

# Convective-Reactive Nucleosynthesis in O-C Shell Mergers

Wednesday 16 October 2024 14:50 (10 minutes)

O-C shell mergers in massive stars have been proposed as a potential site for the production of p-process isotopes. These mergers provide a convective-reactive environment where the timescales for the nucleosynthesis of C-shell ashes such as  $^{20}\text{Ne}$  and convective mixing of species are of the same order. However, the nucleosynthetic pathways of these convective-reactive processes remain largely unexplored. In this study, we use the  $15M_{\odot}$ ,  $Z = 0.02$  model from the NuGrid stellar data set II (Ritter et al., 2018) to create a detailed post-processed model of an O-C shell merger event. Three preliminary experiments were conducted by varying the reaction rates of  $^{20}\text{Ne}(\gamma, p)^{16}\text{O}$ , the  $(\gamma, p)$  rates for the odd-Z isotopes  $^{31}\text{P}$ ,  $^{35}\text{Cl}$ ,  $^{39}\text{K}$ ,  $^{45}\text{Sc}$ , and all  $(p, \gamma)$  rates by a factor of 10 up and down from their default values. The results show that altering the  $^{20}\text{Ne}(\gamma, p)^{16}\text{O}$  rate has the strongest effect on the production of p-nuclei, notably  $^{115}\text{Sn}$ ,  $^{138}\text{La}$ ,  $^{162}\text{Er}$ ,  $^{168}\text{Yb}$ , and  $^{180}\text{Ta}$ . The other two experiments show a smaller impact on all isotopes. We will present the results of a full multizone Monte Carlo analysis of the impact from varying all reaction rates.

## Length of presentation requested

Oral presentation: 8 min + 2 min questions (Poster-type talk)

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Stellar Models and Galactic Chemical Evolution

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