Astrophysical Relevance of Clustering in Low Density Nuclear Matter

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The Elements According to Relative Abundance

A Periodic Chart by Prof. Wm. F. Sheehan, University of Santa Clara, CA 95053 Ref. Chemistry, Vol. 49, No. 3, p 17–18, 1976



Roughly, the size of an element's own niche ("I almost wrote square") is proportioned to its abundance on Earth's surface, and in addition, certain chemical similarities (e.g., Be and AI, or B and Si) are sug-

gested by the positioning of neighbors. The chart emphasizes that in real life a chemist will probably meet O, Si, Al, . . . and that he better do something about it. Periodic tables based upon elemental abundance would, of course, vary from planet to planet. . . W.F.S.

NOTE: TO ACCOMMODATE ALL ELEMENTS SOME DISTORTIONS WERE NECESSARY, FOR EXAMPLE SOME ELEMENTS DO NOT OCCUR NATURALLY.



The Liquid Drop Model





Most Isotopes are Radioactive



651







RHIC



ACCELERATORS







TAMU

1958-My first course in nuclear chemistry

 With such reactions new isotopes
 and
 new elements
 can be made



Synthesis of superheavy elements (cold and hot fusion)



Theoretical Limits to the Existence of Nuclei



- Only a fraction of the theoretically possible isotopes have been produced and studied.
- A new generation of accelerators
 being constructed will accelerate radioactive ions and probe the region of unknown isotopes



Limits of Stability



Higher Energy Reactions



[13] A.L. Keksis, thesis, Texas A&M University, 2007

200 GeV/nucleon















OUR SUN



10,000,000 DEGREES

NEUTRINO ASTROPHYSICS

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Figure 1: The Homestake Mine's chlorine detector, which Ray Davis Jr. and colleagues operated for over three decades.





Figure 3: The left panel shows the Super-Kamiokande detector during filling, with scientists cleaning PMT surfaces as the water rises. The right panel is a fish-eye photo of the SNO detector and cavity, showing the PMTs and support structure prior to cavity and detector filling.







Origin of the Lighter Elements



Floor of Binding Energy Valley is Not Flat

Energetics of Transmutation



Energetics of Transmutation







HOW ARE THE HEAVIER ELEMENTS PRODUCED ?







One Important Source for Generation of THE ELEMENTS BEYOND IRON IS EXPLOSIONS OF SUCH STARS RE COLLAPSE SUPERNOVAE **DID 1987A EXPLODE IN 1987?** NO!

It was 9.87 x 10¹⁷ MILES Away ! The light took 168, 000 years to reach us.



Mostly protons

STARS

R ~ 10⁵⁻ 10⁶ km

Giant Nuclei And Sites of Nucleosynthesis

Large Changes in Temperature, Density, Proton/Neutron content



Mostly

Neutrons

R ~ 10 km

How does the physics of nuclei impact the physical universe?



- Relevance of heavy ion collisions to core collapse supernovae
 - Allow probing different densities in the lab
 - Comparisons of heavy ion data to supernovae calculations may help discriminate between different models.
- Clusters appear in shock heated nuclear matter
 - Clusters Role on the explosion dynamics and the subsequent cooling and compression of the protoneutron star is not yet fully understood
 - Valid treatment of the correlations and clusterization in low density matter is a vital ingredient of astrophysical models
- Equation of state (EOS)
 - Many fundamental connections between the equation of state and neutrino interactions
 - Crucial input for understanding proto-neutron star evolution

Light Charged Particle Emission Studies



Eaction Syster

4He + 112Sn and 124Sn 10B + 112Sn and 124Sn

- 20Ne + 112Sn and 124Sn
- 40Ar + 112Sn and 124Sn
- 64Zn+ 112Sn and 124Sn

Projectile Energy - 47A MeV

Thesis – L. Qin TAMU- 2008



Higher Energy Reactions



[13] A.L. Keksis, thesis, Texas A&M University, 2007

Velocity Plots

Light Charged Particles- Most Violent Collisions

Velocity Plot Protons ⁴⁰Ar+¹²⁴Sn





Crab Nebula, HST Image

TIF

 $\mathsf{V}_{\mathbb{I}}$

Supernova

- 47 MeV/u Ar + 112,124 Sn
- Select the most violent collisions
- Identify the femtonova
 - Intermediate velocity source
 - nucleon-nucleon collisions early in the reaction
 - Observe light nuclei emitted from from that source.
- Temperature from relative yields of particles
- Density from Coalescense analysis
- Evolution time scale from velocity of products from intermediate velocity source

from

n

CLUSTER FORMATION Modifies Nuclear EOS



Figure 1. Schematic view of the phase diagram of nuclear matter. The phase diagram is empirical accessible by heavy ion collisions, excited nuclei, observation of neutron stars and the early universe as indicated in the diagram. New plans at GSI aim at exploring the color superconducting phase as well.

Texas A&M University

Astrophysical Implications, e.g., **Core-collapse Supernovae**



August 2009

Phys.Lett. B488, 247-253 (2000)

Temperatures and Densities Are Correlated

- System starts hot
- As it cools, it expands



Temperatures and Densities



• SN are "infinite", but HIC are finite

- The "infinite" matter in SN is charge neutral, but HIC has a net charge
- Proton fraction, Y_p can differ
- Composition of nuclear matter in calculations
 - Different calculations include different species

	Supernova	Heavy Ion Nuclear reaction
Density (nuc/fm³)	10 ⁻¹⁰ < ρ < 2	2x10 ⁻³ < ρ < 3x10 ⁻²
Temperature (MeV)	~0 < T < 100	5 < T < 11
Electron fraction	0 < Y _p < 0.6	Y _p ~0.41

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The equilibrium constant of a chemical reaction

$$\alpha A + \beta B \dots \rightleftharpoons \rho R + \sigma S \dots$$

is the value of the <u>reaction quotient</u> when the reaction has reached <u>equilibrium</u>.

For a general <u>chemical equilibrium</u> the thermodynamic equilibrium constant can be defined such that, at equilibrium, [1][2]

$$K^{\ominus} = \frac{\{R\}^{\rho} \{S\}^{\sigma} \dots}{\{A\}^{\alpha} \{B\}^{\beta} \dots}$$

where curly brackets denote the <u>thermodynamic activities</u>^{**} of the chemical species. The right-hand side of this equation corresponds to the reaction quotient Q for arbitrary values of the activities. The reaction coefficient becomes the equilibrium constant as shown when the reaction reaches equilibrium.

An equilibrium constant value is independent of the analytical concentrations of the reactant and product species in a mixture, but depends on temperature and on <u>ionic strength</u>. Known equilibrium constant values can be used to determine the <u>composition of a system at equilibrium</u>.

The equilibrium constant is related to the standard <u>Gibbs free energy</u> change for the reaction.

$$\Delta G^{\ominus} = -RT \ln K^{\ominus}$$

If deviations from ideal behavior are neglected, the activities of solutes may be replaced by concentrations, [A], and the activity quotient becomes a concentration quotient, K_c .

$$K_{\rm c} = \frac{\left[R\right]^{\rho} \left[S\right]^{\sigma} \dots}{\left[A\right]^{\alpha} \left[B\right]^{\beta} \dots}$$

 K_c is defined in an equivalent way to the thermodynamic equilibrium constant but with concentrations of reactants and products instead of activities. (K_c appears here to have units of concentration raised to some power while K is dimensionless; however the concentration factors in K_c are properly divided by a standard concentration so that K_c is dimensionless also.

Assuming ideal behavior, the activity of a solvent may be replaced by its <u>mole fraction</u>, (approximately by 1 in dilute solution). The activity of a pure liquid or solid phase is exactly 1. The activity of a species in an ideal gas phase may be replaced by its <u>partial pressure</u>.

** In <u>chemical thermodynamics</u>, activity) is a measure of the "effective concentration" of a <u>species</u> in a mixture. The species' <u>chemical potential</u> depends on the activity Activity depends on temperature, pressure and composition of the mixture, among other things. The difference between activity and other measures of composition arises because <u>molecules</u> in non-ideal <u>gases</u> or <u>solutions</u> interact with each other, either to attract or to repel each other.

Constraining supernova equations of state with equilibrium constants from heavy-ion collisions

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Joseph Natowitz, Kris Hagel, Stefan Typel, and Gerd Röpke (Dated: January 29, 2015)

- M. Hempel et al., Phys. Rev. C 91, 045805 (2015).
- Dependence of Equilibrium constants on various quantities
 - Asymmetry of system
 - Coulomb effects
 - Particle degrees of freedom
- Include comparison where possible to other particle types observed in experiment (d, t, ³He)
- Other EOS models

Equilibrium constants for a-particles

$$K_c(A,Z) = \frac{\rho(A,Z)}{\rho_p^Z \rho_n^{(A-Z)}}$$

- Many tests of EOS are done using mass fractions and various calculations include various different competing species.
- If any relevant species are not included, mass fractions are not accurate.
- Equilibrium constants should be more robust with respect to the choice of competing species assumed in a particular model if interactions are the same
- Differences in the equilibrium constants may offer the possibility to study the interactions
- Models converge at lowest densities, but are significantly below data



$K_{eq}(T)$



- Keq(T)
- Uncertainity in temperature measurement including at low density
- Ideal gas Keq is function of T only.



- Core-collapse supernovae (SN)
 - Explosions of massive stars that radiate 99% of their energy in neutrinos
 - Birth places of neutron stars
 - Wide range of densities ranging from much lower than normal nuclear density to much higher are sampled
- Core Collapse Supernovae dynamics and the observed neutrino signals are sensitive to the details of neutrino interactions with low density nuclear matter at the *Neutrinosphere*
 - Last scattering site of neutrinos in proto-neutron star: ~10¹² g/cm³ (~6×10⁻⁴ fm⁻³), T~5 MeV
 - A thermal surface from which around 10⁵³ ergs (10³⁷ MeV) are emitted in all neutrino species during the explosion
 - The neutrino interactions determine the nucleosynthesis conditions in the socalled neutrino-driven wind
 - Detailed information on the composition and other thermodynamic properties of matter in the neutrinosphere region is important to evaluate role of neutrino scattering.



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