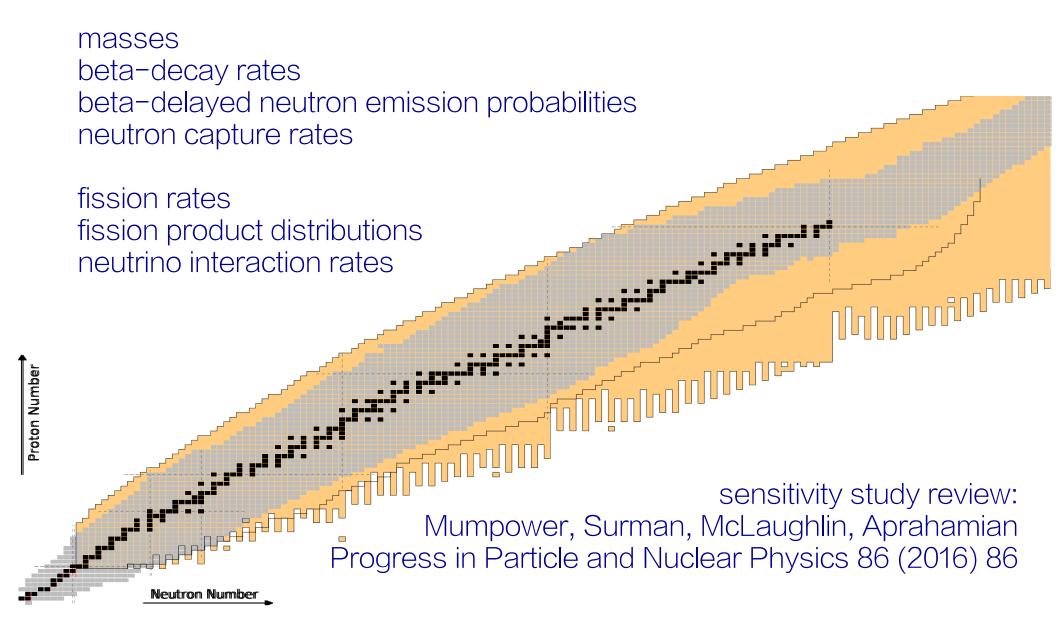
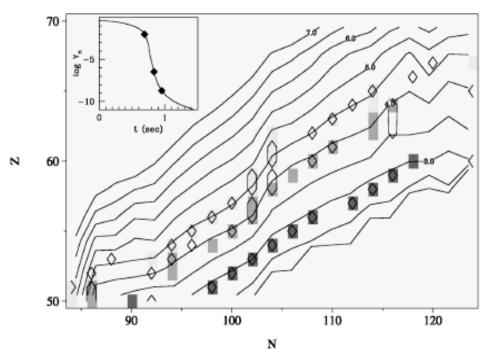
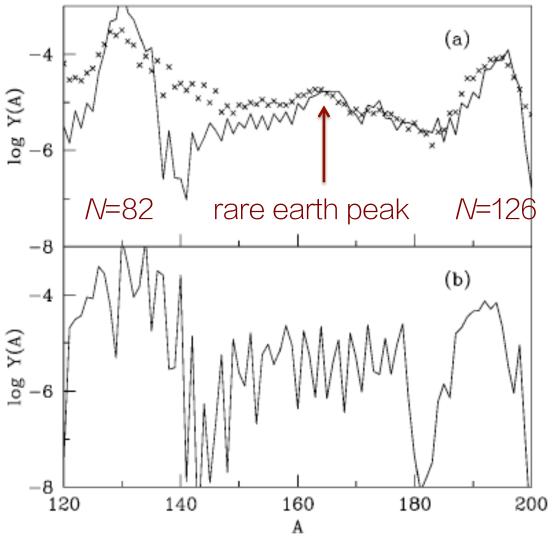


figure by M Mumpower

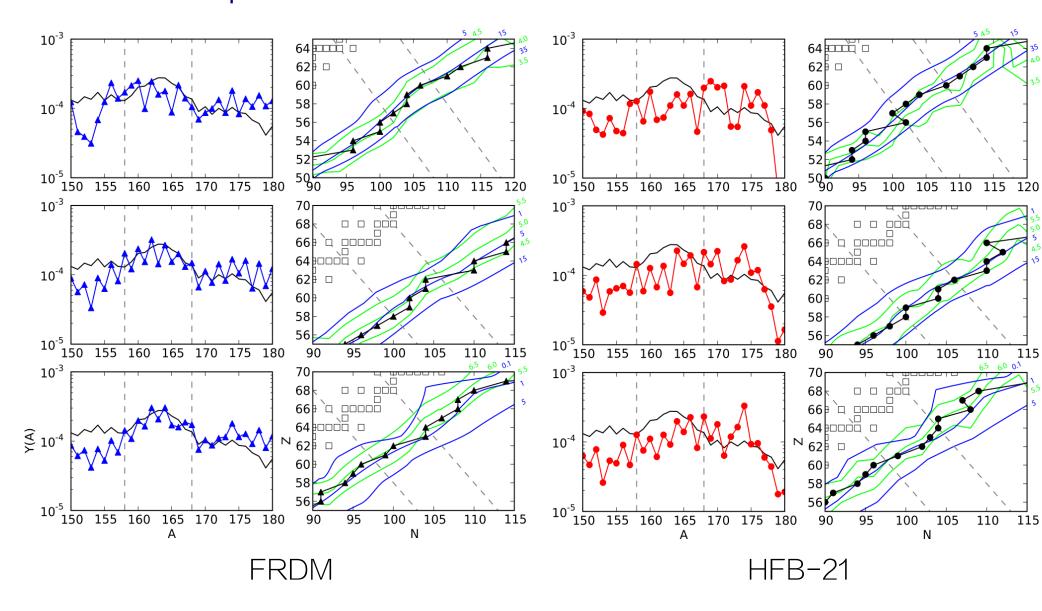
the rare earth peak

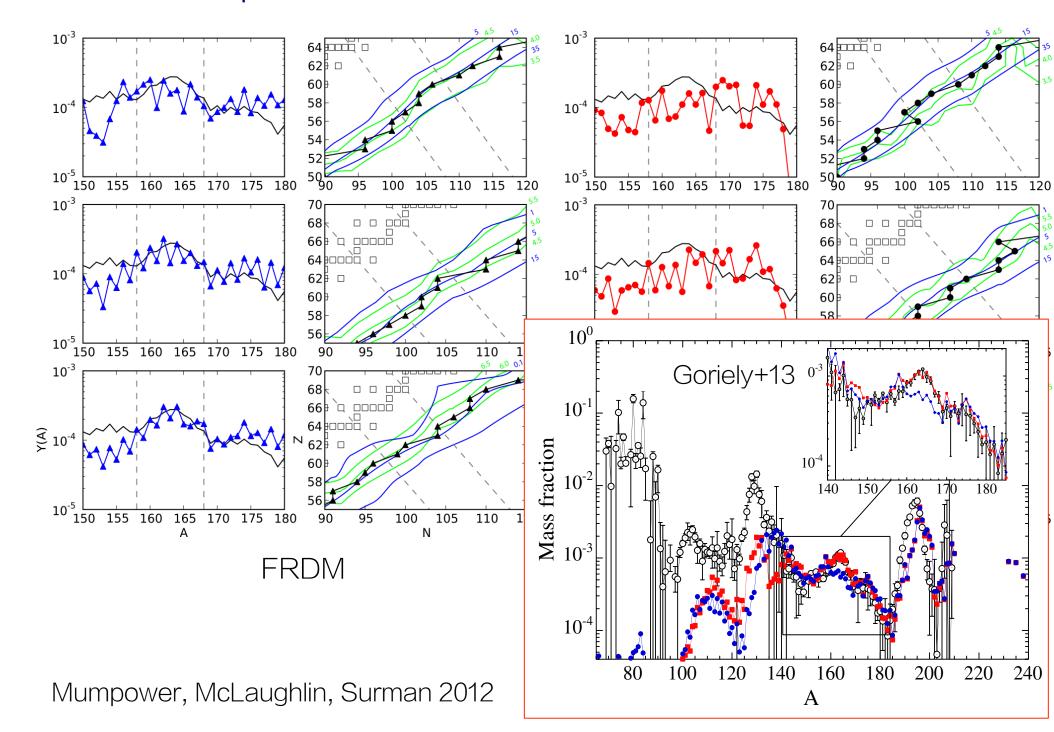
Its formation mechanism is sensitive to both the astrophysical conditions of the late phase of the *r*-process and the nuclear physics of the nuclei populated at this time

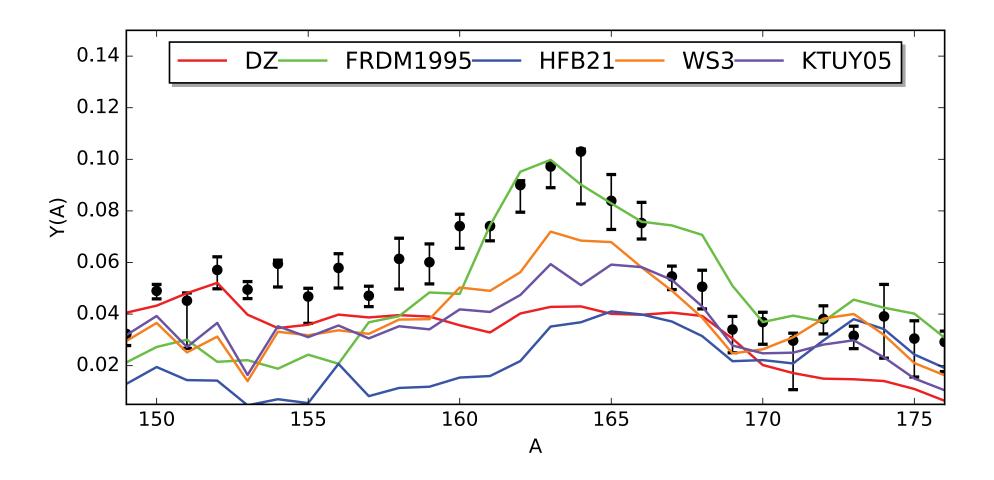


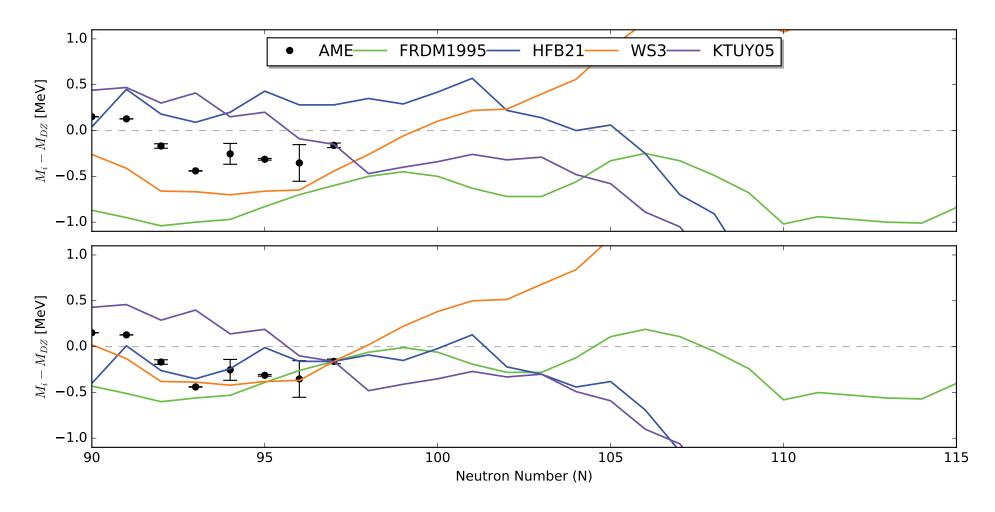


Surman, Engel, Bennett, Meyer 1997



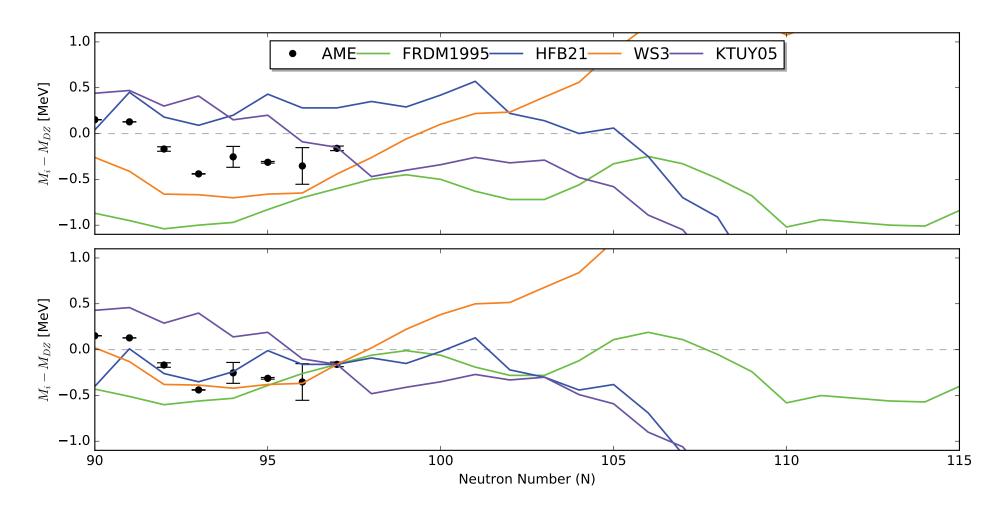






Neodymium (Z = 60) isotopic chain

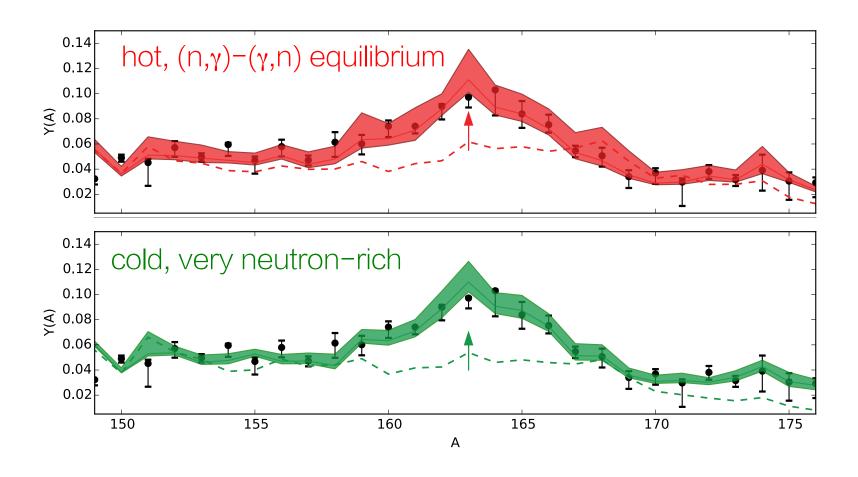
reverse-engineering the rare earth masses



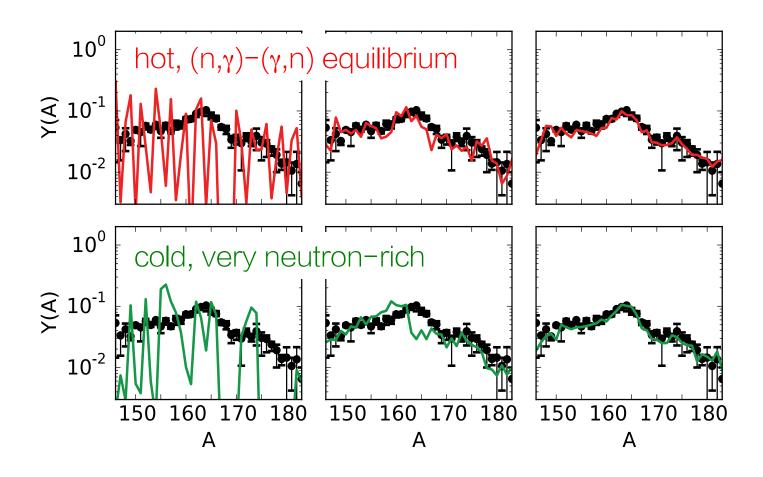
mass modification parameterization:

$$M(Z,N) = M_{DZ}(Z,N) + a_N e^{-(Z-C)^2/2f}$$

reverse-engineering the rare earth masses

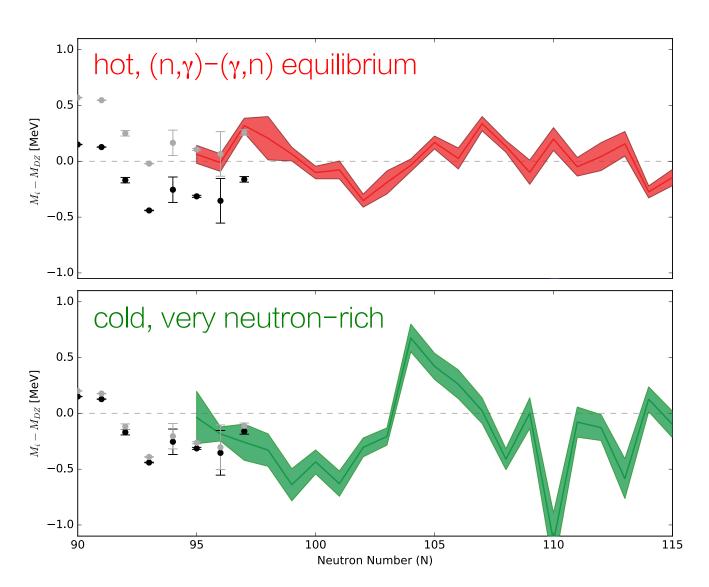


rare earth peak formation comparison



predicted mass surfaces

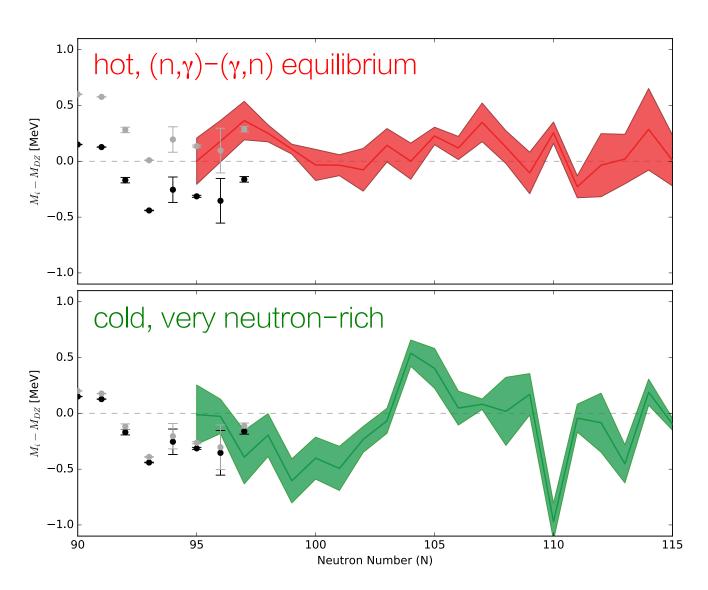
persistent feature, single astrophysical trajectory



Neodymium (Z = 60) isotopic chain

predicted mass surfaces

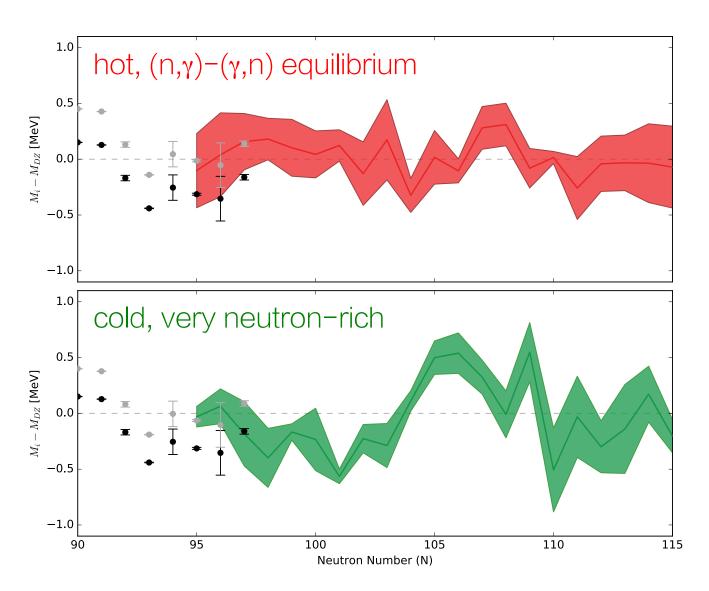
persistent feature, multiple astrophysical trajectories



Neodymium (Z = 60) isotopic chain

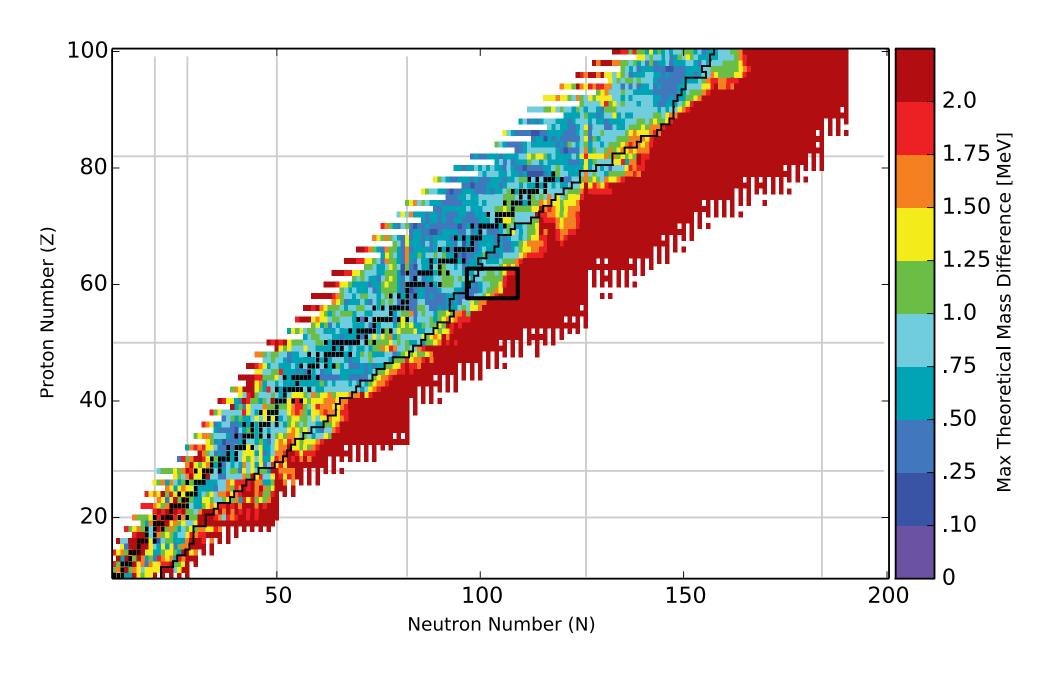
predicted mass surfaces

localized feature, multiple astrophysical trajectories



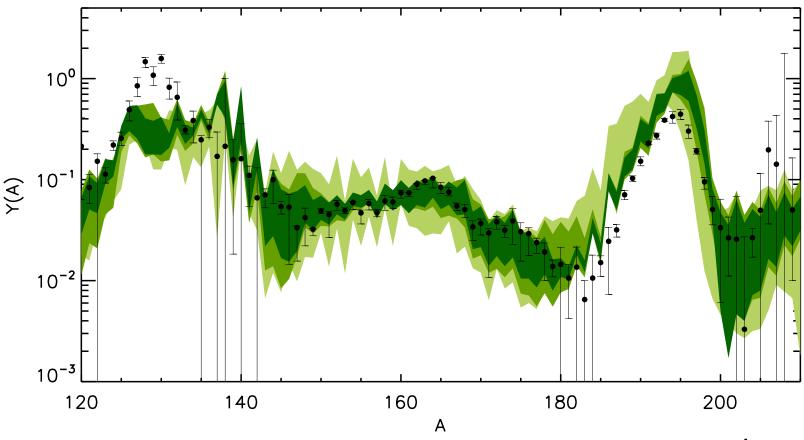
Neodymium (Z = 60) isotopic chain

uncertainties in nuclear masses



Mumpower, Surman, Fang, Beard, Aprahamian 2016

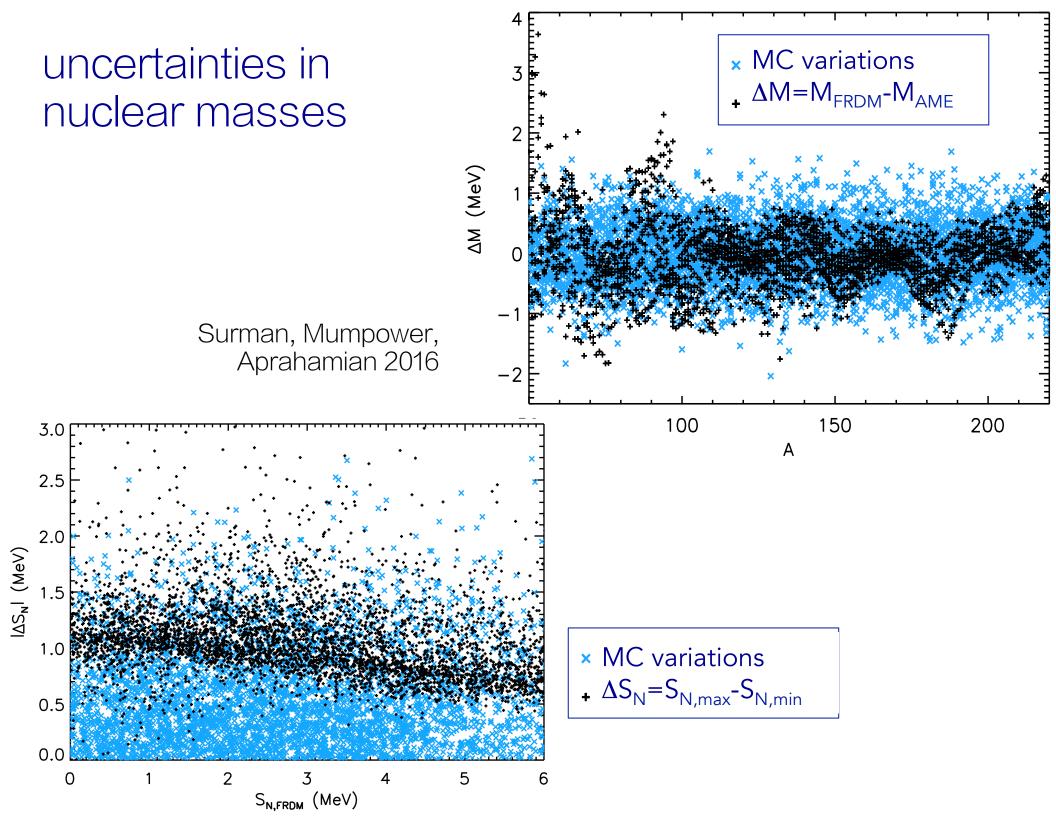
systematic uncertainties in nuclear masses: impact on *r*-process simulations



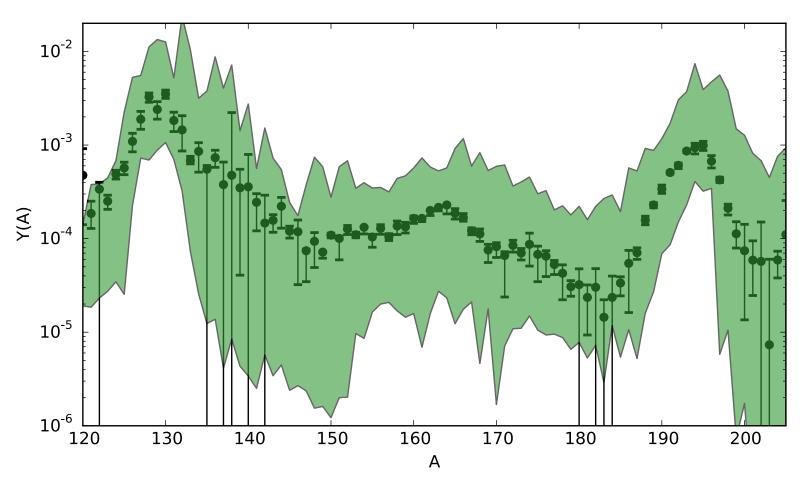
Surman, Mumpower, McLaughlin 2016

masses from massexplorer.frib.msu.edu: Olsen, Nazarewicz:

SKM*
SKP-3
SLY4
SV-MIN
UNEDFOUNEDF1

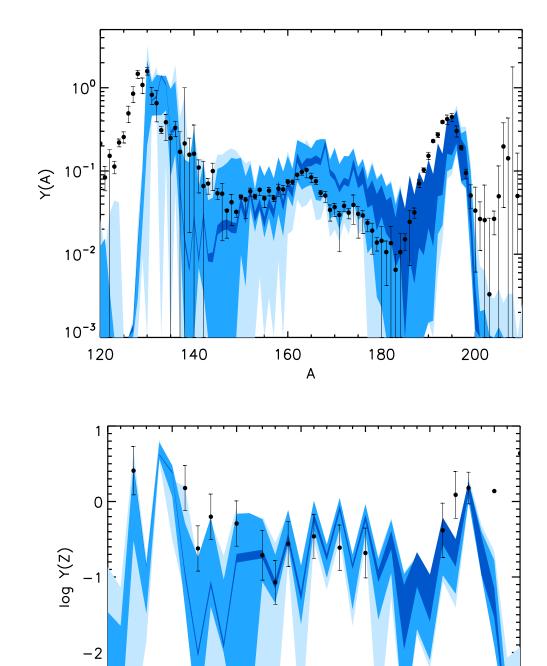


random uncorrelated uncertainties in masses: impact on *r*-process simulations



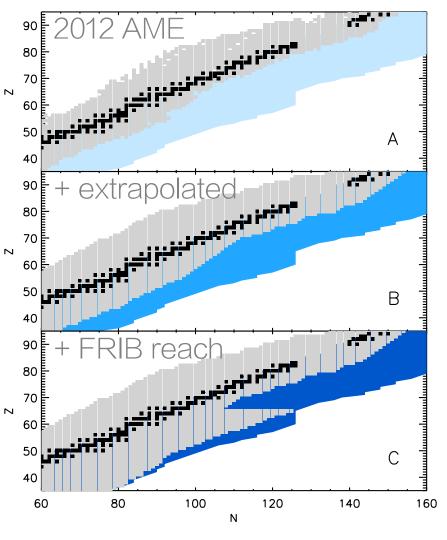
Surman, Mumpower, McLaughlin 2016

FRDM masses + Monte Carlo variations within mass model rms (~0.5 MeV)



Ζ

impact of upcoming measurements



Surman, Mumpower, Aprahamian 2016

summary

The role of compact object mergers in the synthesis of the heaviest elements is under investigation from many directions

One such avenue is through nuclear physics, where current and nextgeneration radioactive beam facilities will continue to push the boundaries of our knowledge of extremely neutron-rich nuclei

As nuclear physics uncertainties are reduced, we can exploit details of the *r*-process abundance pattern, such as the rare earth peak, to explore the nature of the *r*-process site

