

Dynamical Fission in r-process Nucleosynthesis

Nobuya Nishimura

Academic Support Center, Kogakuin University
(CNS, U Tokyo / PRI, RIKEN)



Fission in r-process nucleosynthesis

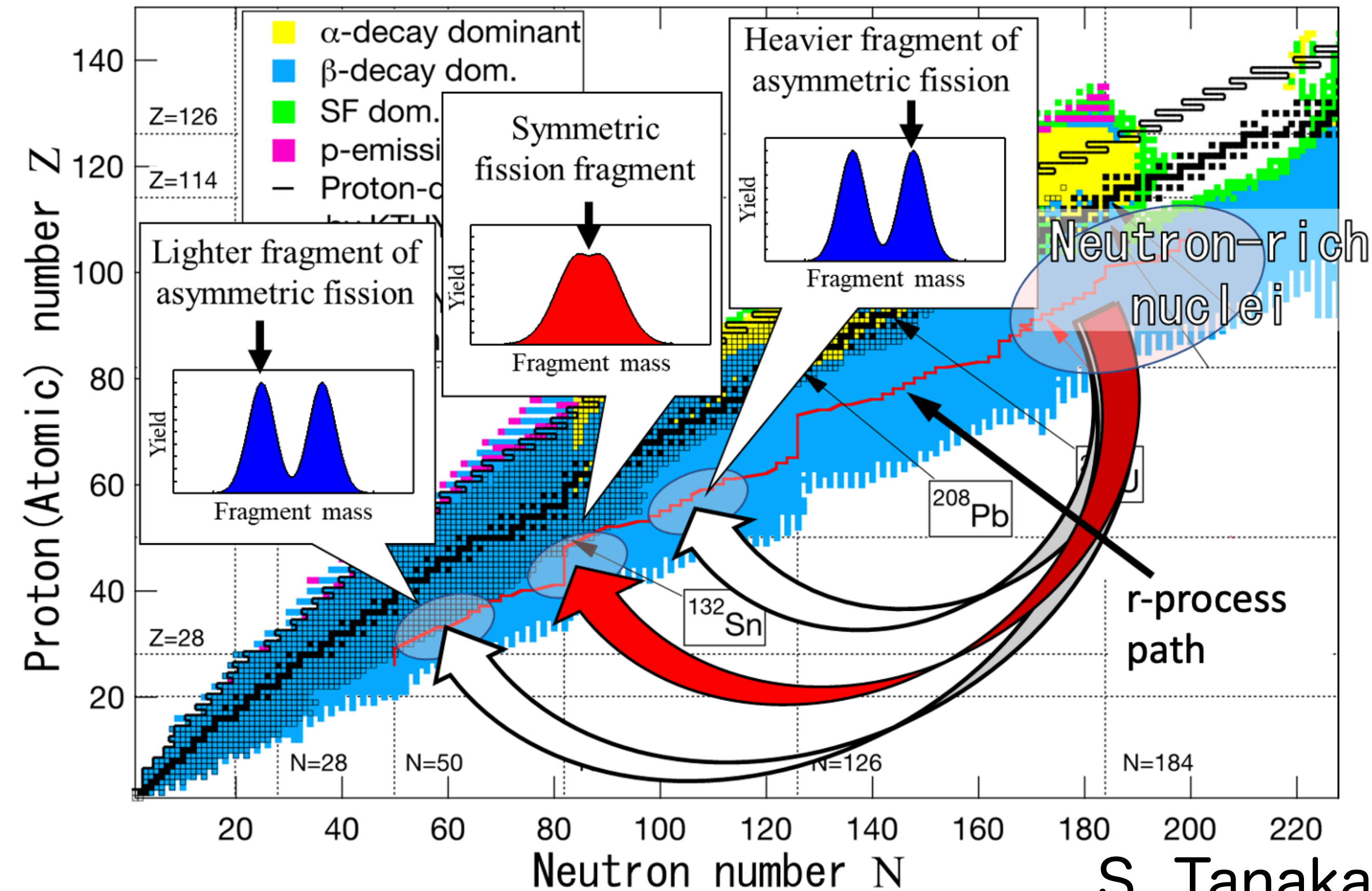
• Fission

- A nuclear decay of heavy nuclei (e.g., U)
- includes spontaneous fission and induced fission (by β -decay, n-capture)

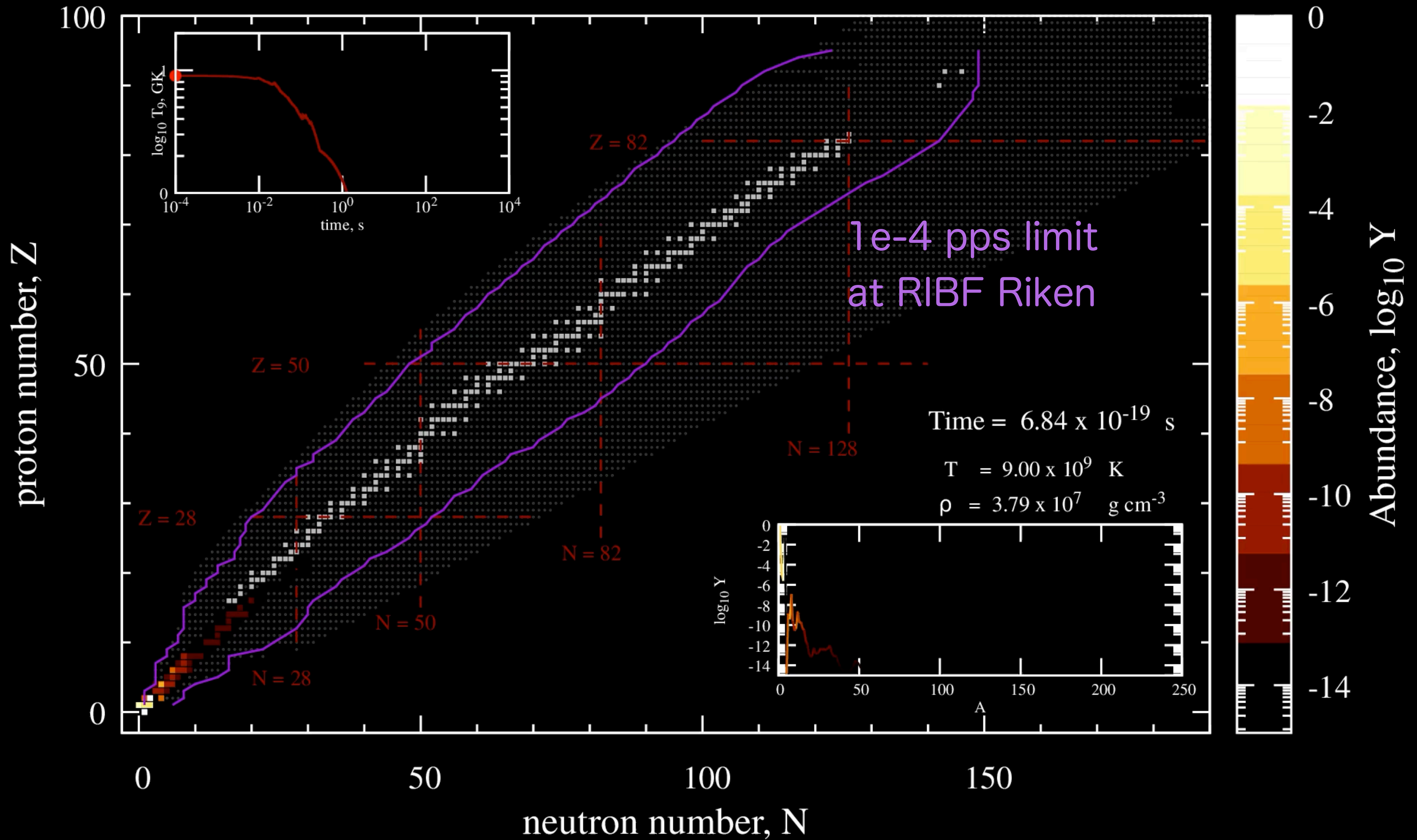
• Role in astrophysical nucleosynthesis

- The r-process may be the only process that produces U and other actinides
- Competes with β -decay and (n,g), leading to termination of the r-process
- Fission yields contribute to the production of intermediate-mass r-process nuclei
- Radioactive decay and fission can provide energy sources for kilonovae from neutron-star mergers

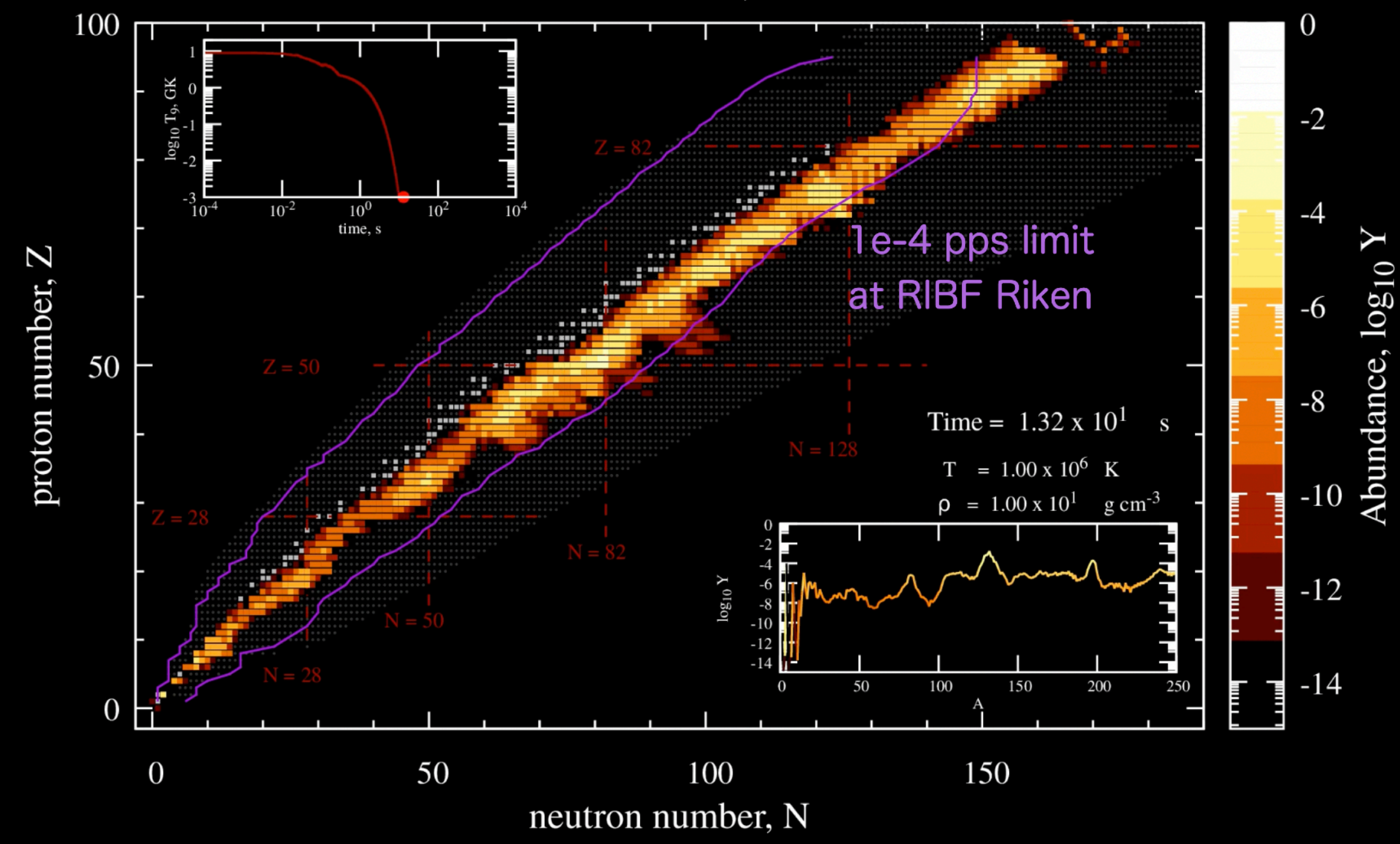
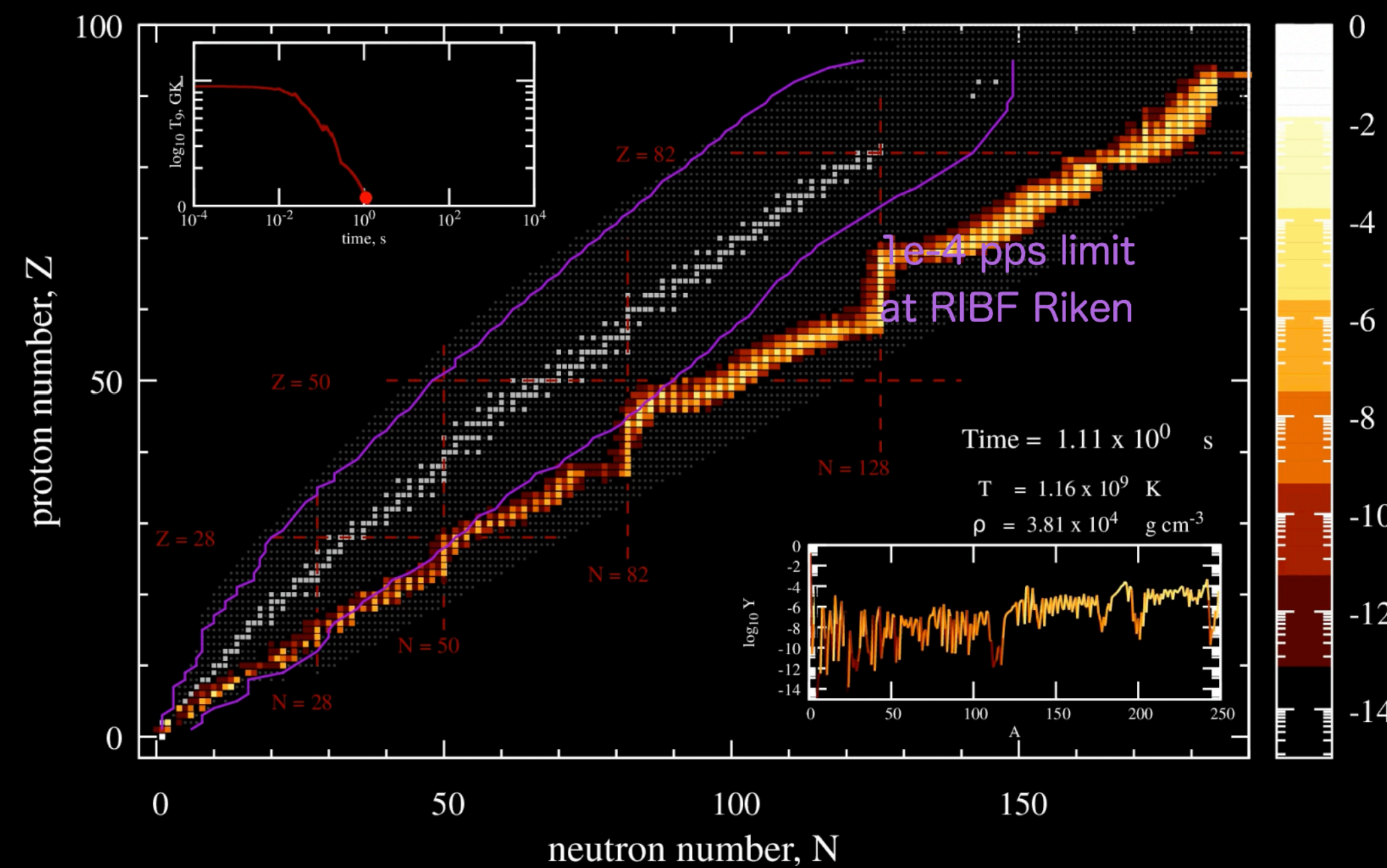
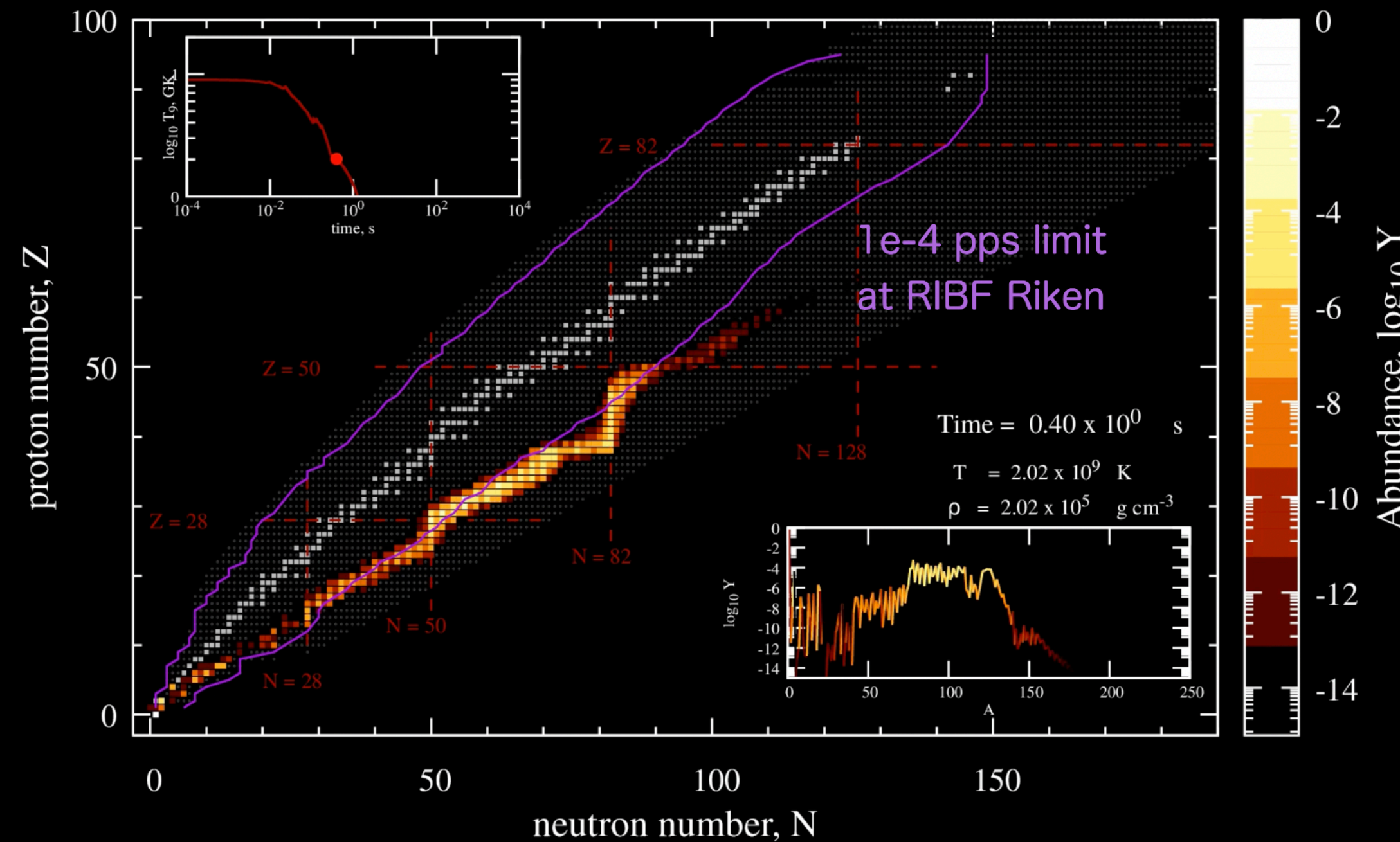
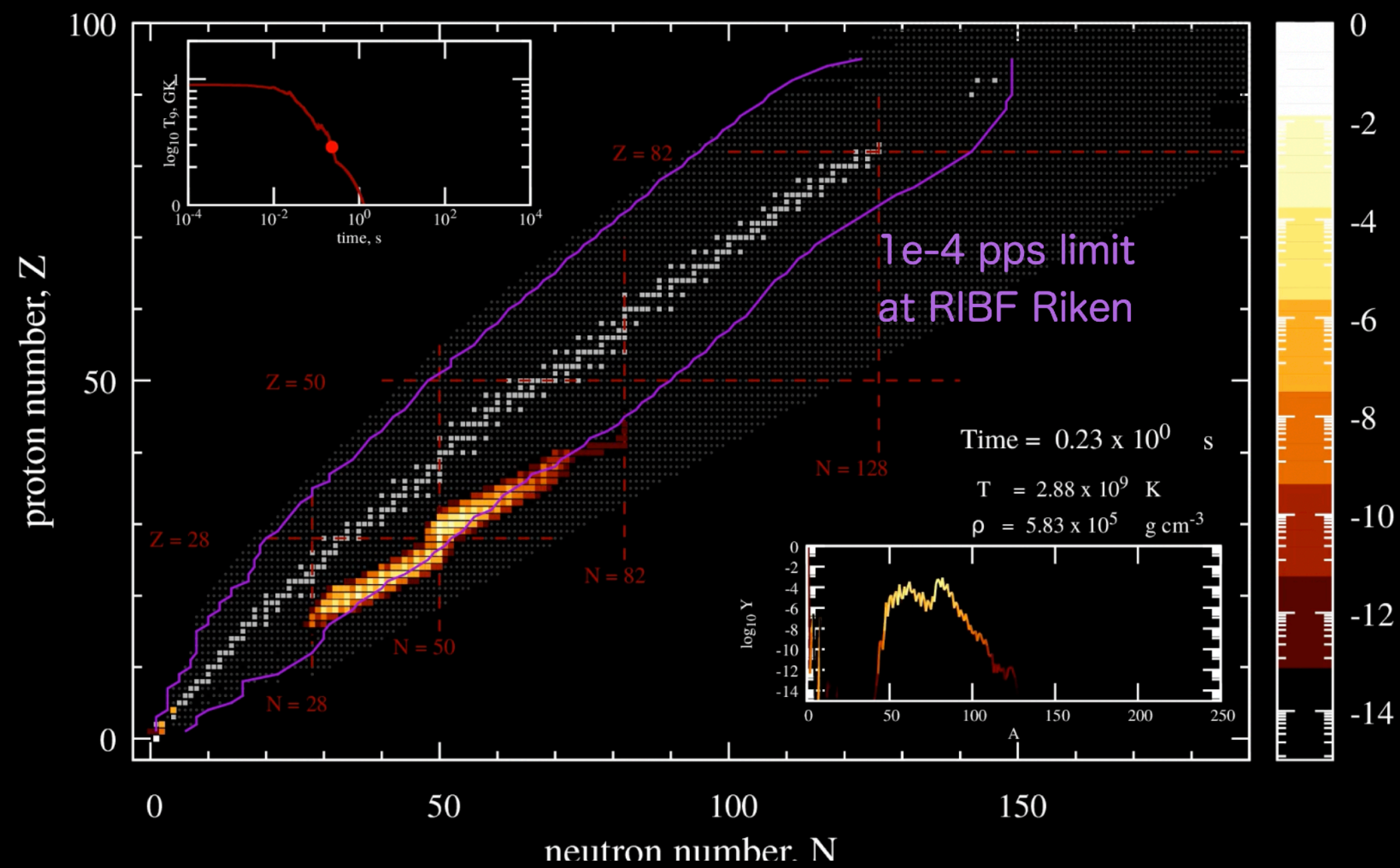
fission in the r-process



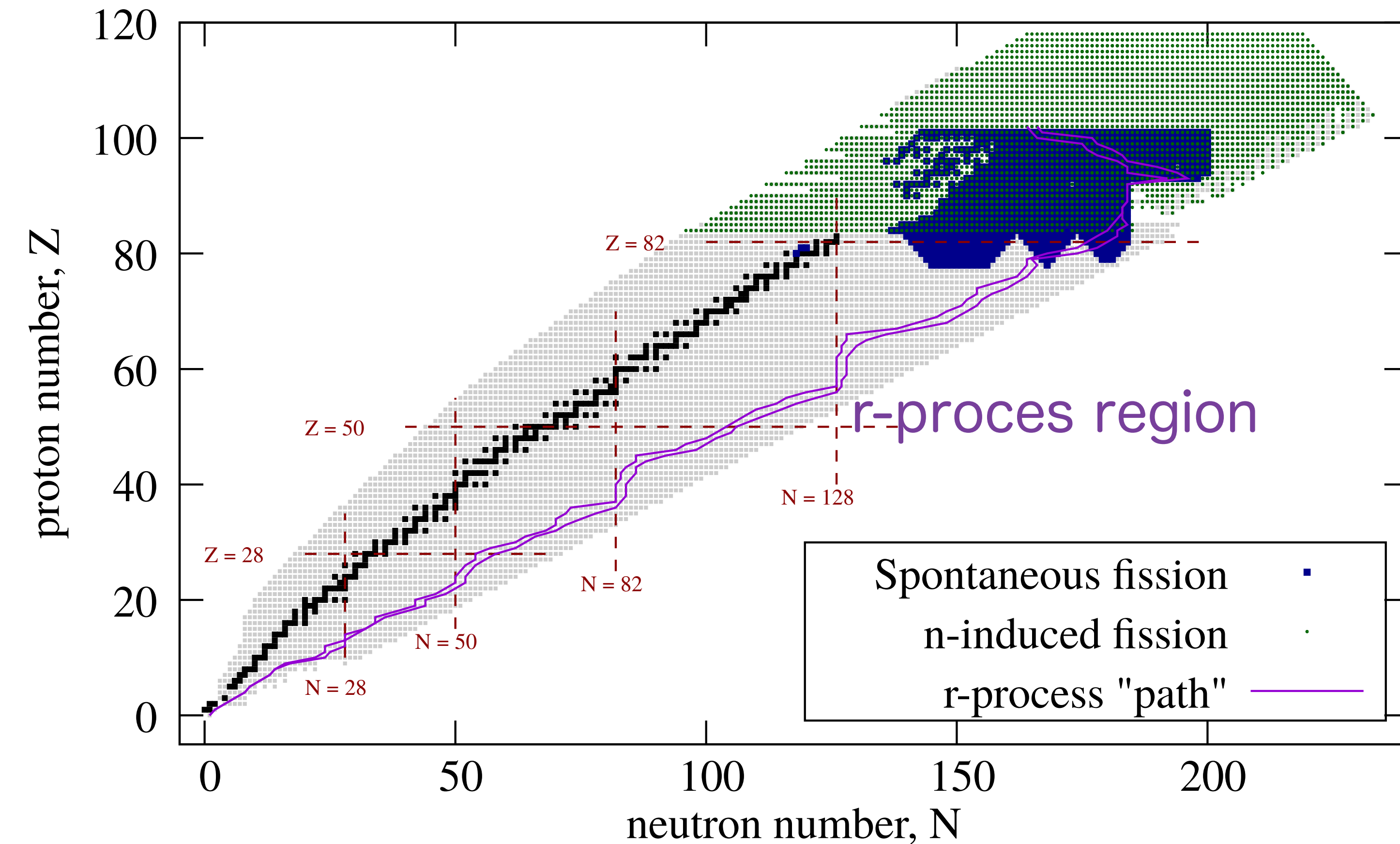
r-Process simulation



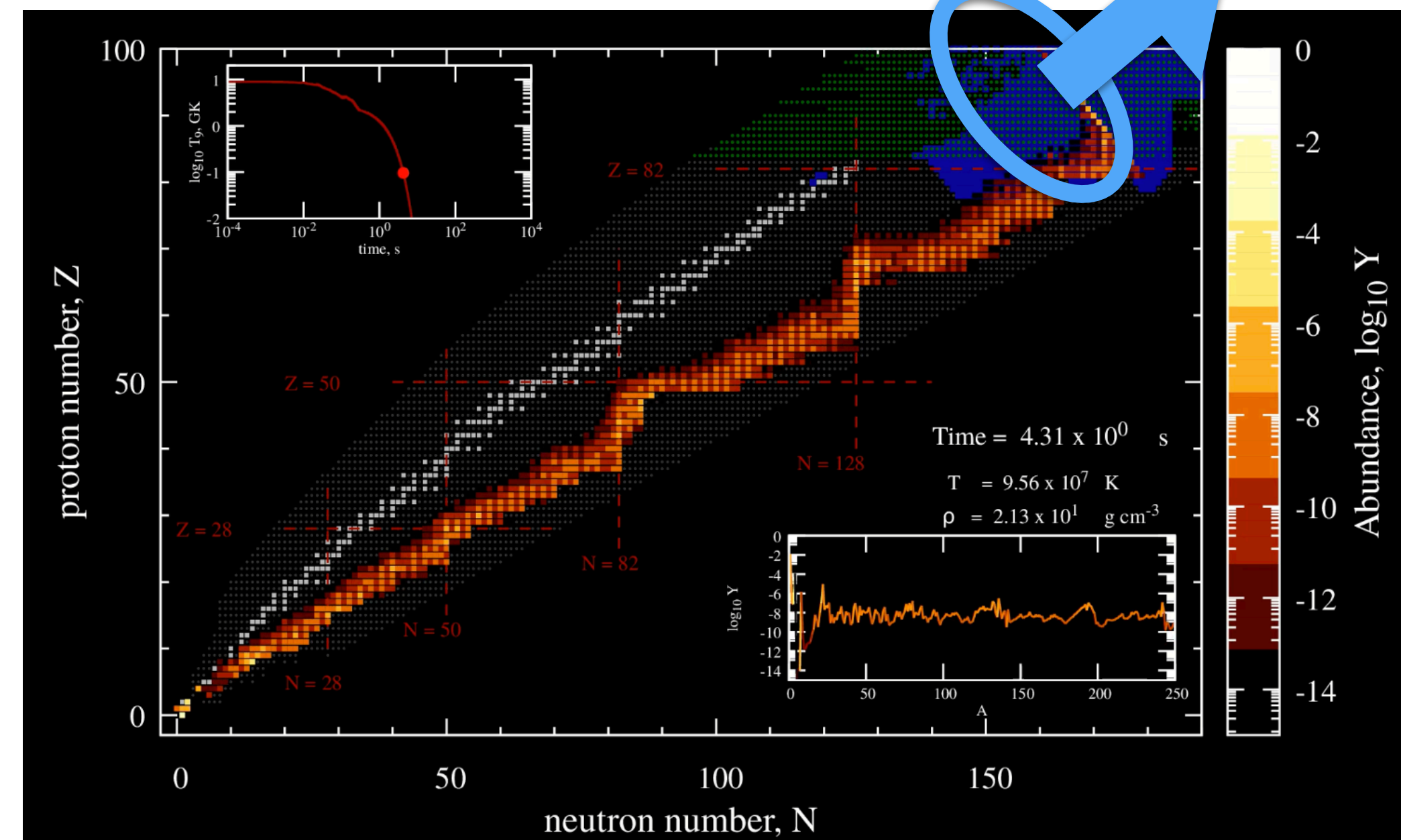
r-Process simulation



Fission nuclei on the NZ-plane



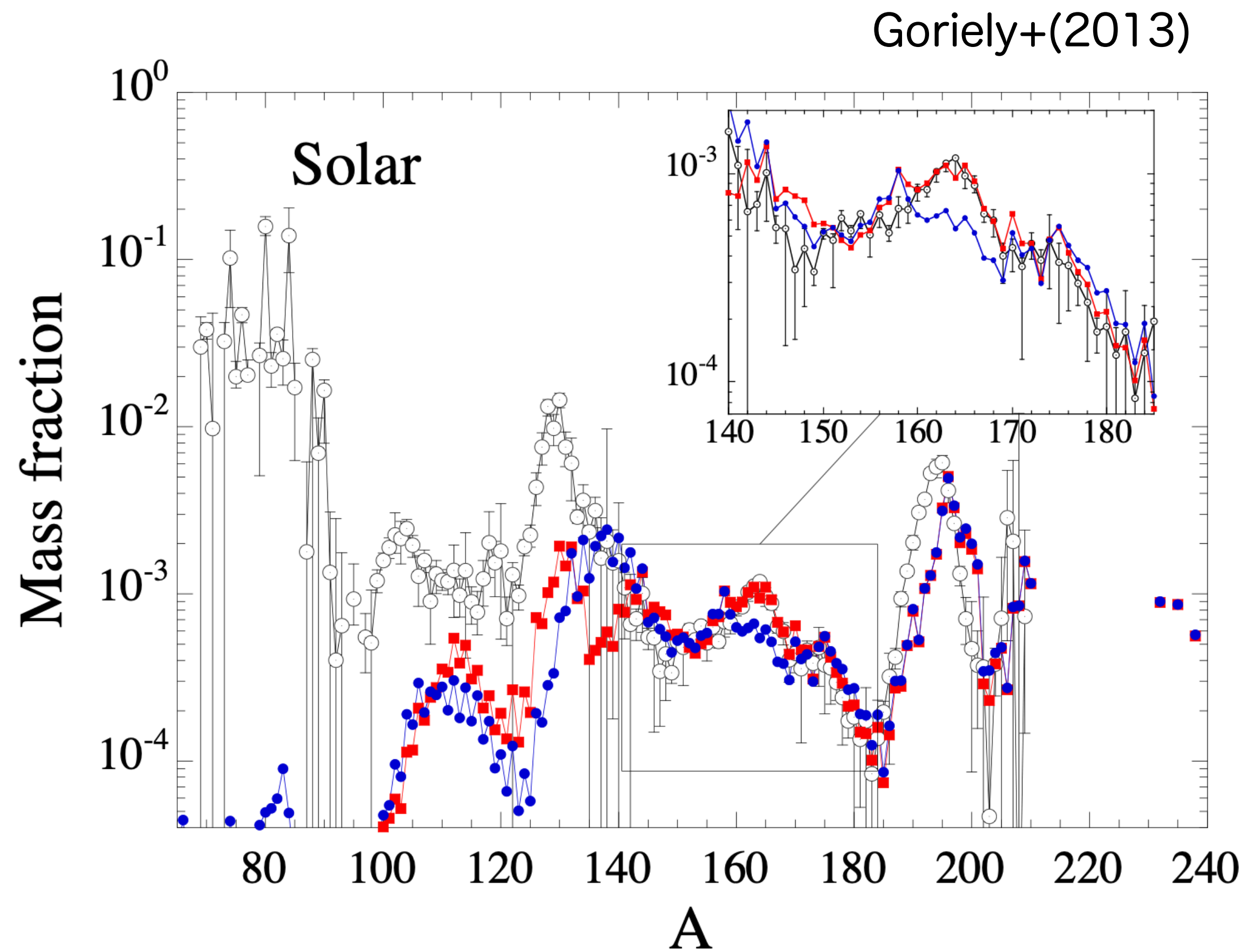
fission: OFF (unphysical)



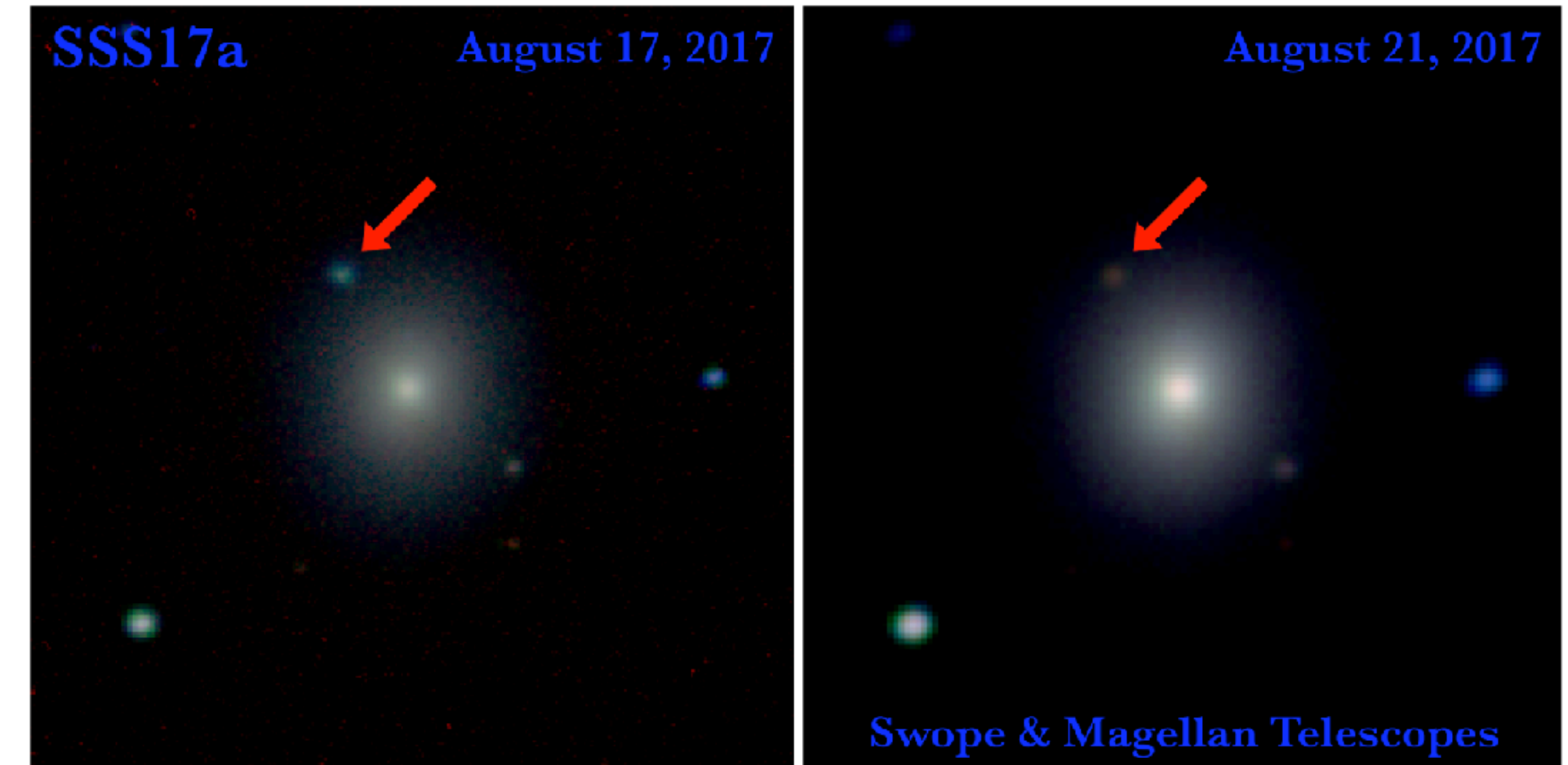
Nuclear fission in the r-process

r-process \rightarrow fission : termination, heating source of “kilonovae”

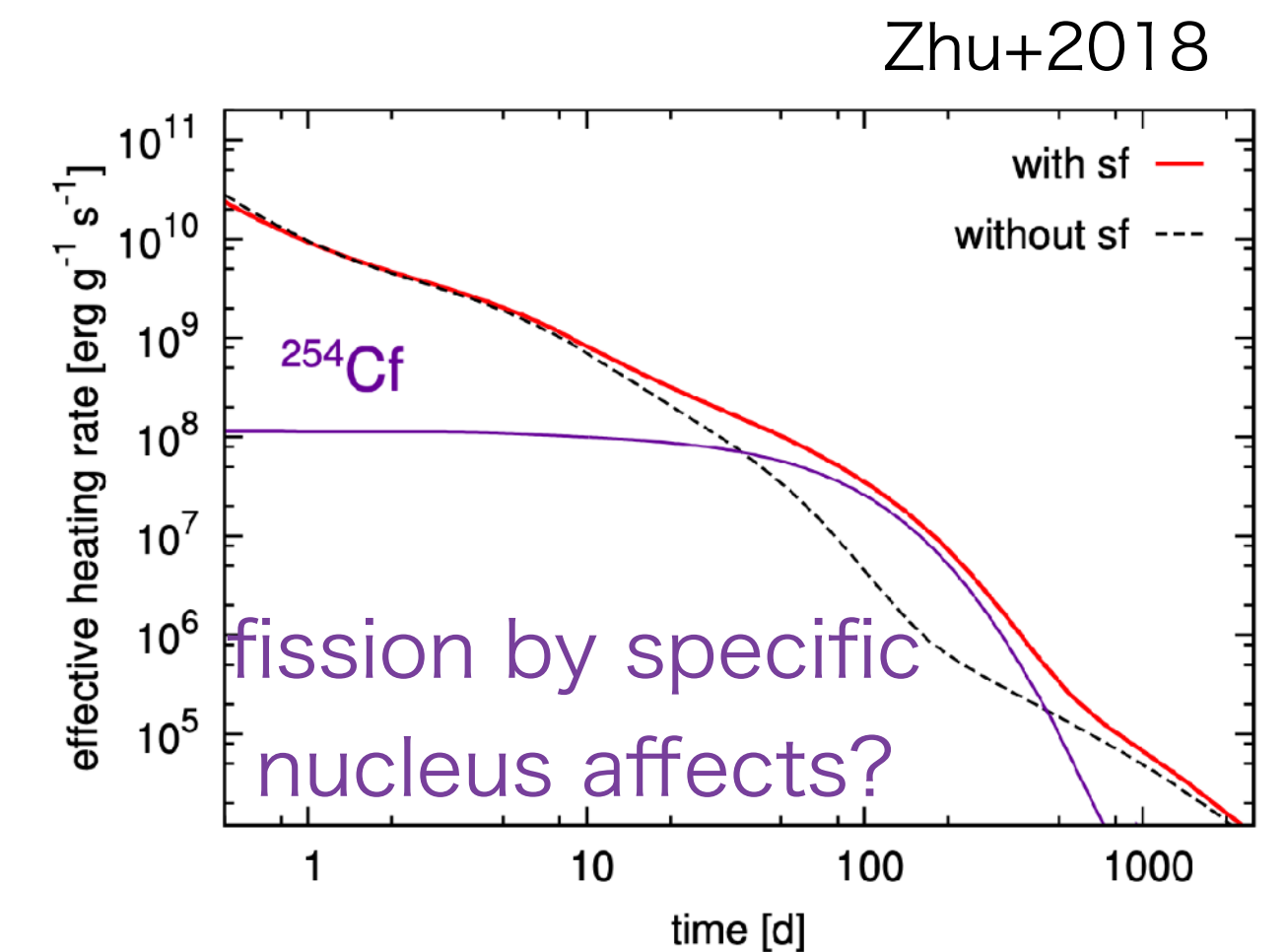
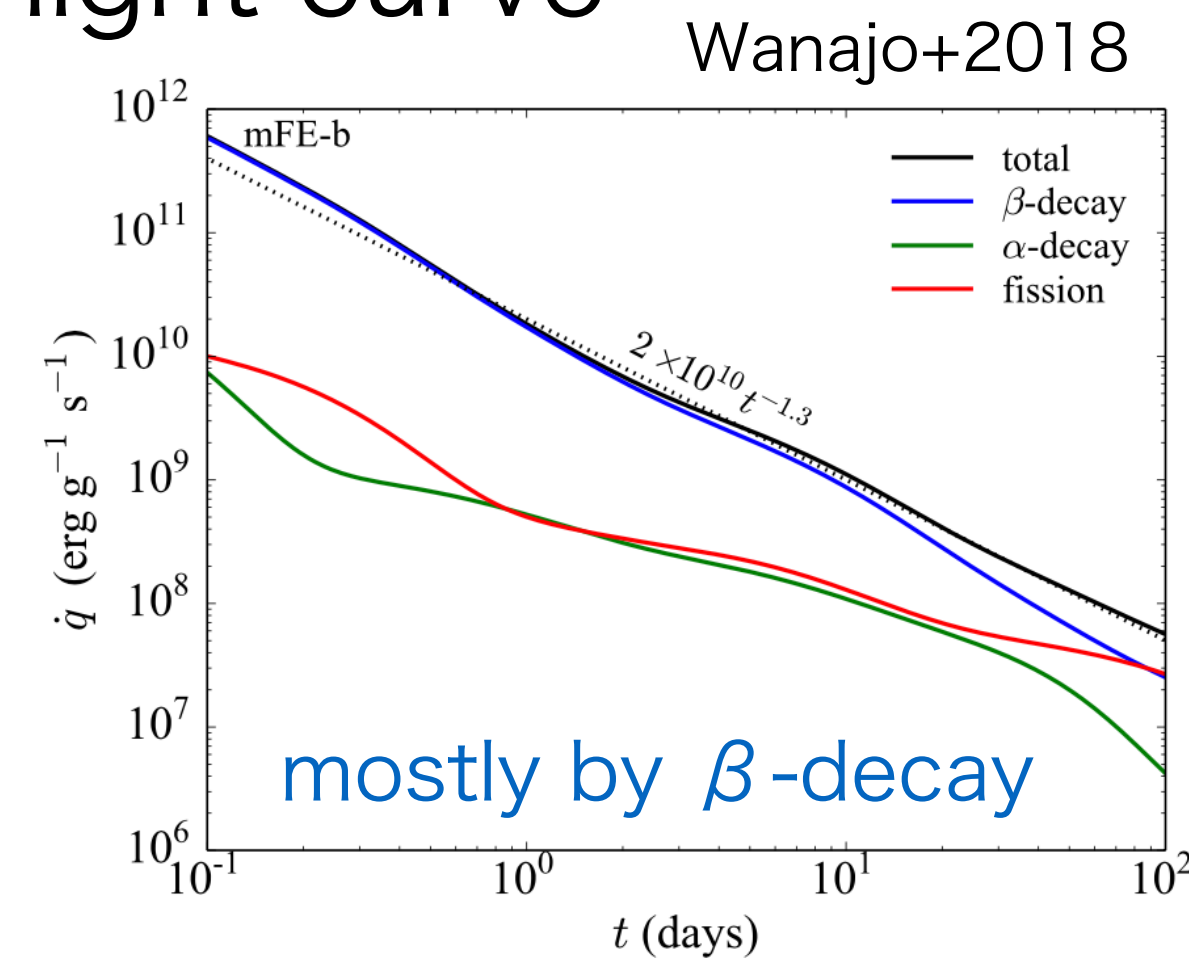
fission \rightarrow r-process : unique natural source, beyond accelerator experiments



NS merger (kilonova)



light curve



Talk plan

- **Fission in r-process**

- r-process is only nucleosynthesis process fission happens
- several astronomical observations

- **Recent progresses in astrophysics**

- Compact binary merger simulations and r-process
- Actinide-boost metal-poor stars

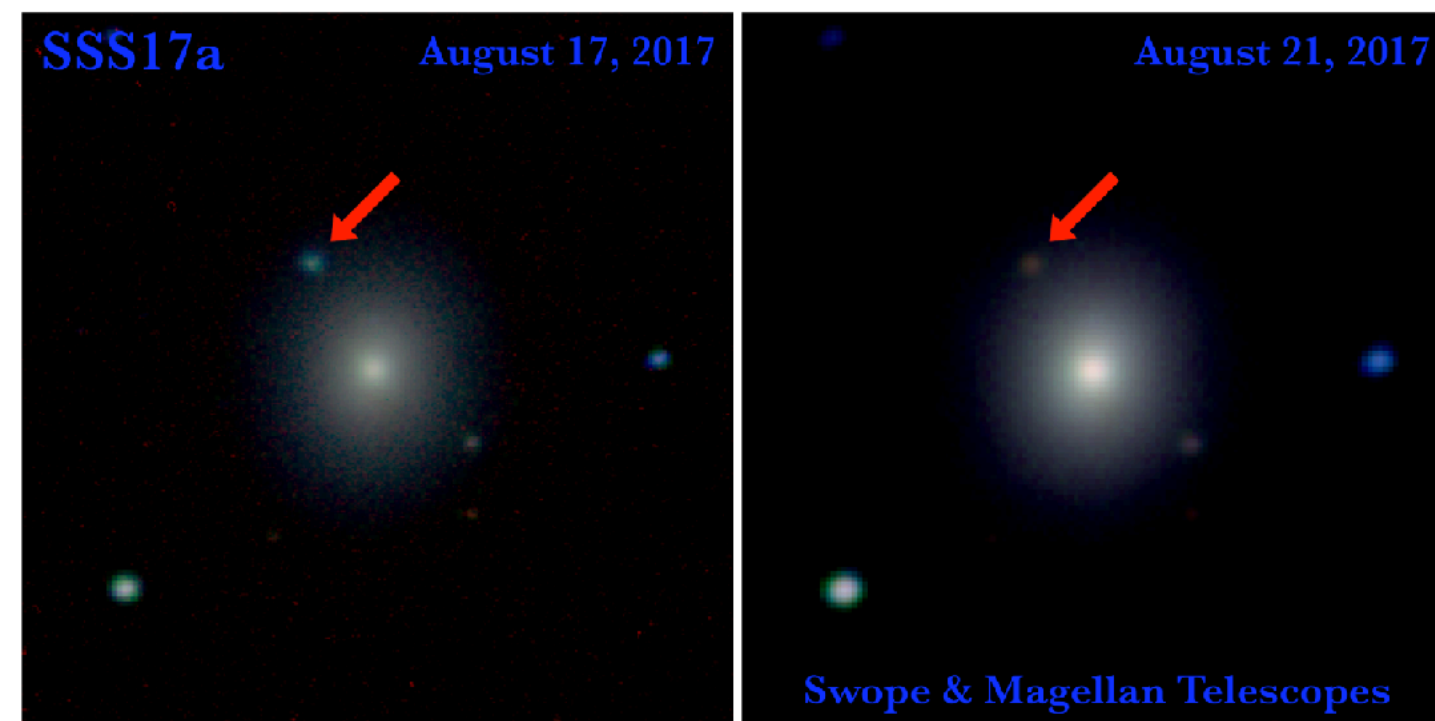
- **Theoretical fission data for the r-process**

- need for database: fission & n emission for U isotopes
- (impacts on the r-process)

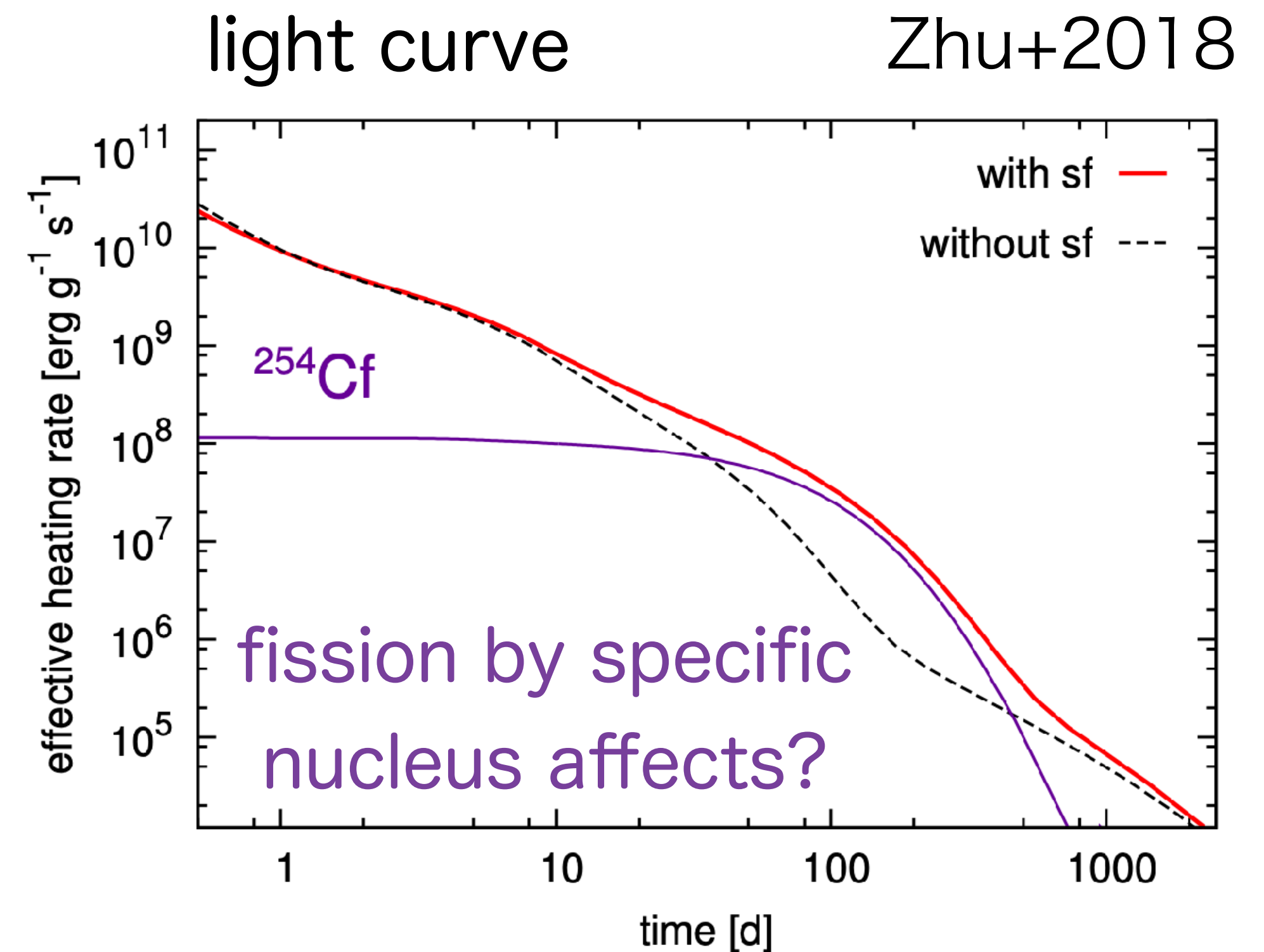
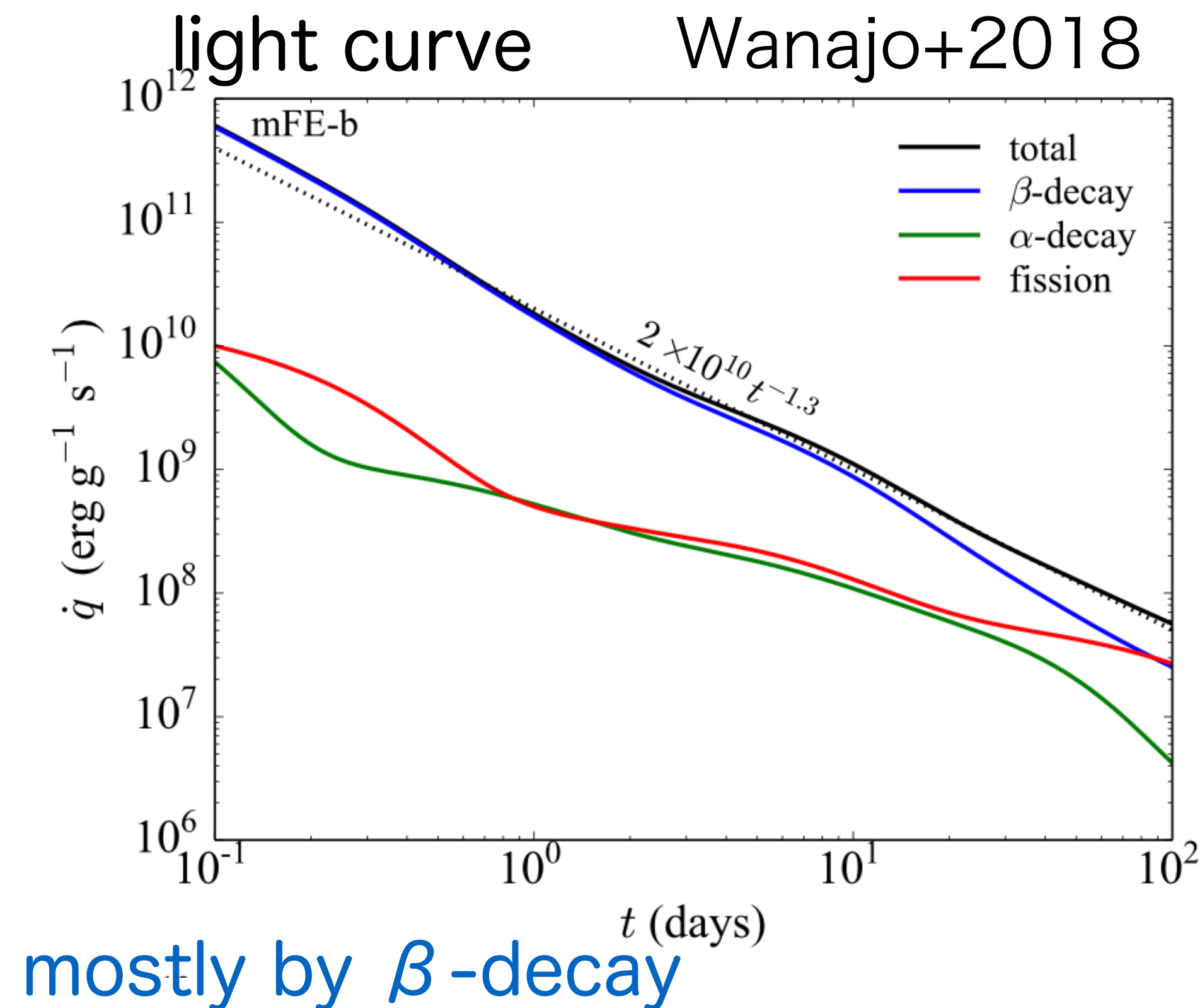
Recent progresses in astrophysics

Nuclear fission in the r-process: kilonovae

NS merger (kilonova)

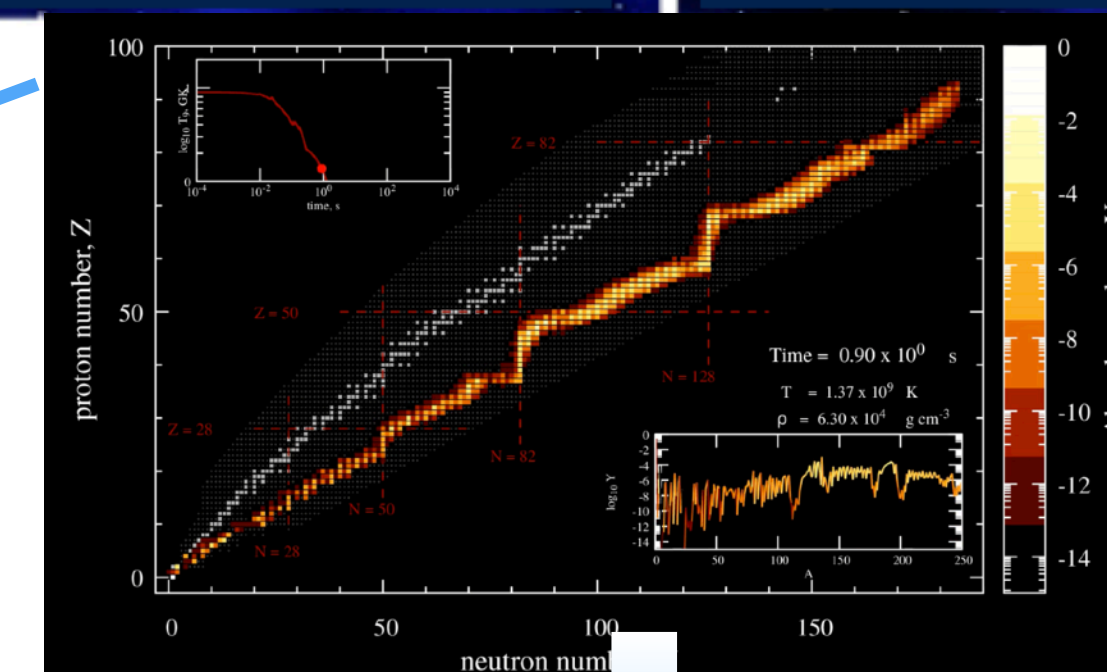
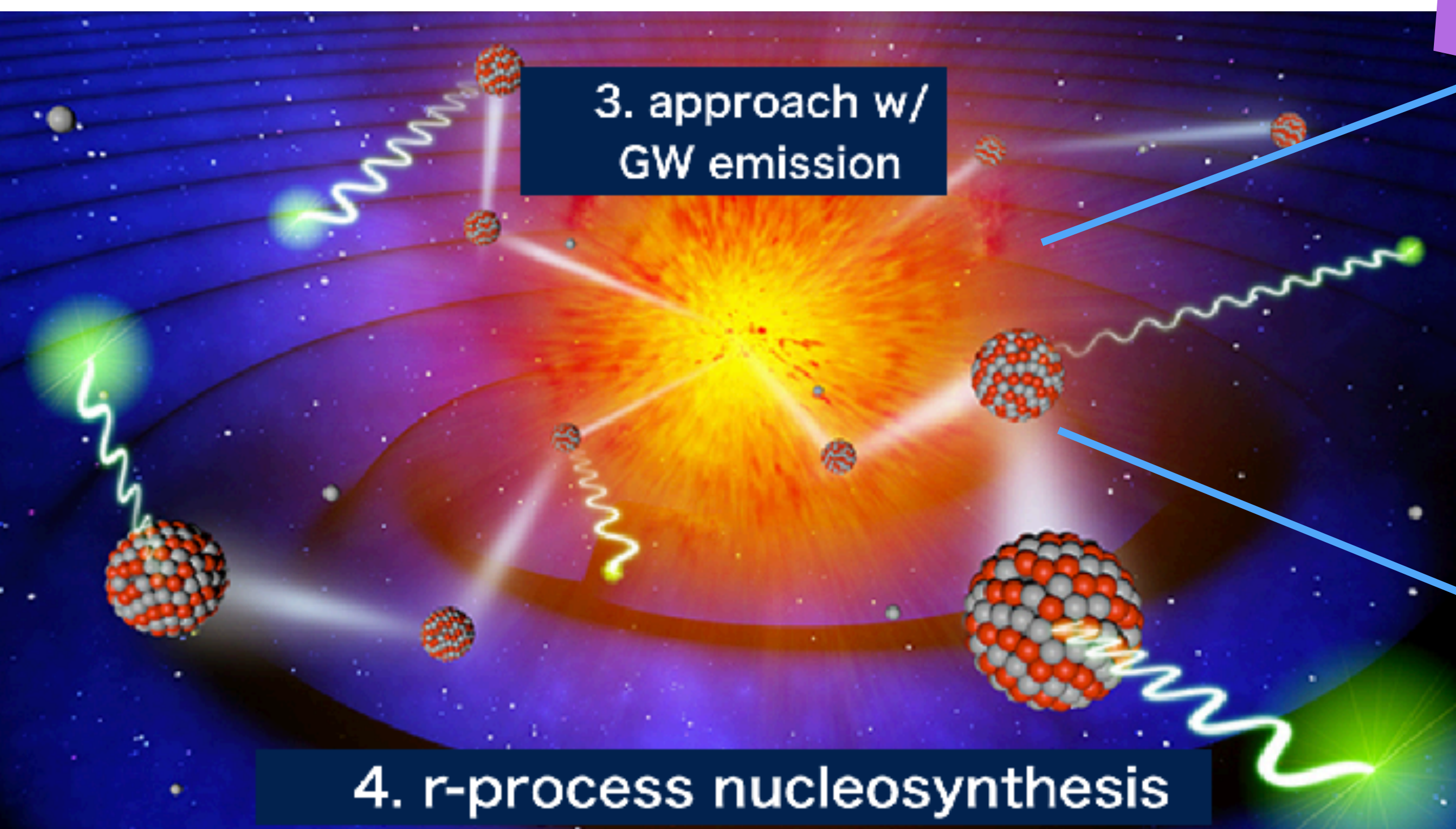
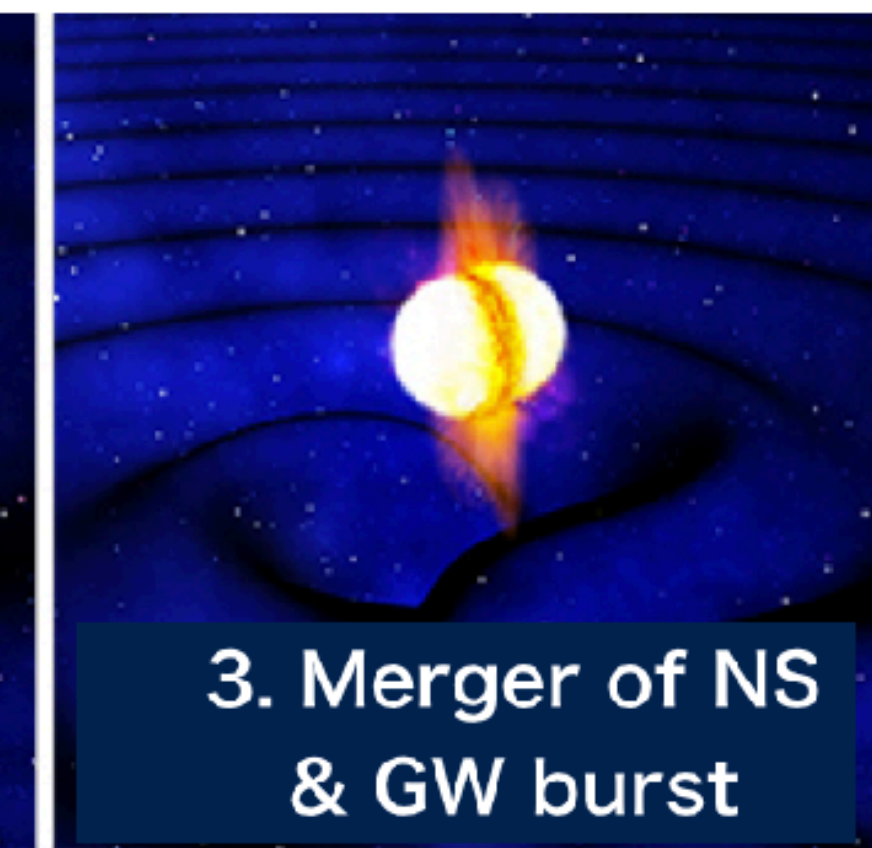
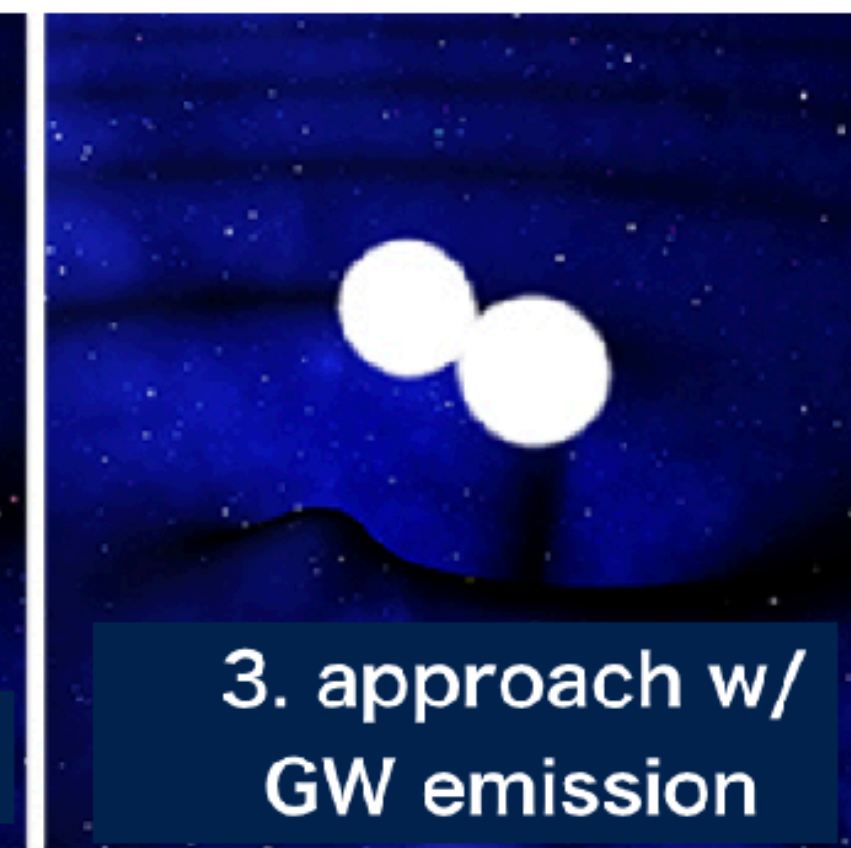
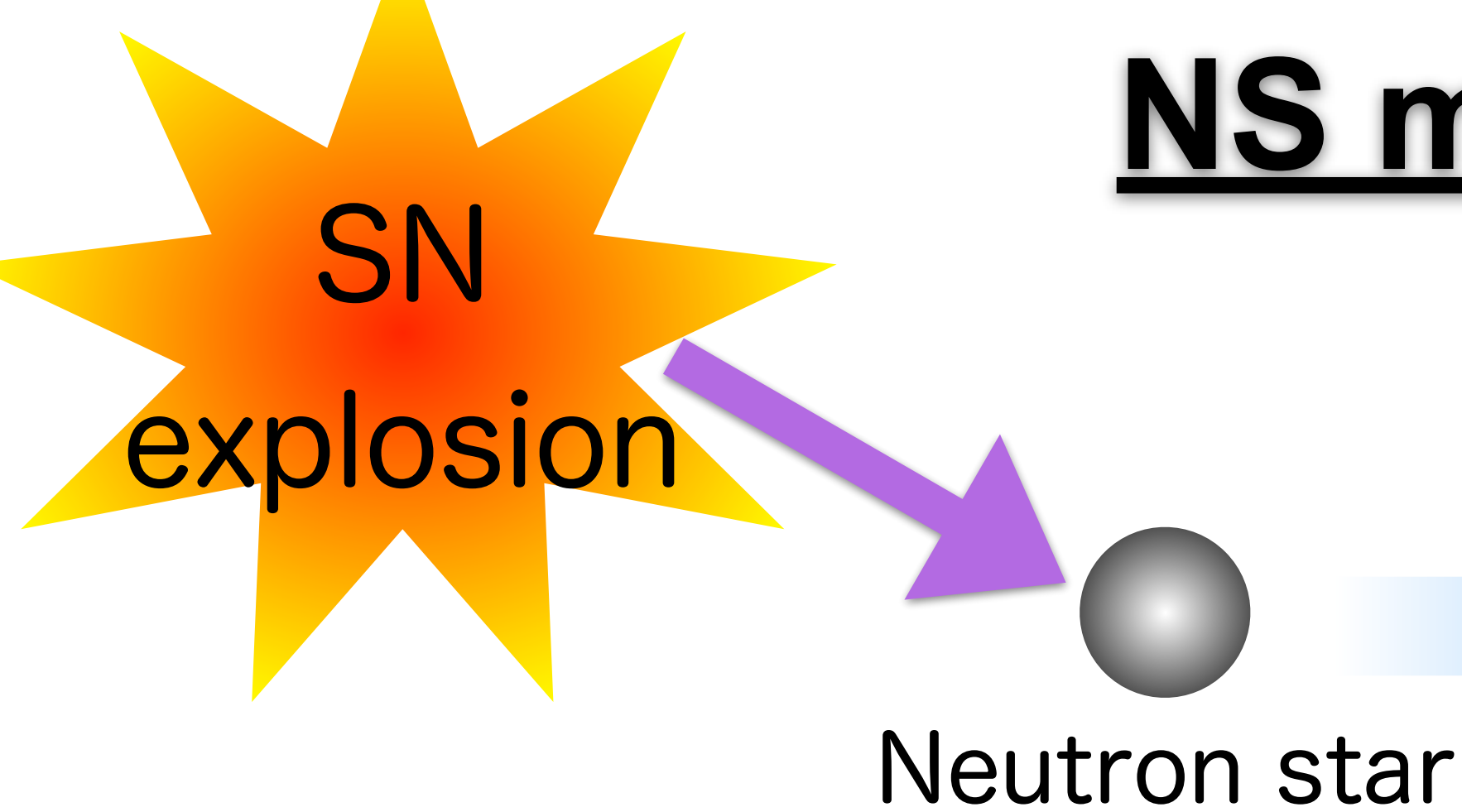


r-process → fission : heating source of “kilonovae”

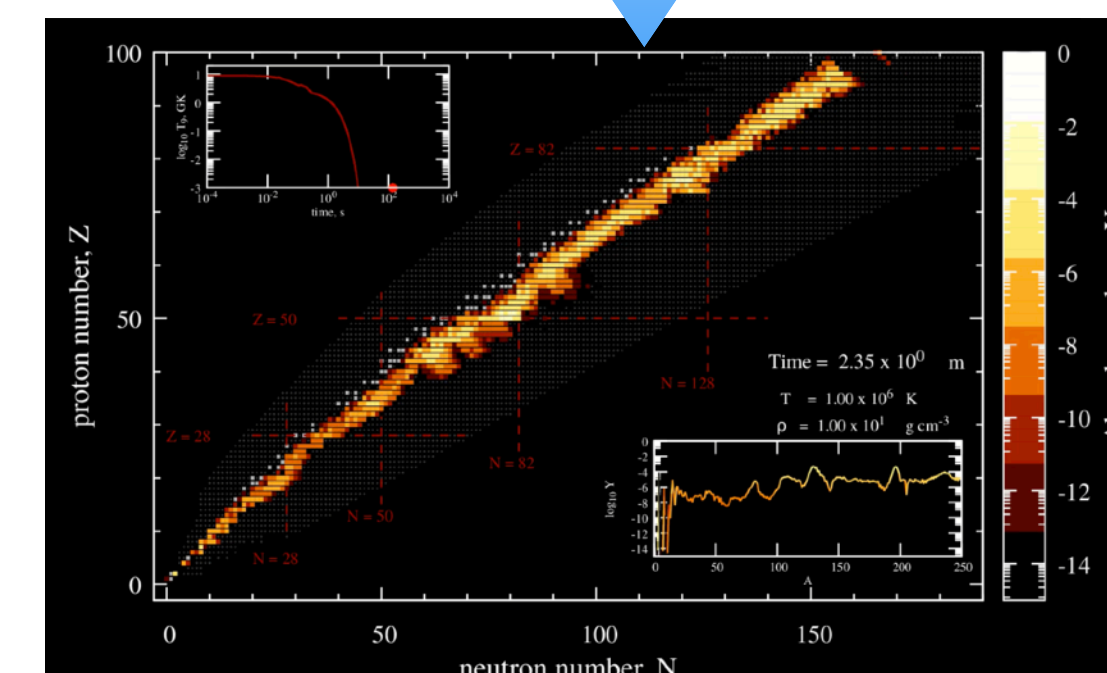


NS mergers and "kilonova"

credit NAOJ

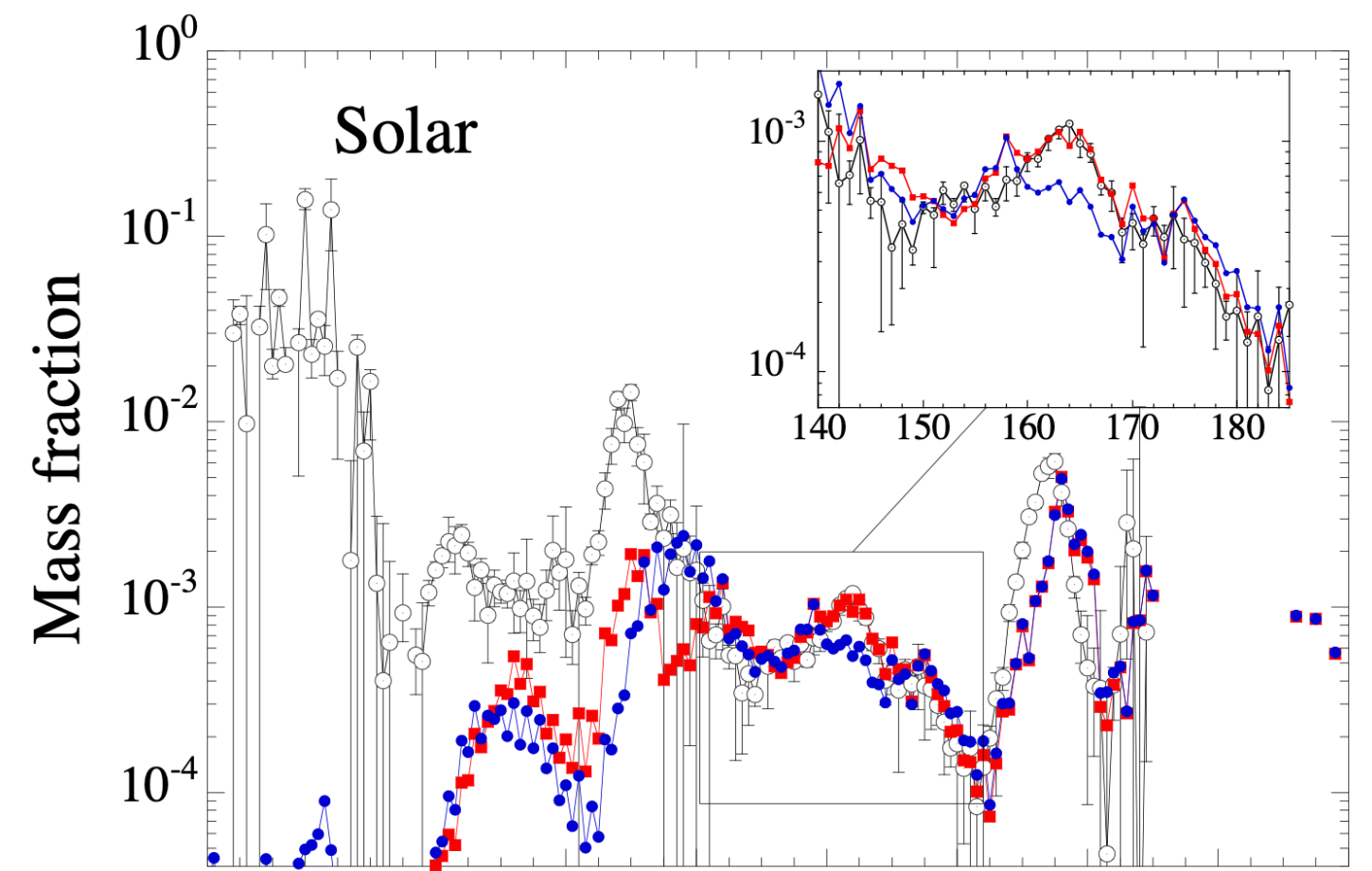
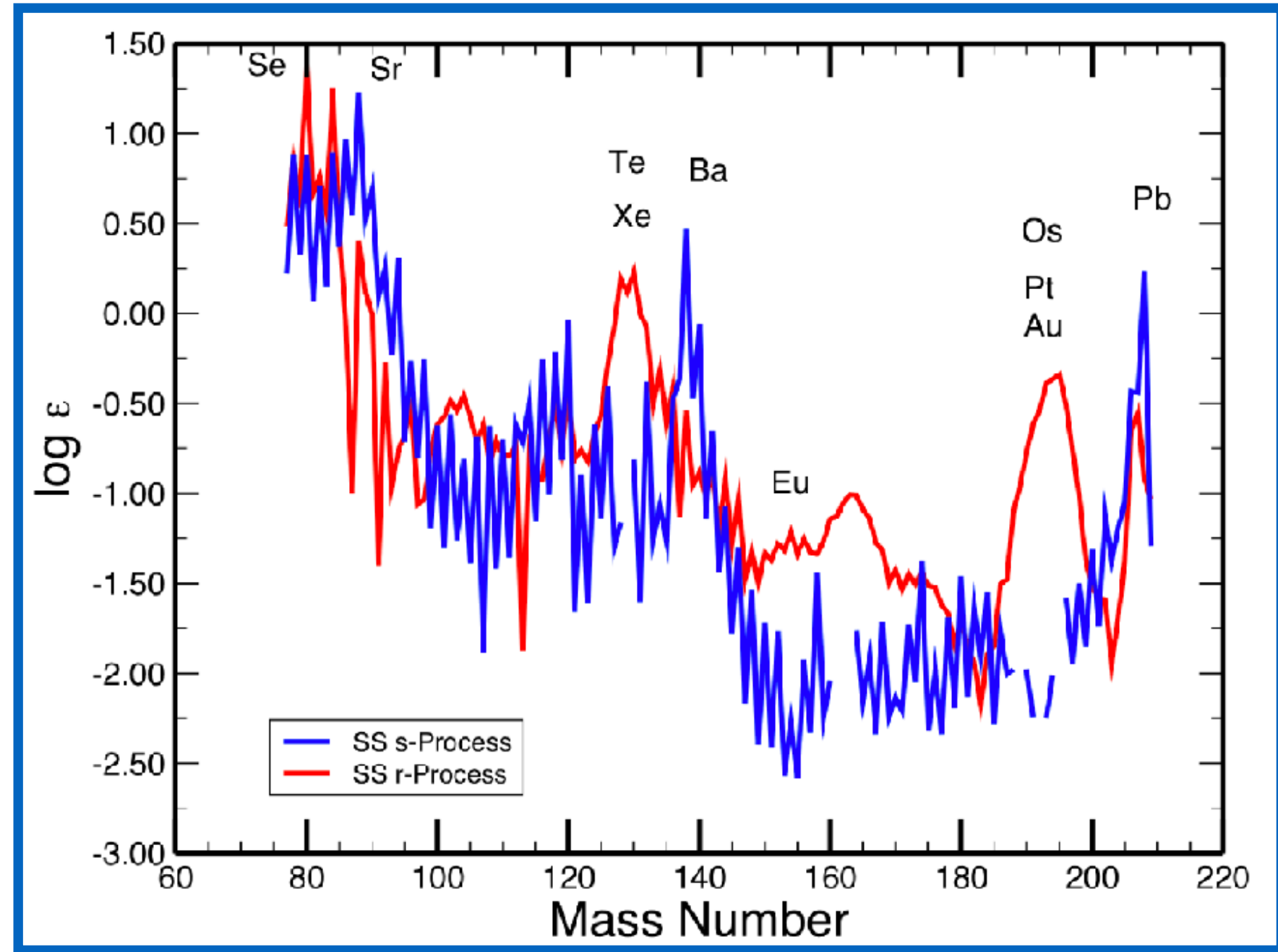


radio active decays of r-process elements



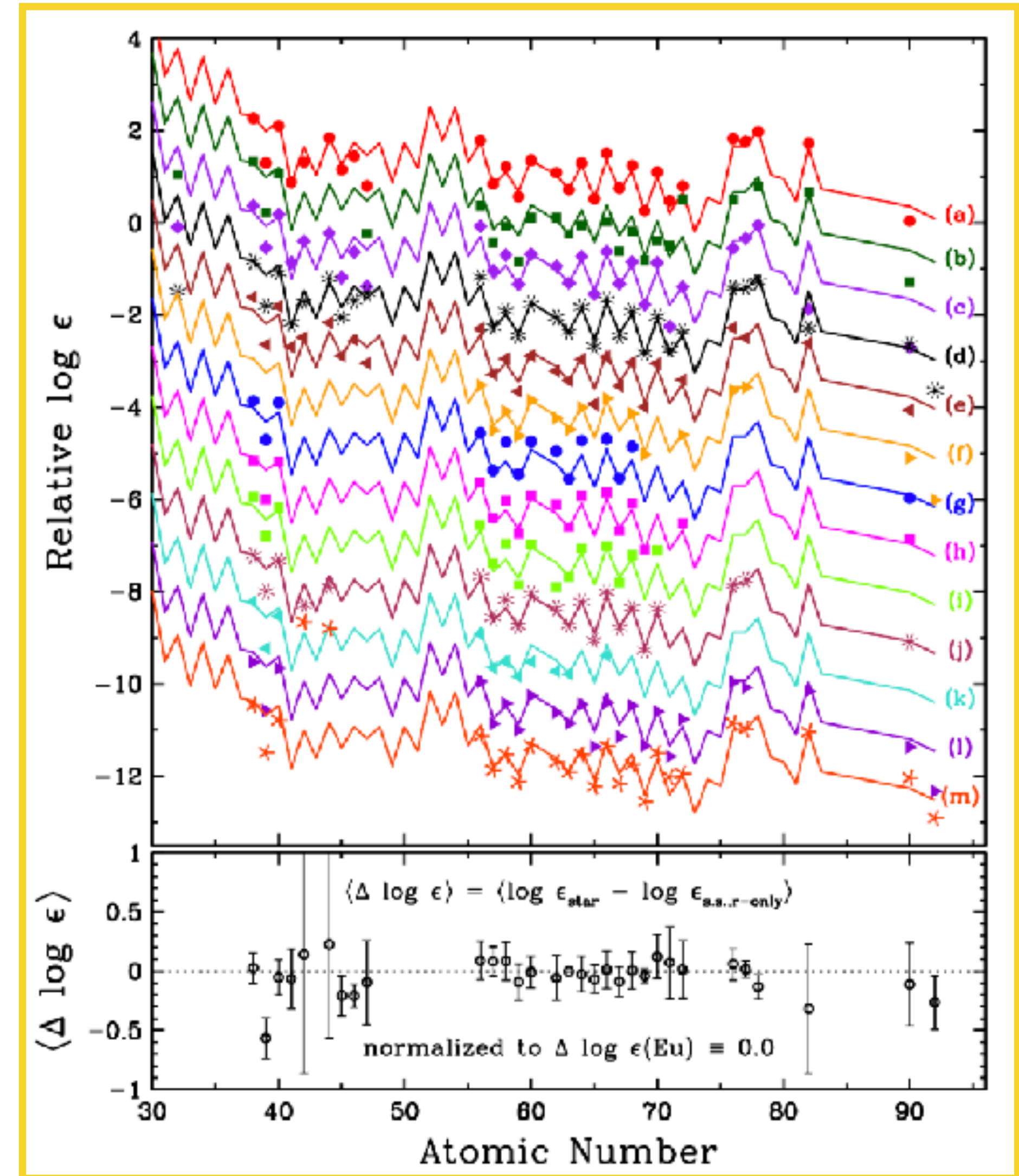
Nuclear fission in the r-process: abundances

the solar abundances
(integrated r-process yields)



Goriely+(2013)

A



$\langle \Delta \log \epsilon \rangle$

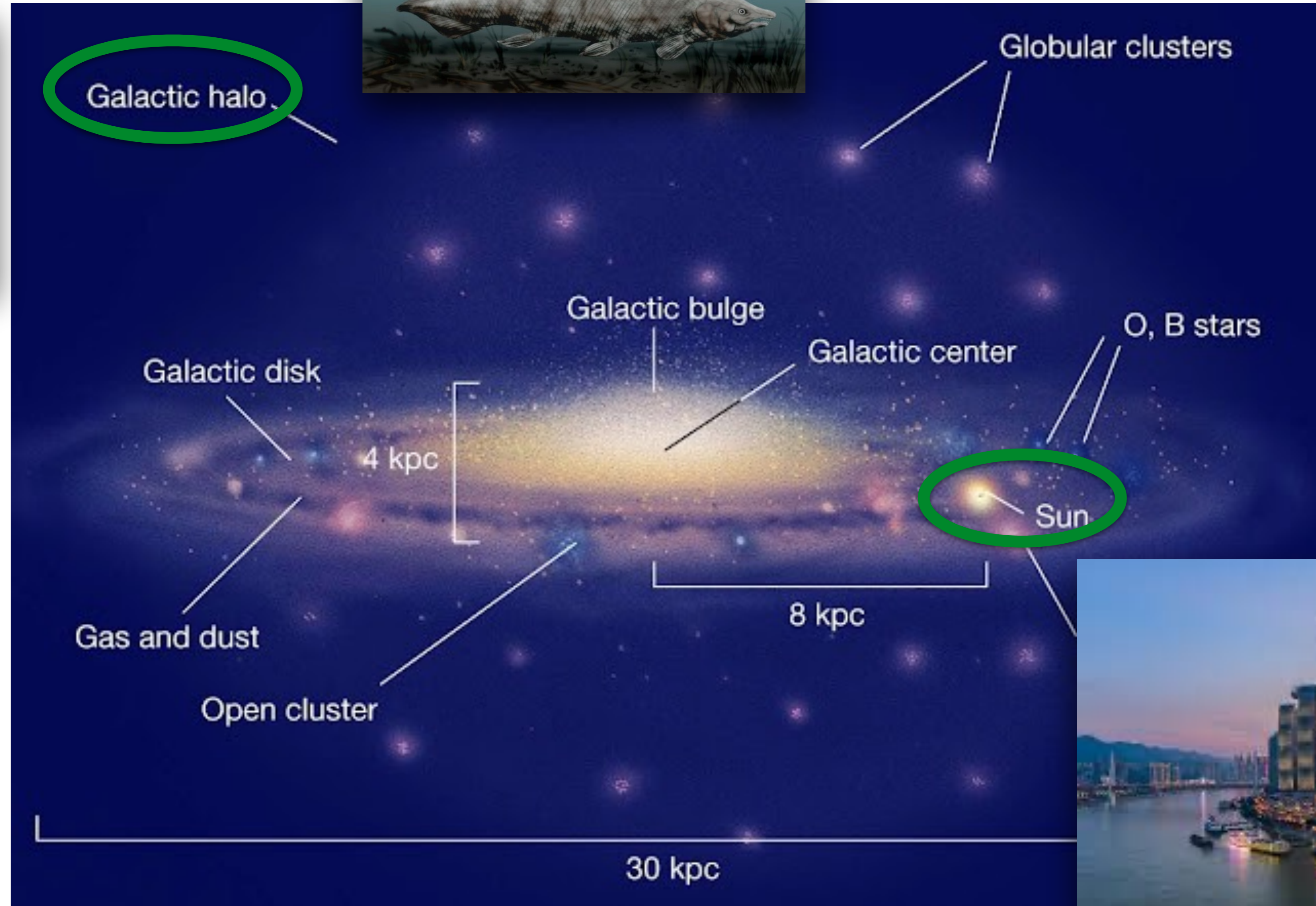
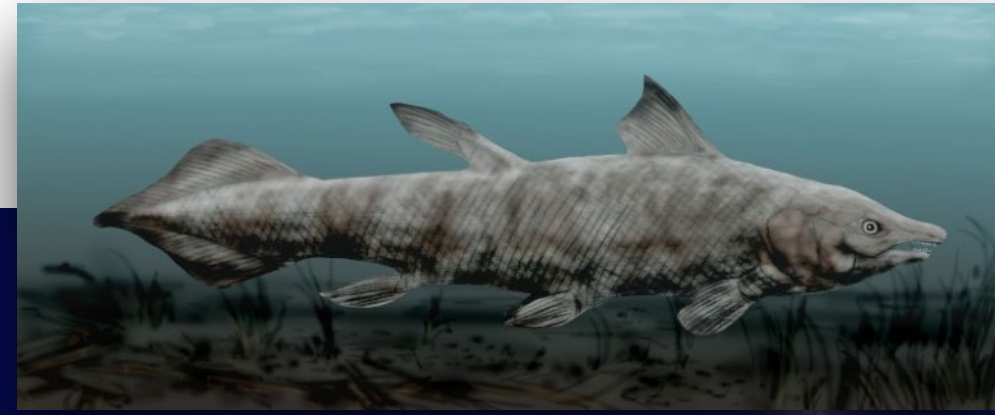
$$\langle \Delta \log \epsilon \rangle = \langle \log \epsilon_{\text{star}} - \log \epsilon_{\text{s.a.s.r-only}} \rangle$$

normalized to $\Delta \log \epsilon(\text{Eu}) = 0.0$

Atomic Number

Metal-poor stars and “Galactic Archaeology”

fossils



present day

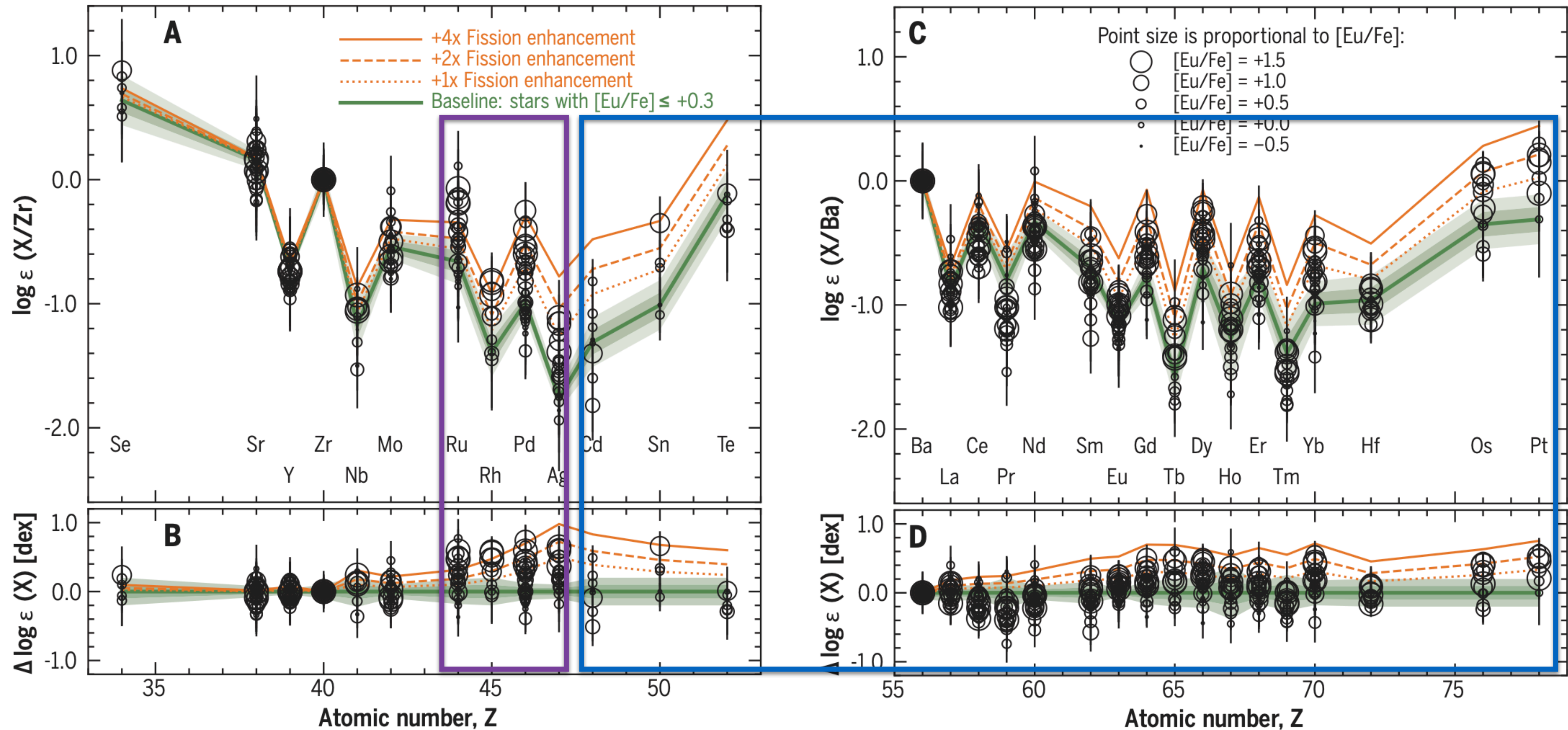


Credit: Pearson Education Inc.

Fission yields in metal-poor stars

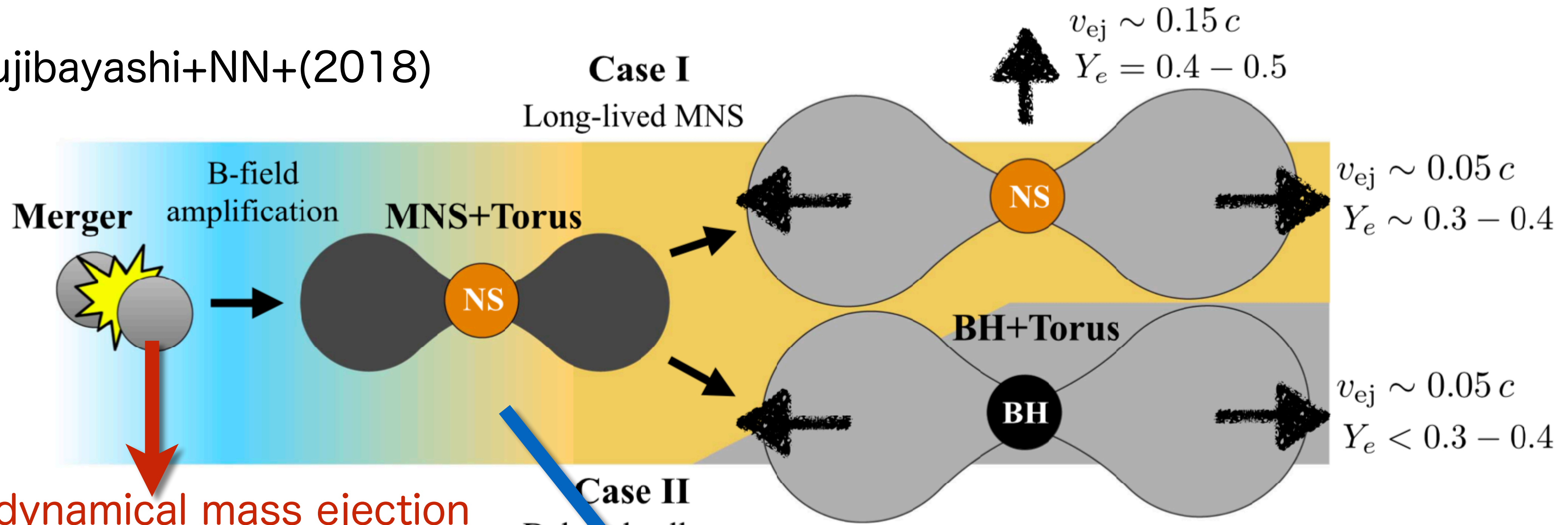
- 42 r-process enhanced metal-poor stars
- $Z = 44\text{--}47$ elements correlate with $48 \leq Z \leq 78$ and $A > 150$

Roederer+(2023) Science 382 (6675)

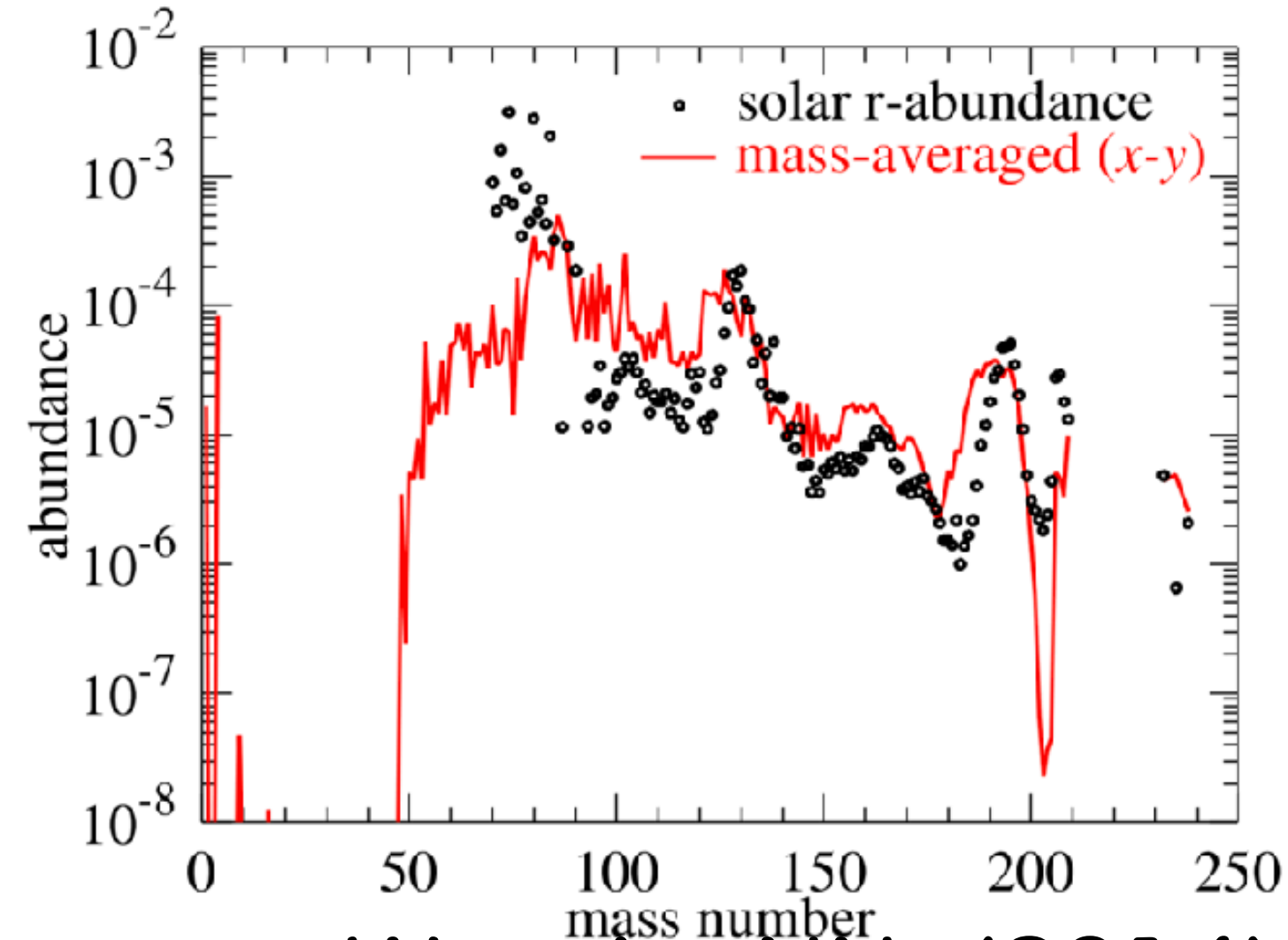


r-process in NS–NS mergers: dynamical + post-merger

Fujibayashi+NN+(2018)



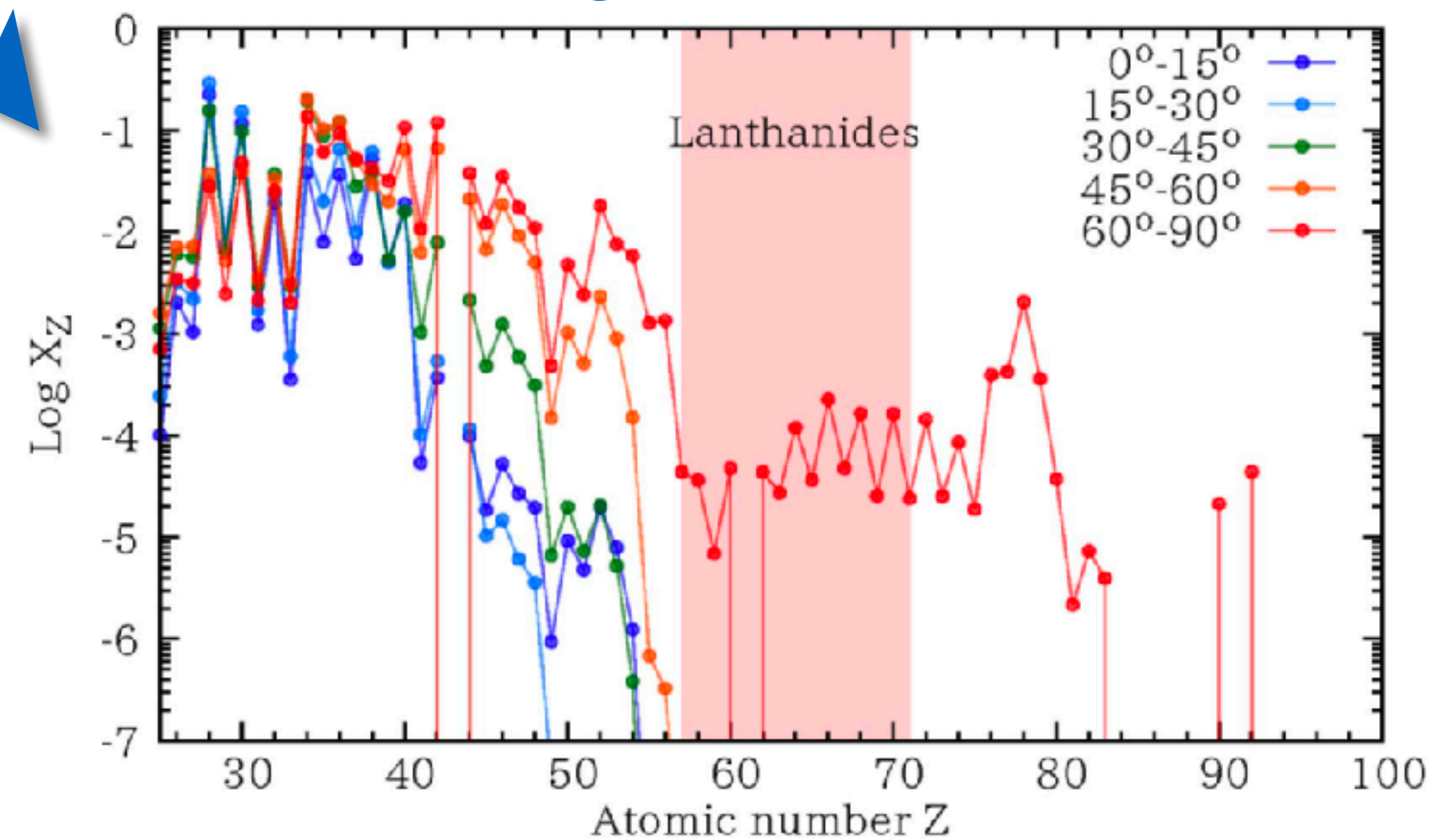
dynamical mass ejection



Wanajo+NN+(2014)

Case II
Delayed collapse

post-merger

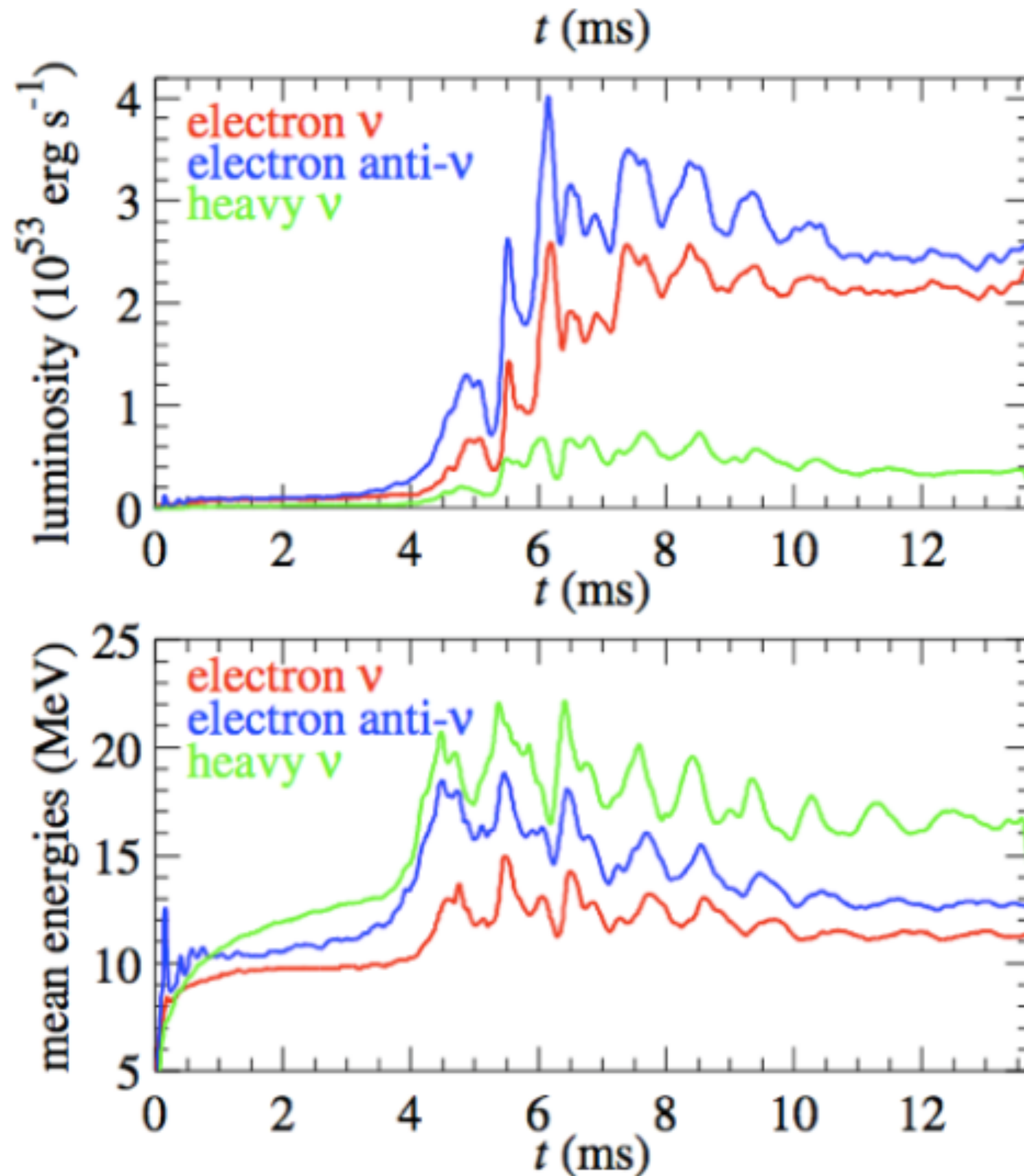


lighter r-nuclei
(lanthanide poor)

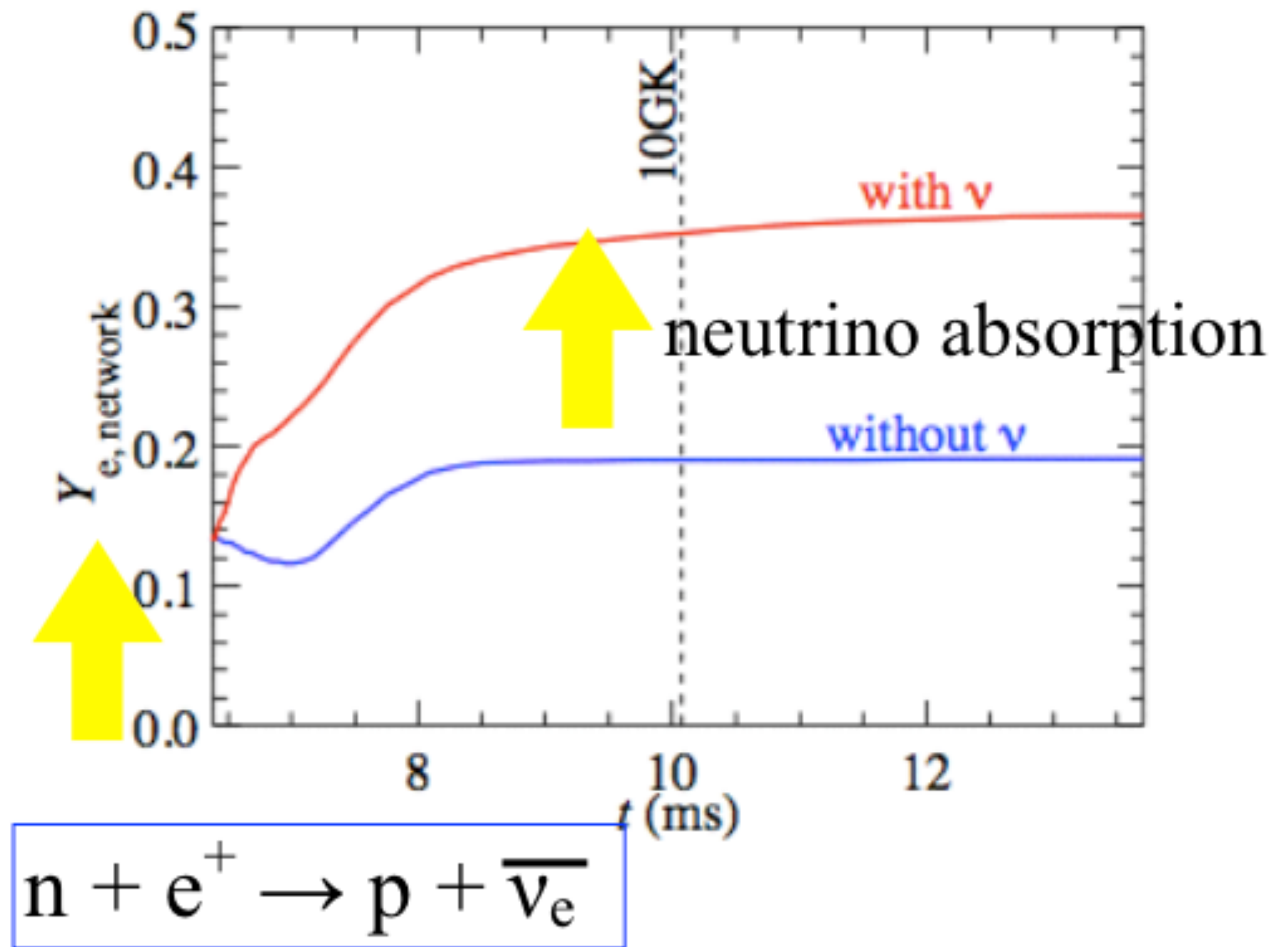
lanthanide
 $Z = 57 - 71$

Y_e change by the neutrino burst

“Protonization” Burst

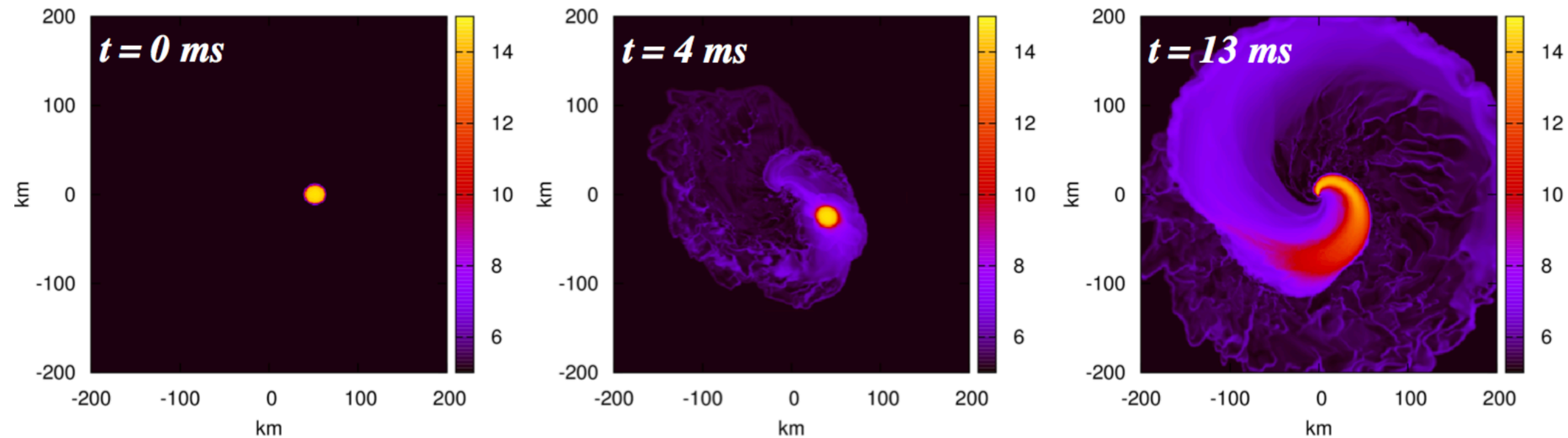


Y_e changes due to positron capture and neutrino absorption

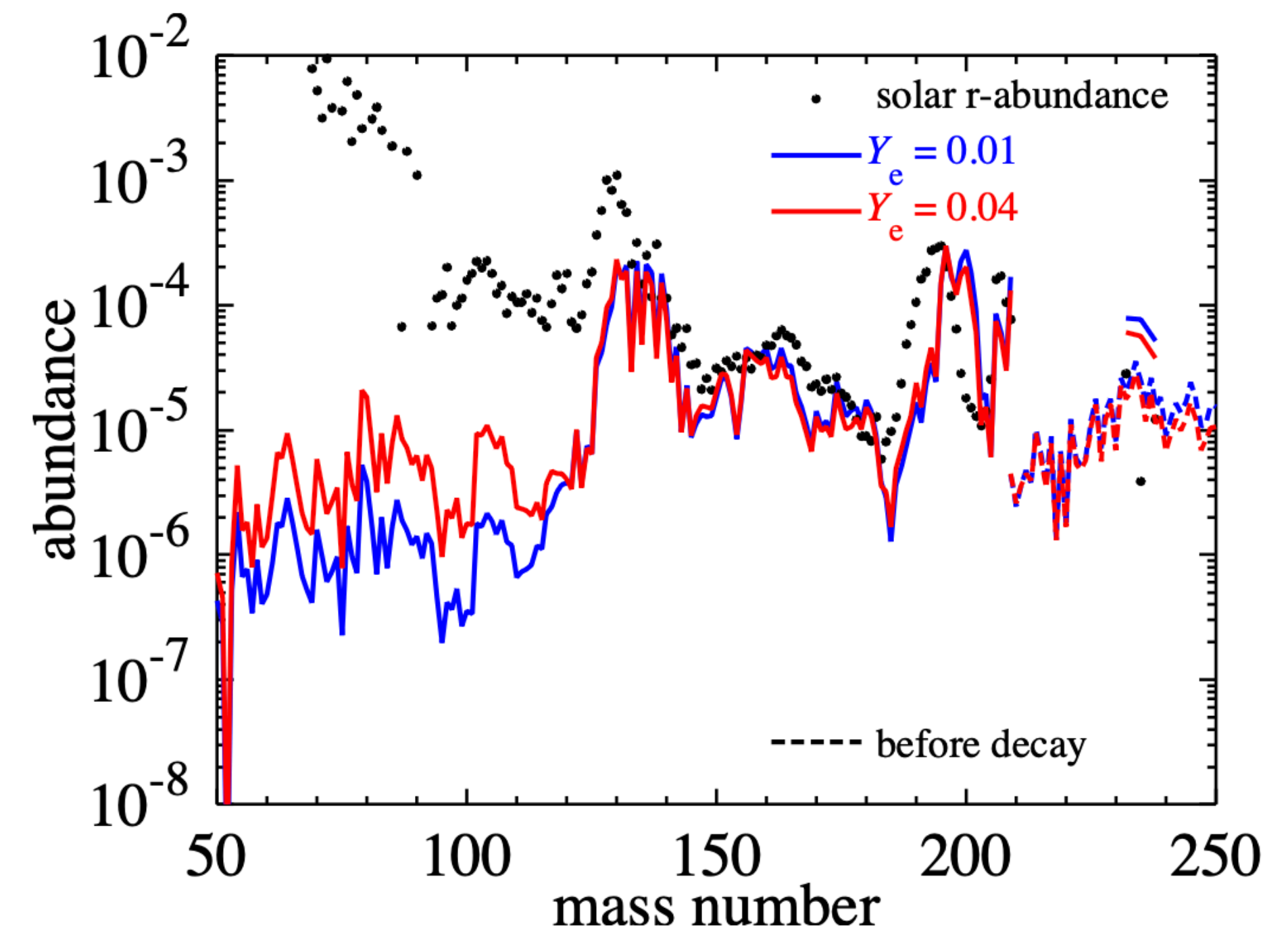


Stronger fission in BH–NS?

NN+(2016): NPA6 conference proceedings

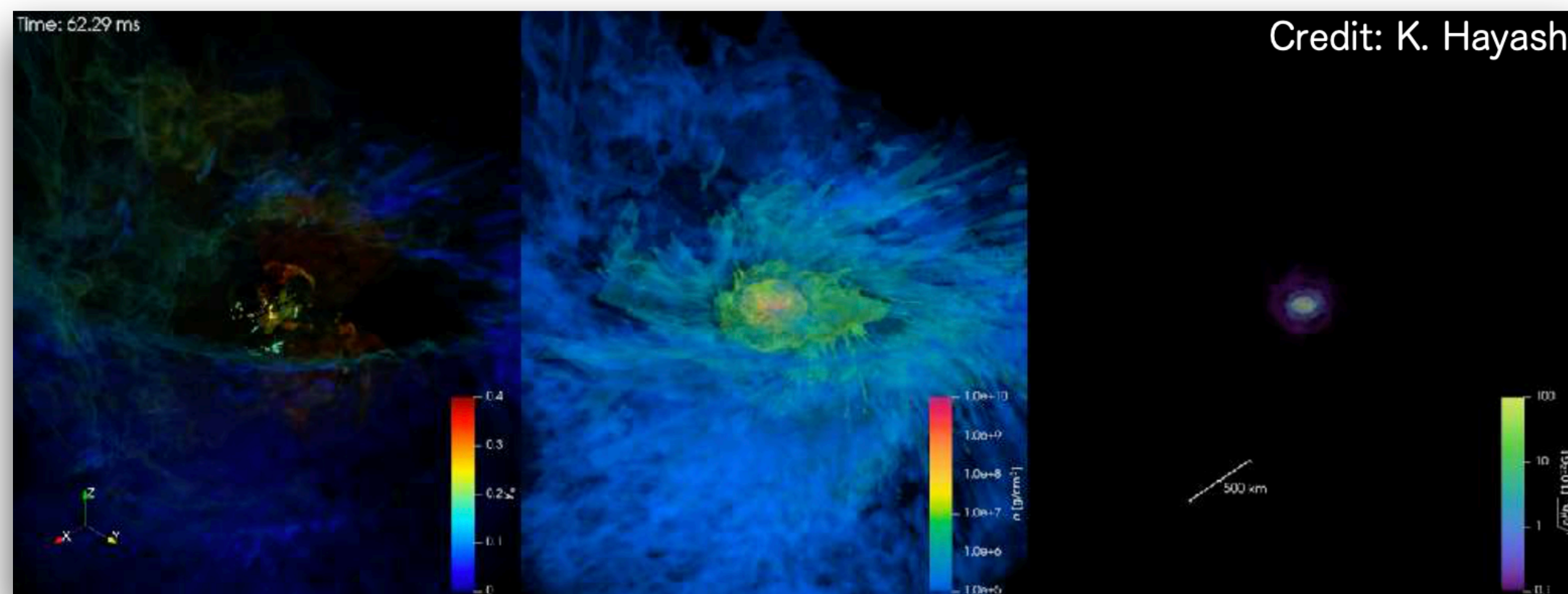


dynamical ejection due to tidal disruption:
keeps very n-rich matter of cold NSs
→ strong r-processes with fission cycling

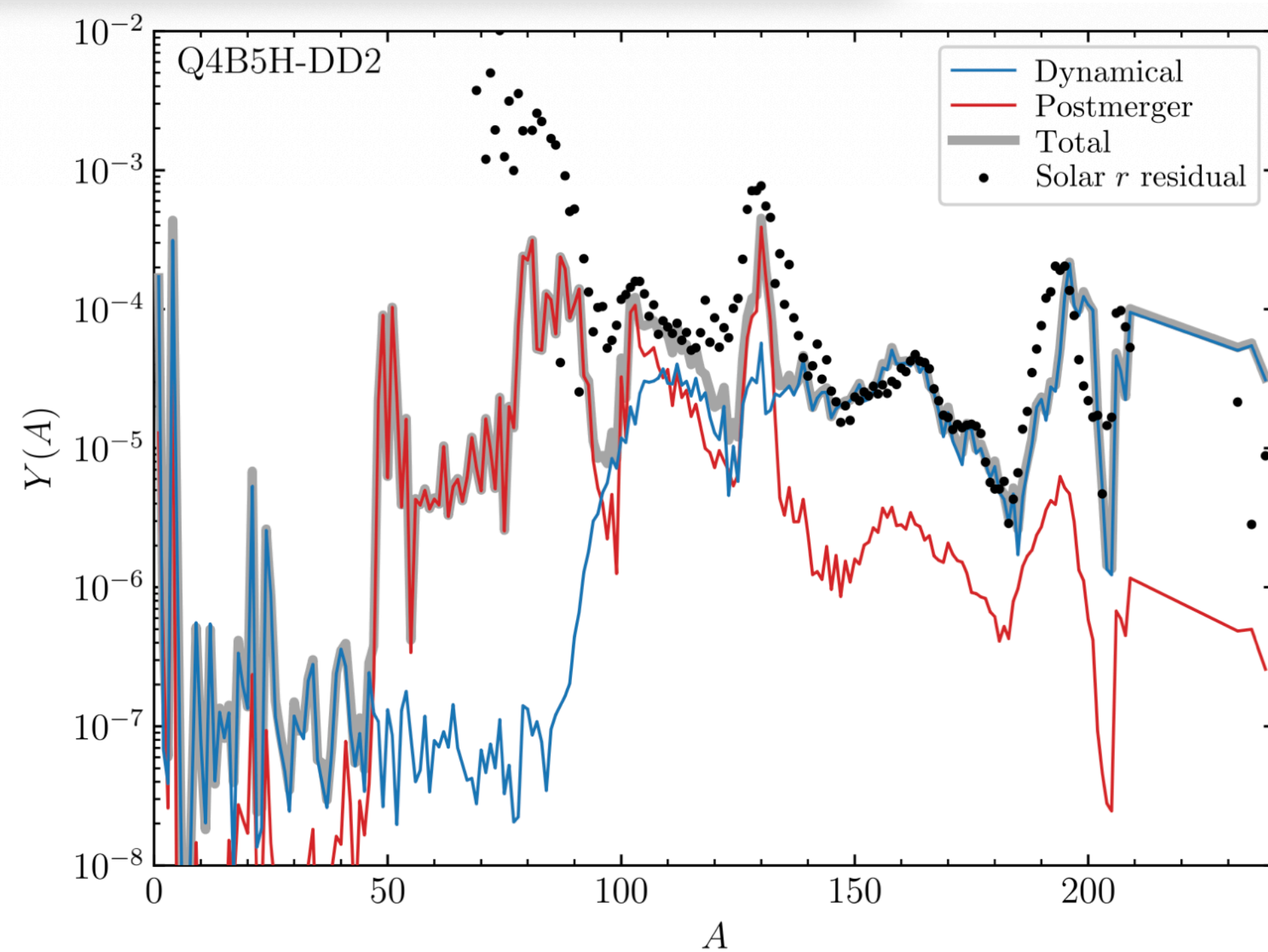
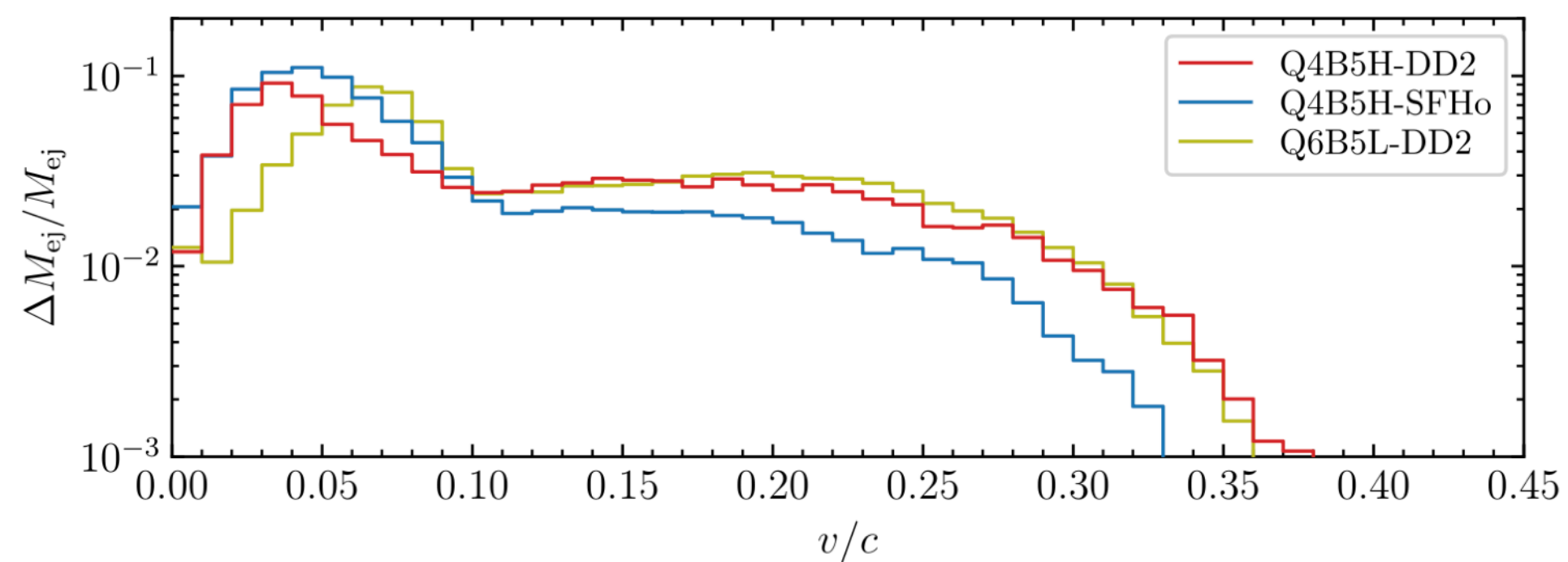
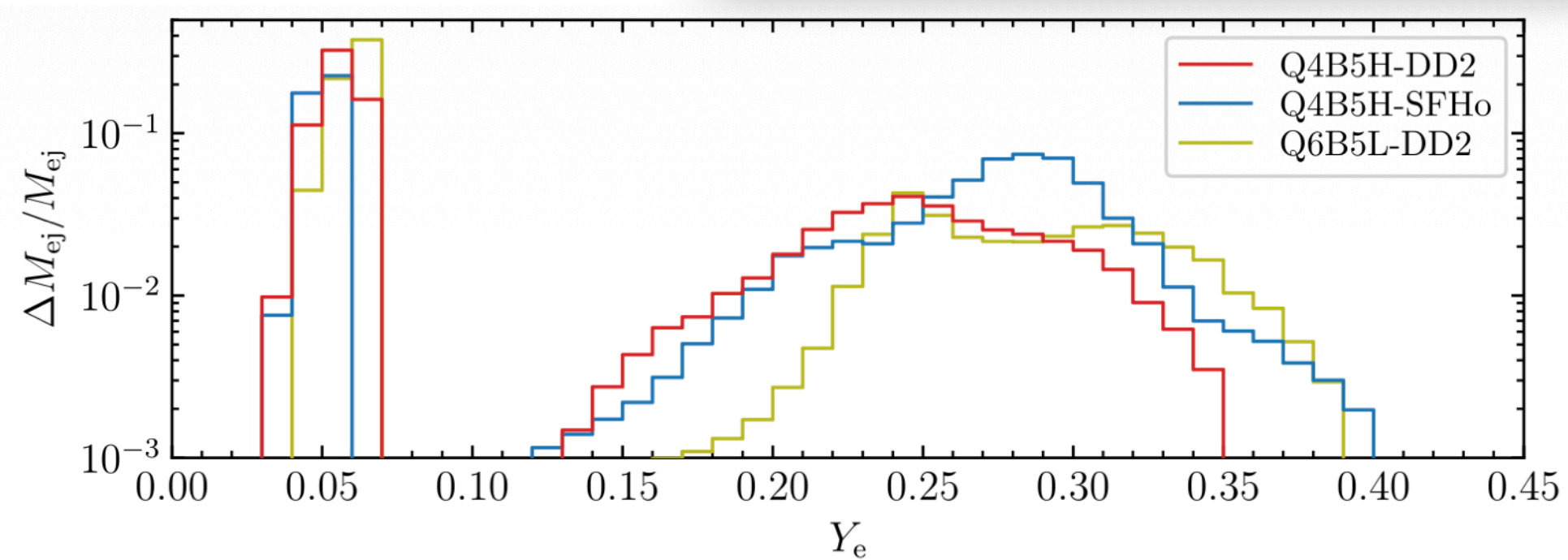


Nuclear fission in r-process nucleosynthesis

BH-NS simulation
Wanajo+(2024)



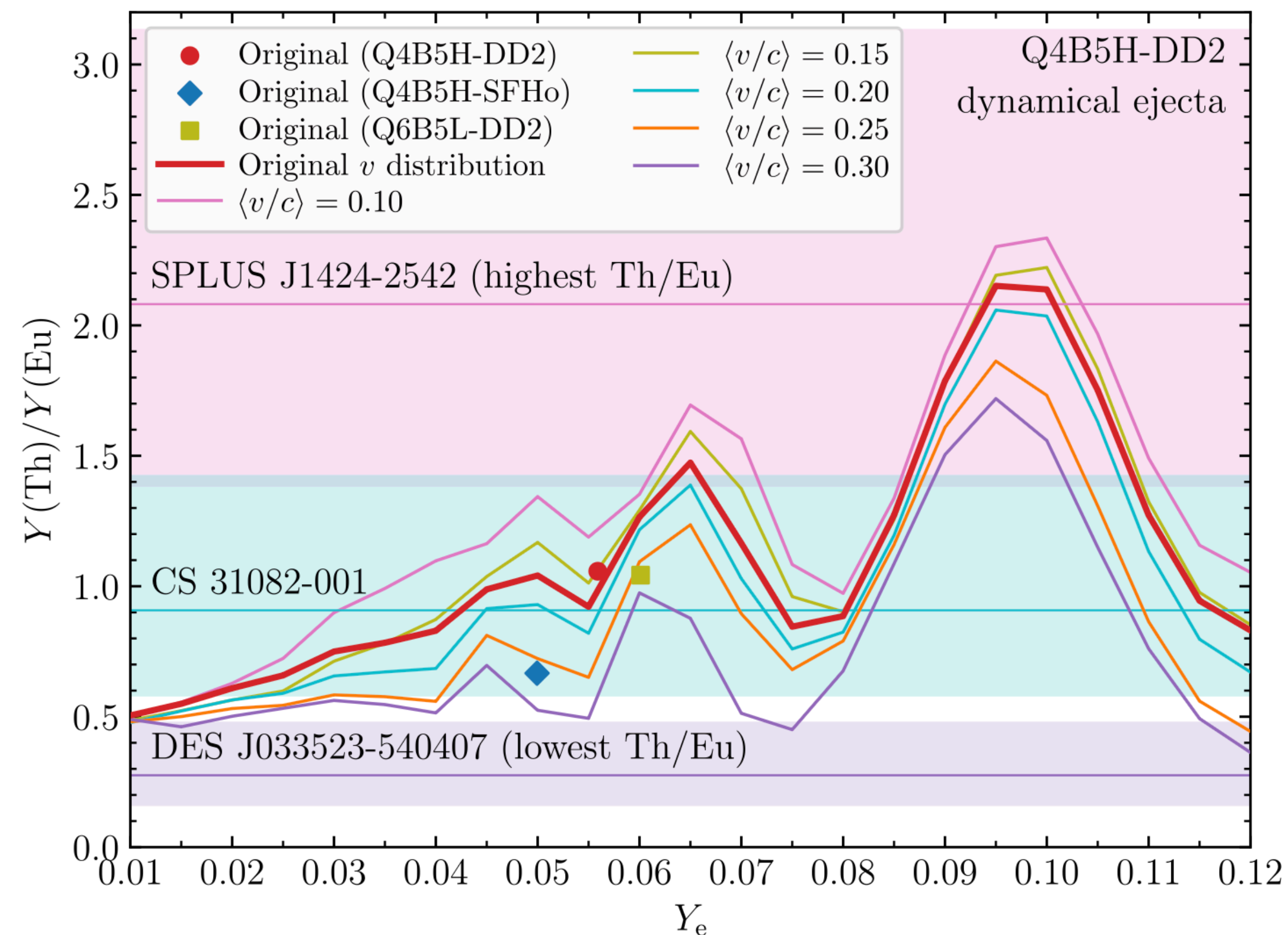
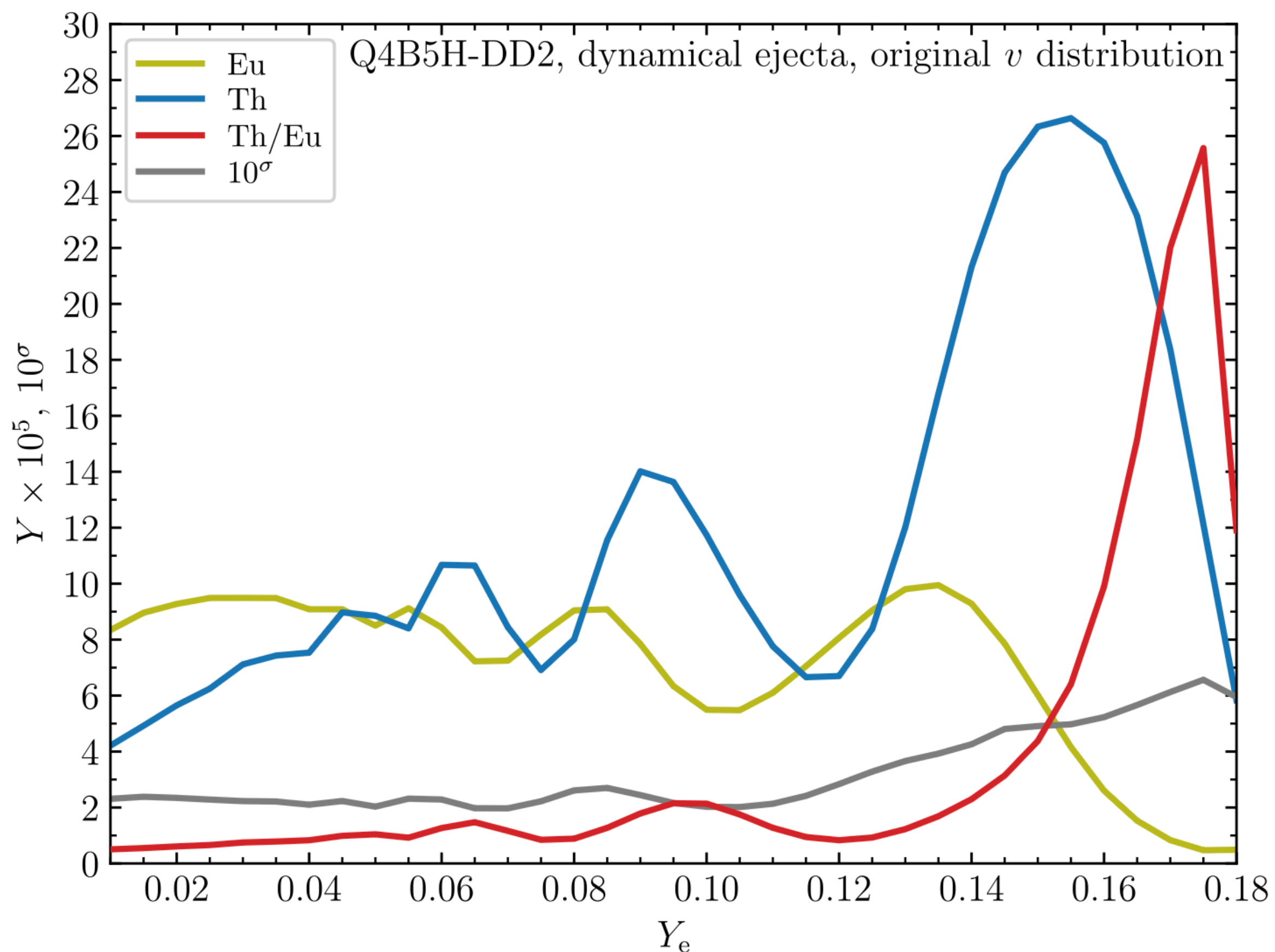
different EOS



Nuclear fission in r-process nucleosynthesis

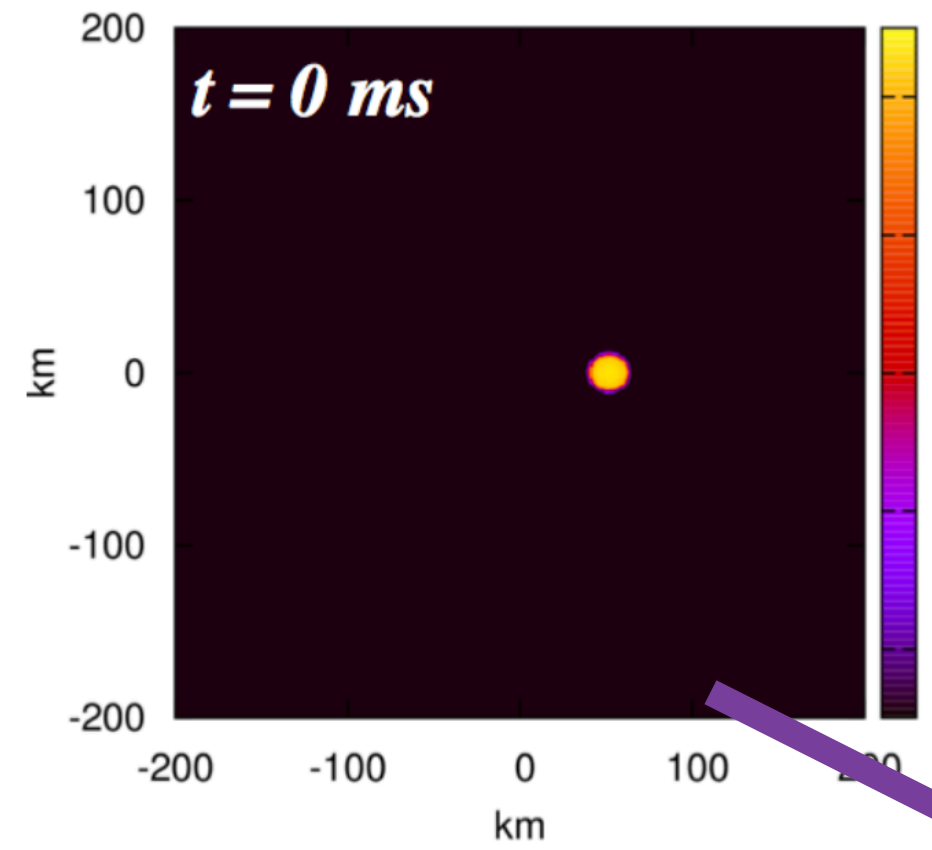
Abundance comparison to actinides-boost stars
(not the solar abundances)

Wanajo+(2024)

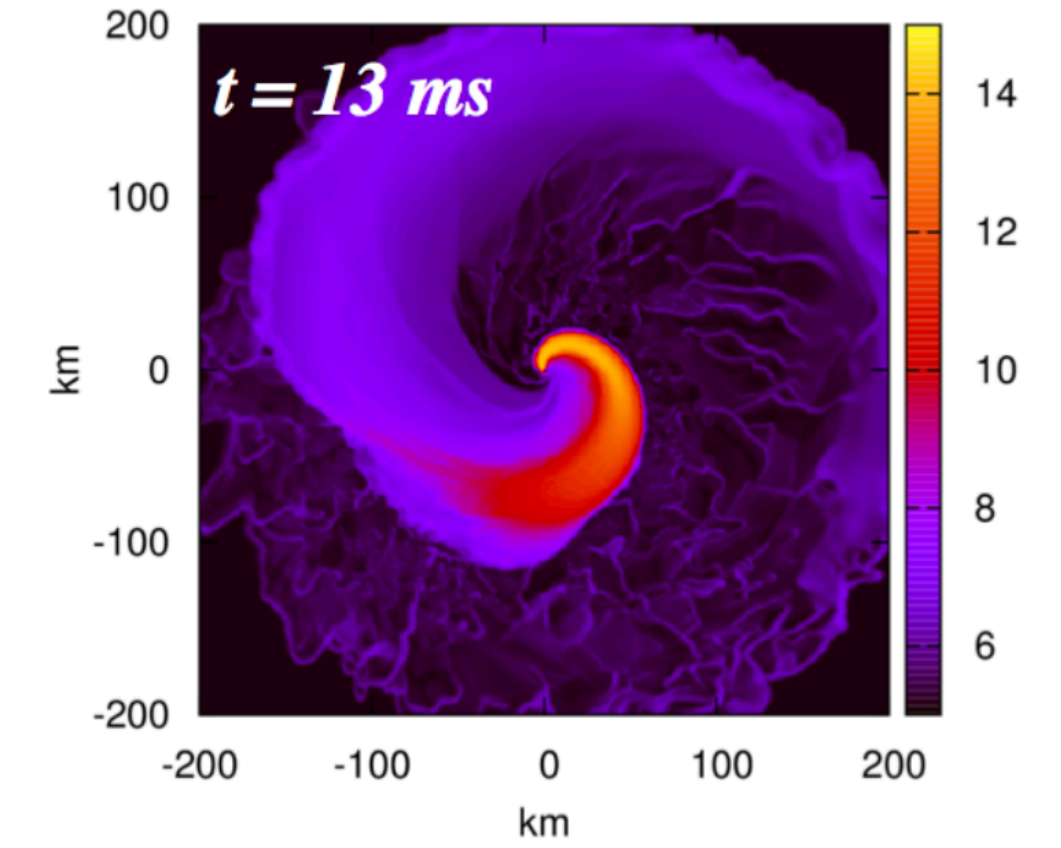


Constraint on the NS EOS

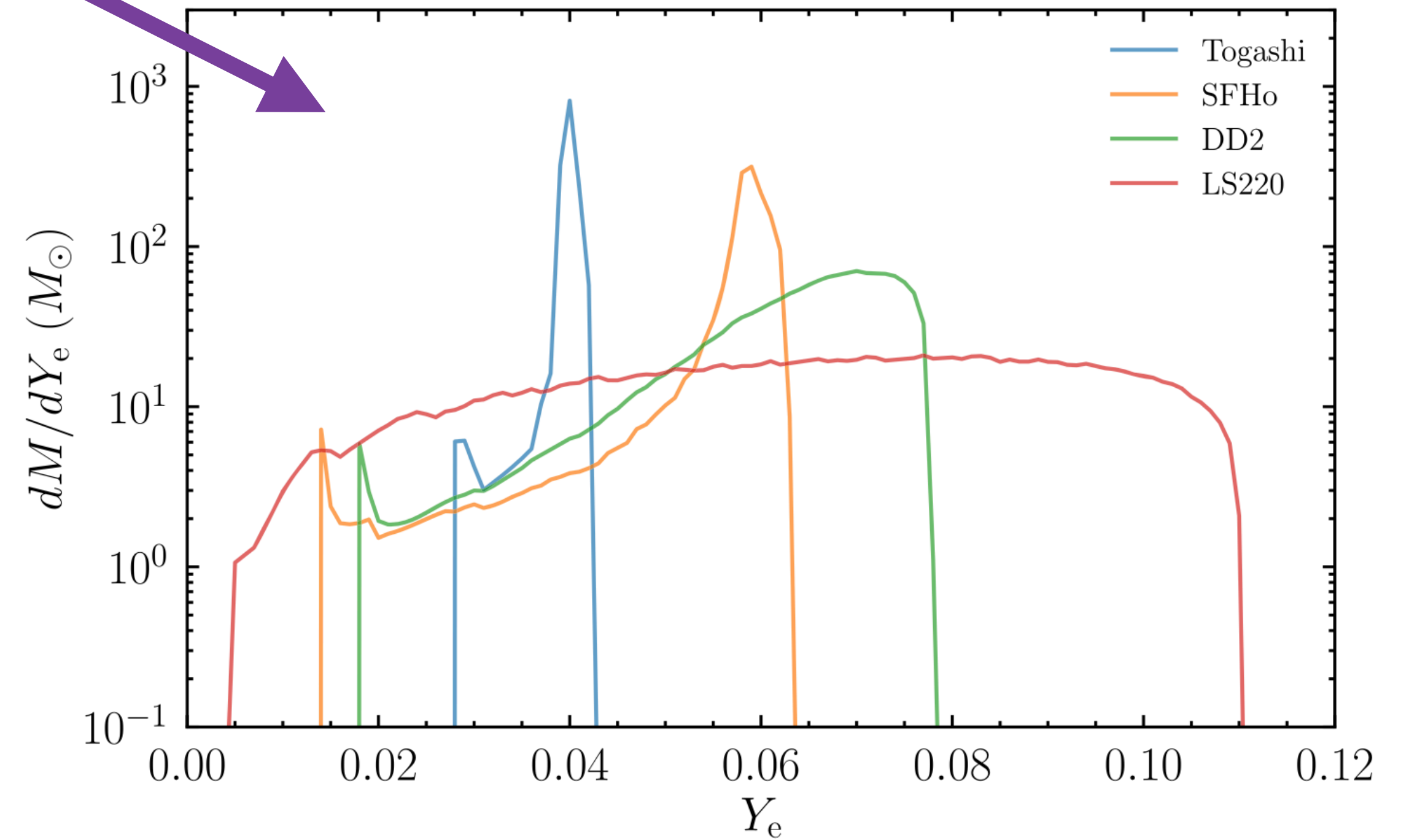
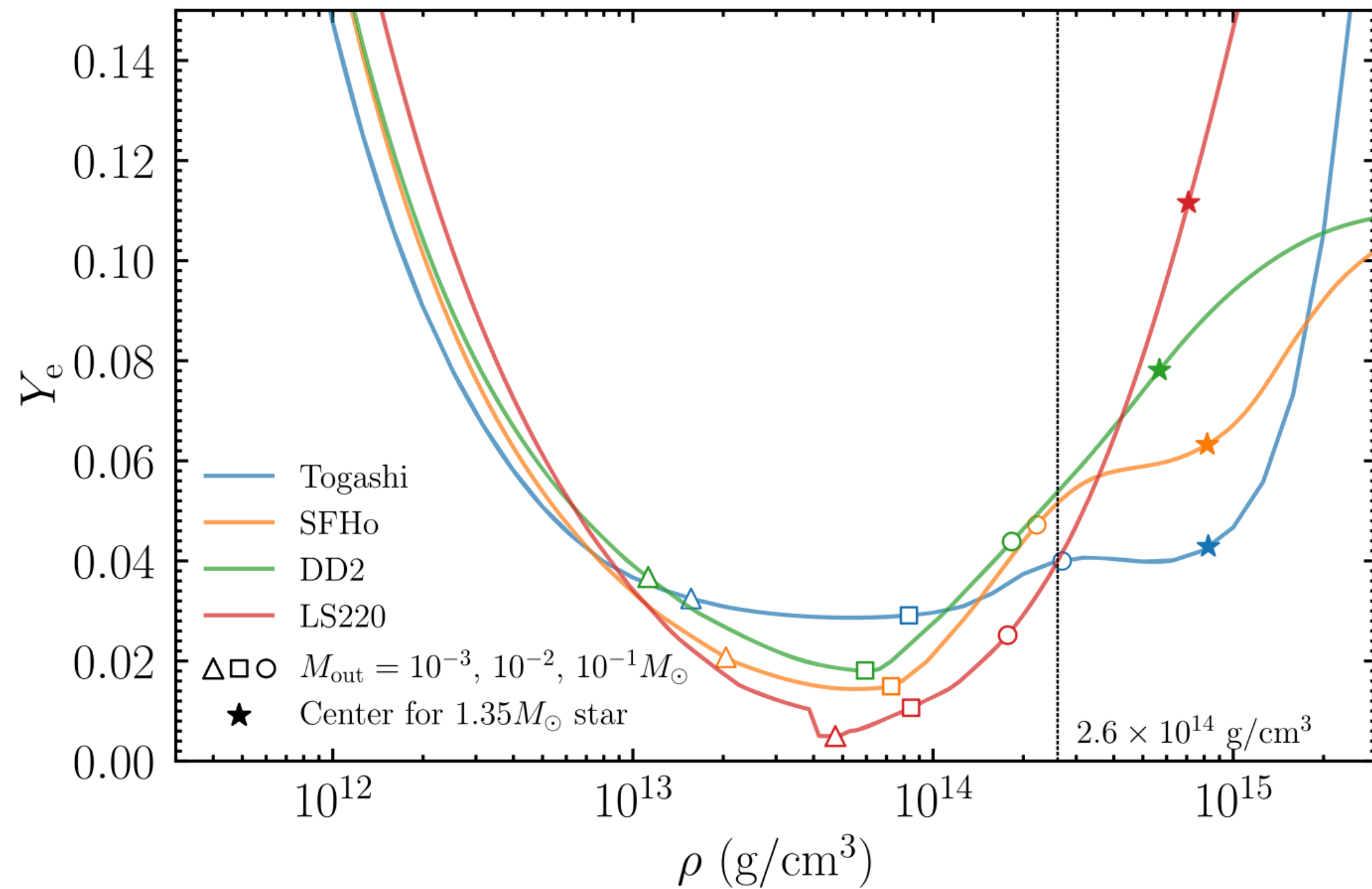
cold NS matter
the lowest Y_e



merger/explosion
increase Y_e



Wanajo+(2024)






Theoretical fission data for the r-process

in collaboration with Kindai U+ Group

- S. Tanaka, NN, Minato & Aritomo PRC 108 054607 (2023)
- C. Tahara (Master Thesis, Kindai U, FY2025)
- K. Miyake (undergraduate project, FY2026)
- S. Takagi, NN+, in prep.

Postfission properties of uranium isotopes: A hybrid method with Langevin dynamics and the Hauser-Feshbach statistical model

S. Tanaka (田中翔也) ^{1,*} N. Nishimura (西村信哉) ^{2,1,†} F. Minato (湊太志) ^{3,1,‡} and Y. Aritomo (有友嘉浩) ^{4,§}

田中 (Ta-naka): 4th
1,293,000

西村 (Nishi-mura): 44th
297,000

Dynamical fission model: Langevin w/ Kindai G

see also an overview talk by Aritomo

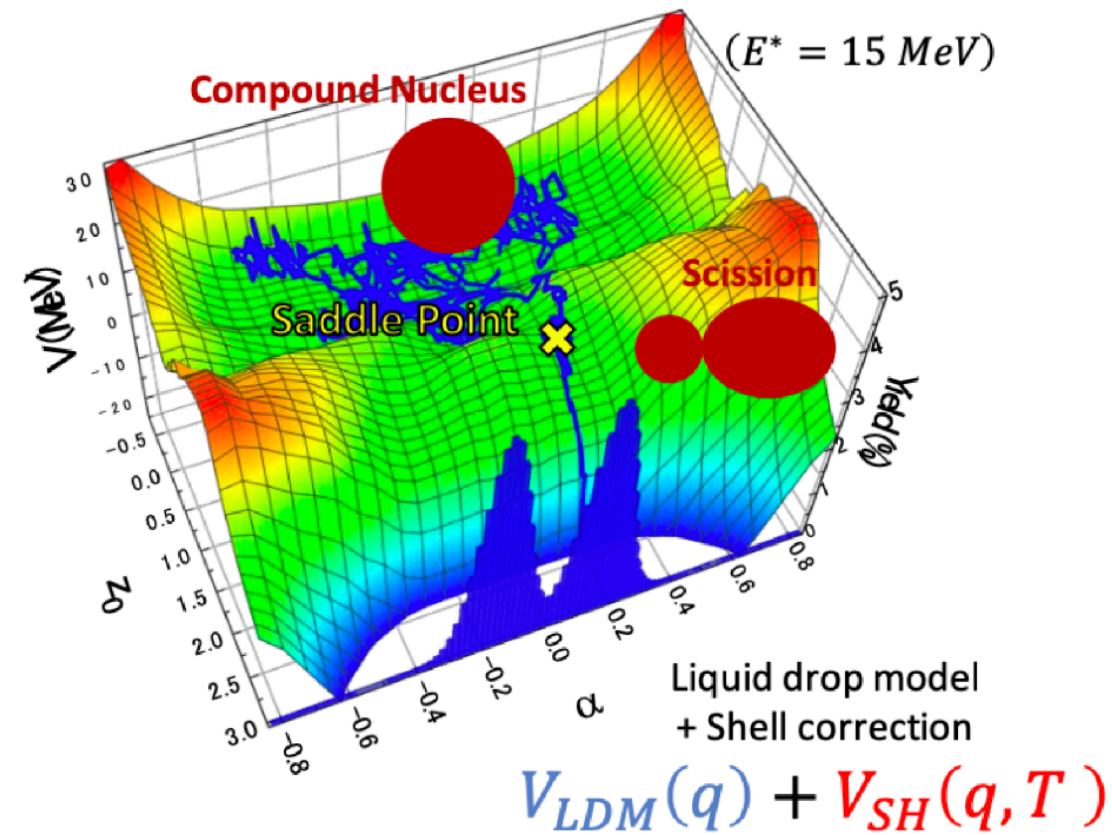
$$V(q, \ell, T) = V_{LDM}(q) + \frac{\hbar^2 \ell(\ell + 1)}{2I(q)} + V_{SH}(q, T)$$

$$V_{LDM}(q) = E_S(q) + E_C(q) \quad \text{Temperature independent}$$

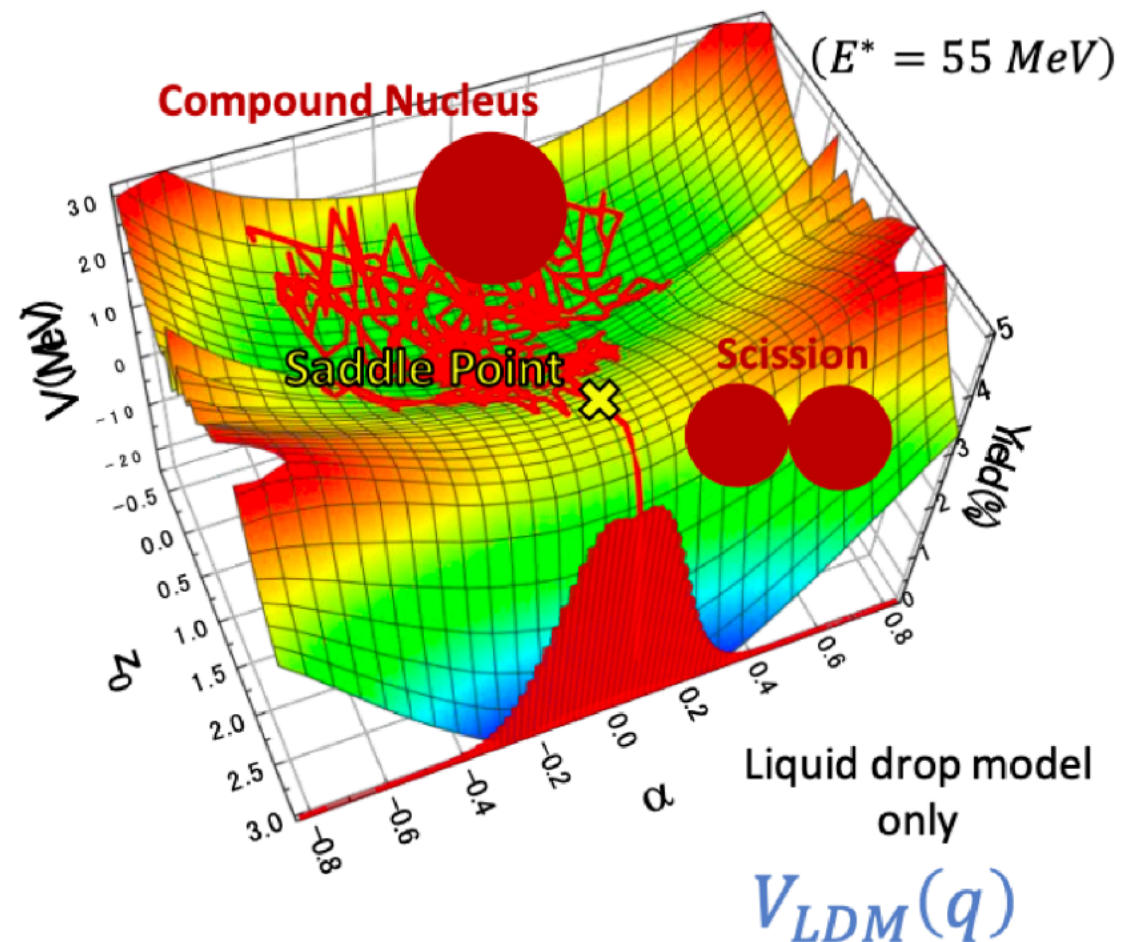
$$V_{SH}(q, T) = E_{shell}^0(q) \Phi(T) \quad \text{Temperature dependent factor}$$

$$\Phi(T) = \exp\left(-\frac{aT^2}{E_d}\right) \quad E_d = 20[\text{MeV}]$$

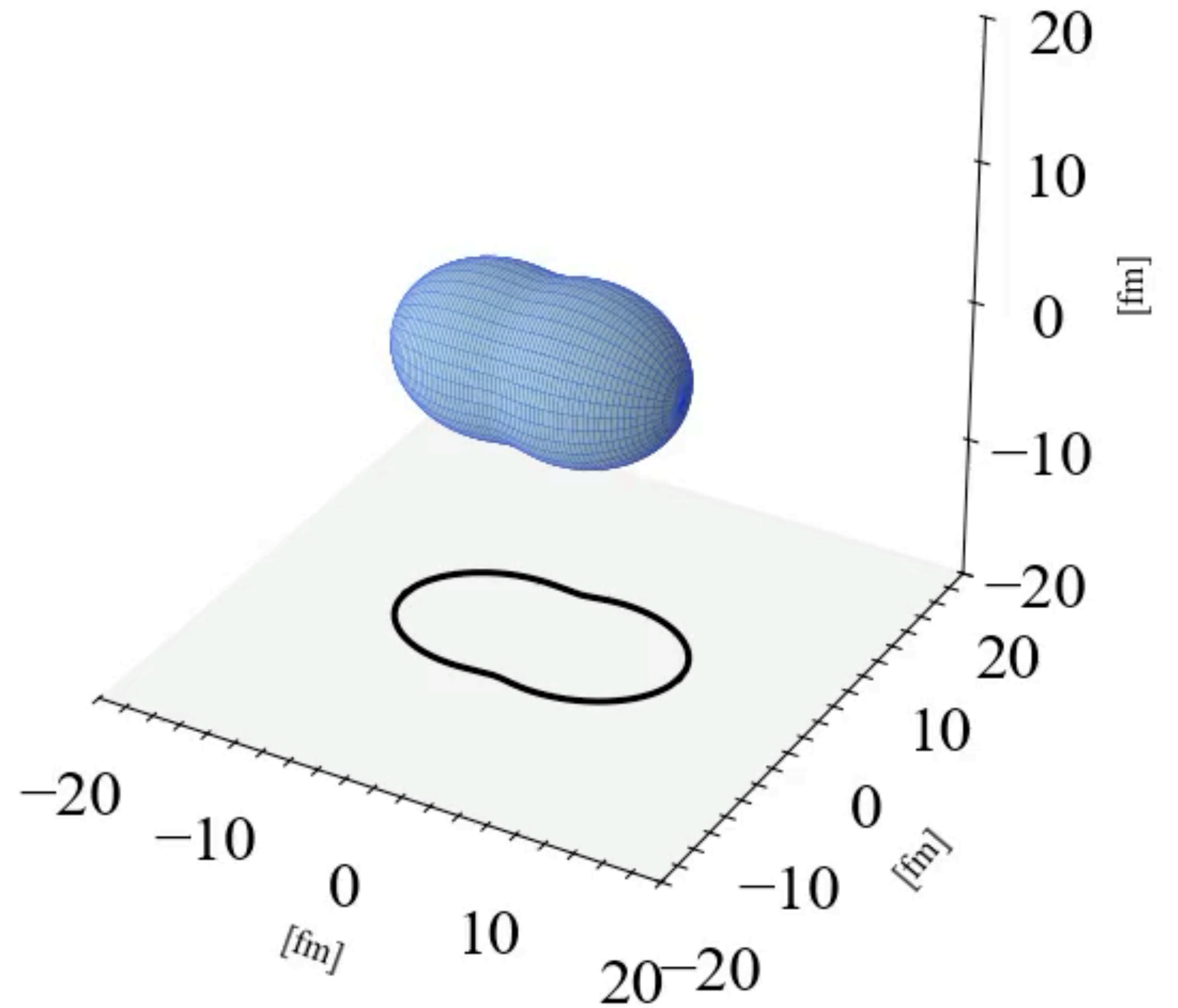
(a) At low excitation energy



(b) At high excitation energy



Z, fm



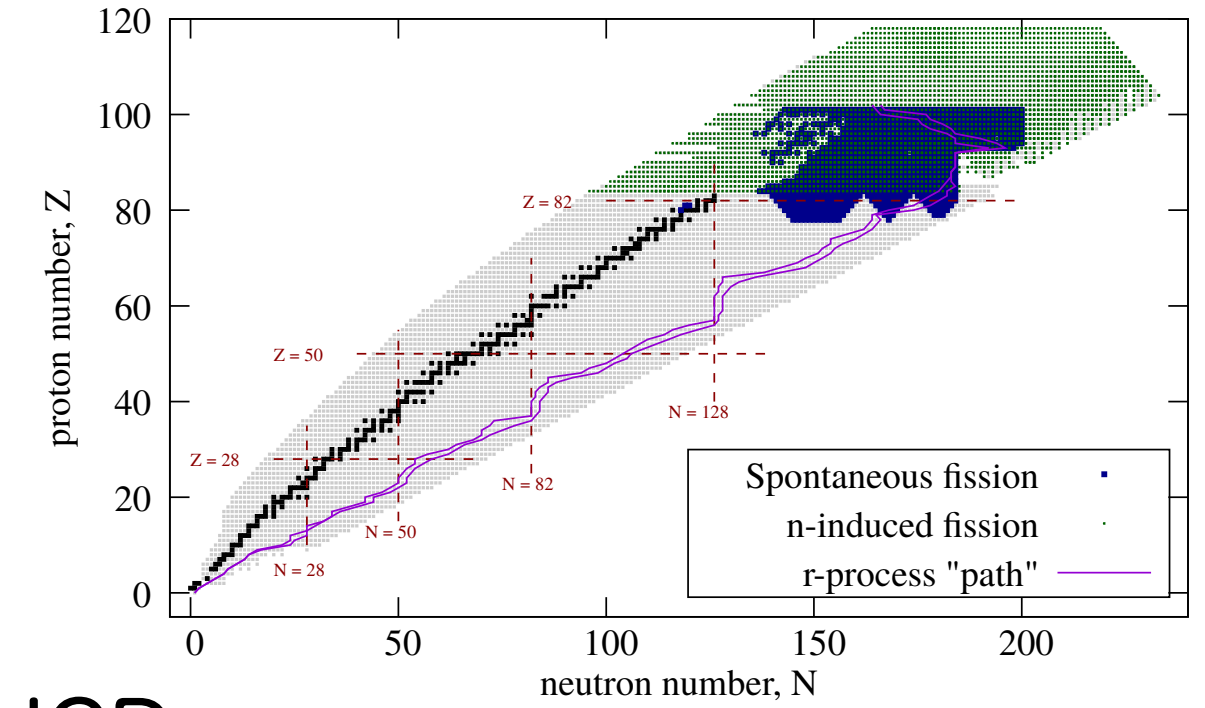
Fission theory: dynamical calculations

fission distribution by Langevin calculations

KUDAF (ver 0.1, in prep.)

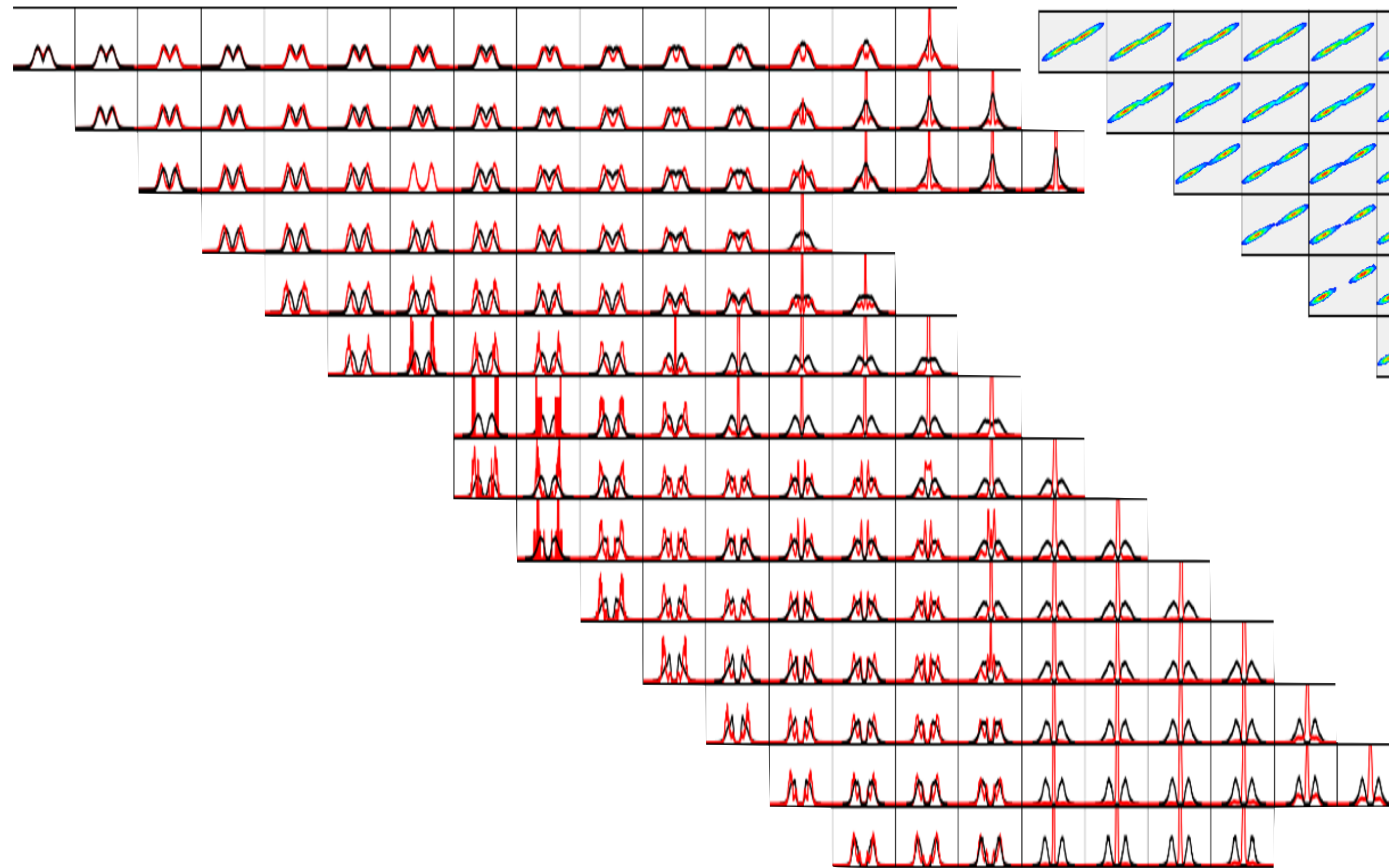
(Kindai University Database of Dynamical Fission yields)

NN with Tanaka, Aritomo (Kindai U Group)

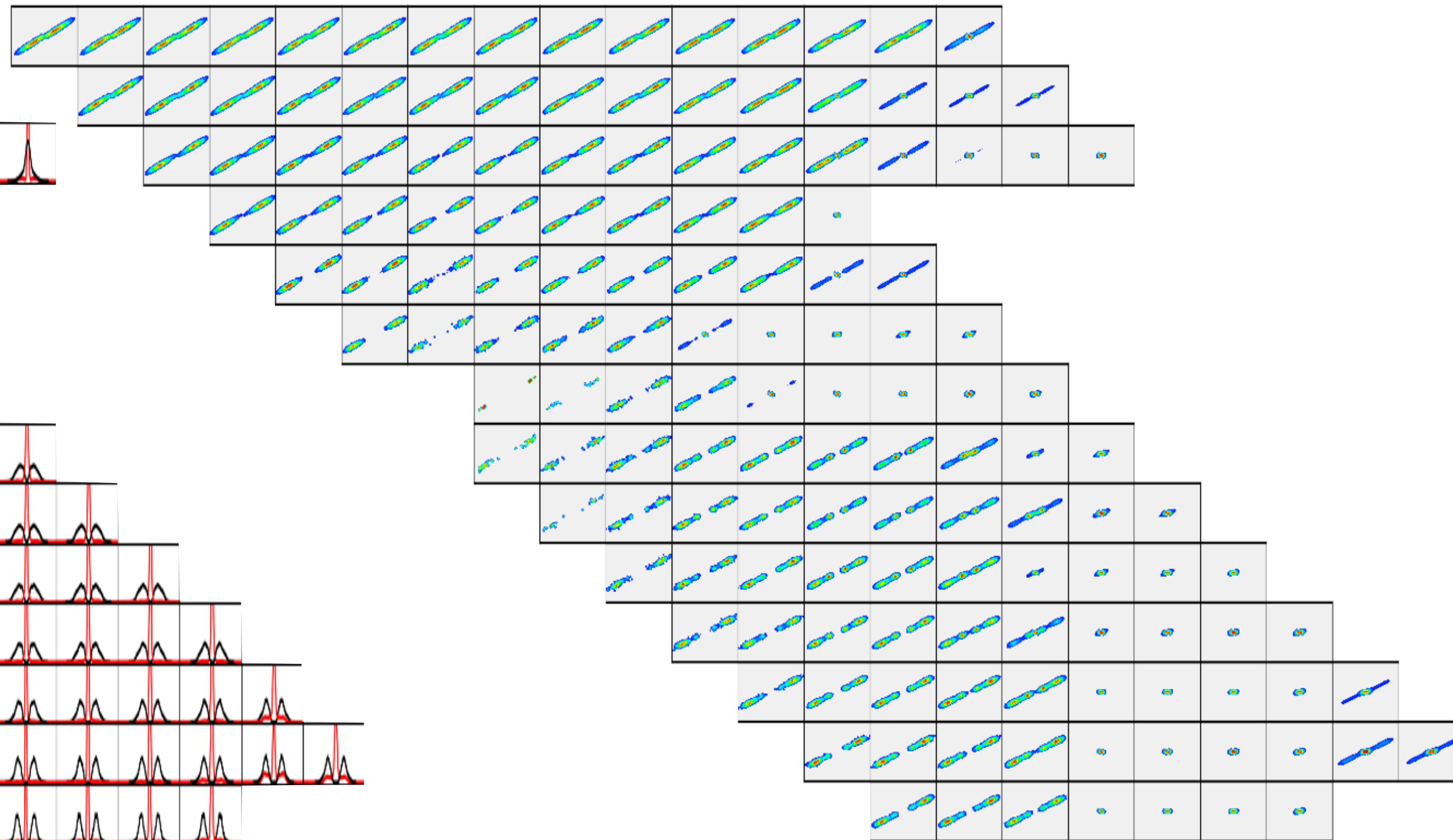


Fm

KUDAF vs GEF



Fission distribution with UCD

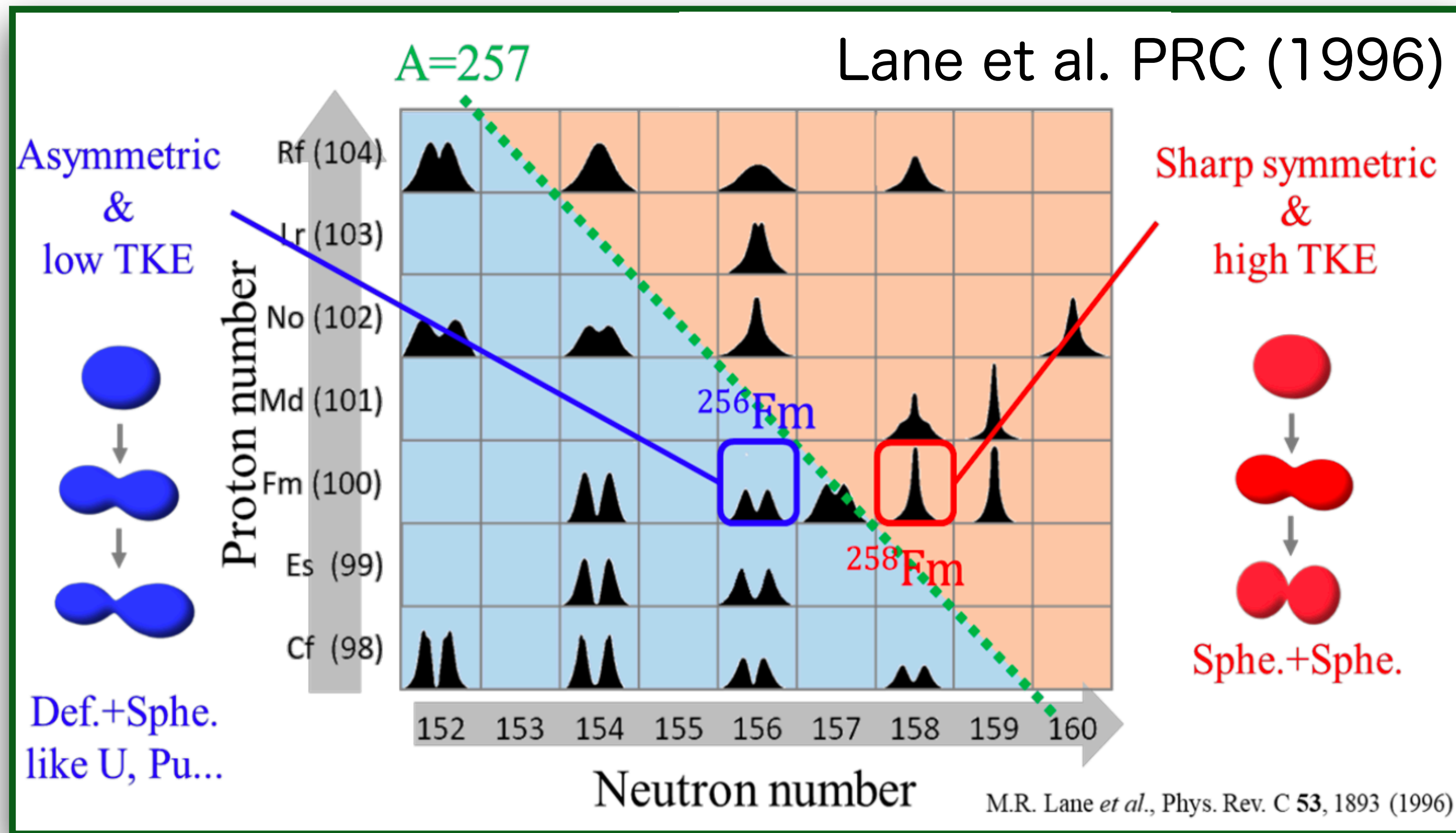


U

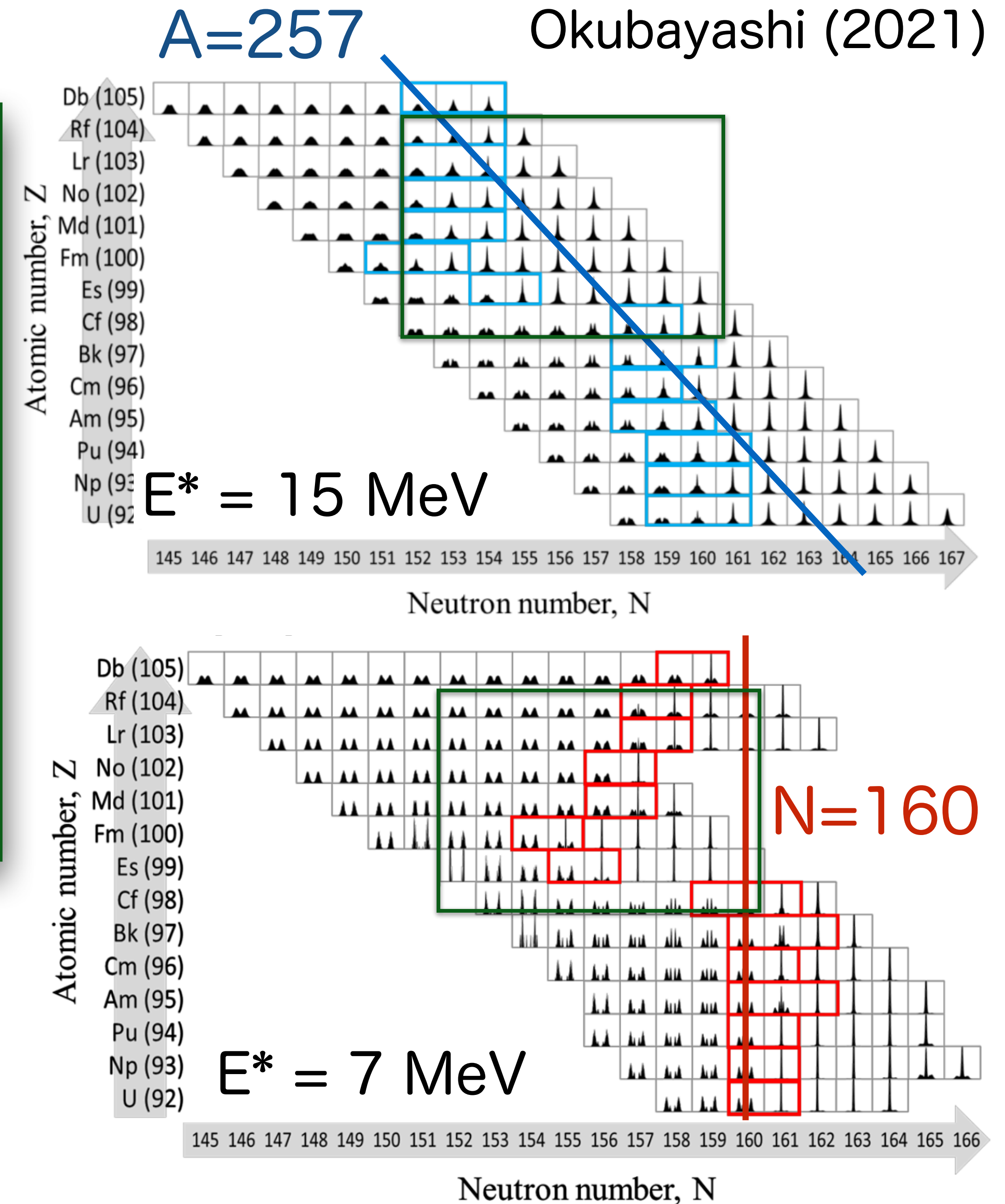
n-rich r-process region

calculated by I.Nishimura, Takagi, Miyasakai

Symmetric-asymmetric transition: E^*

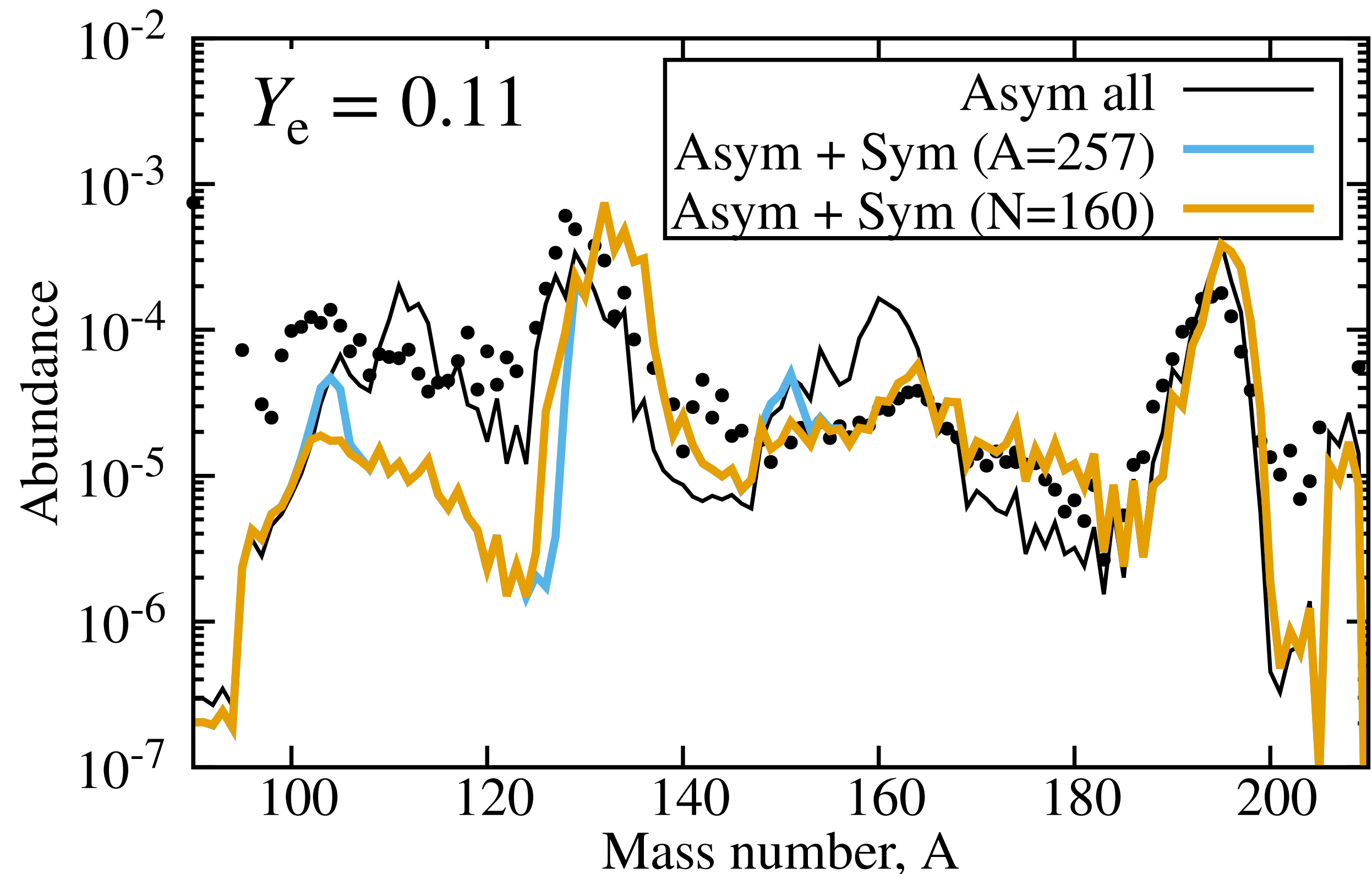
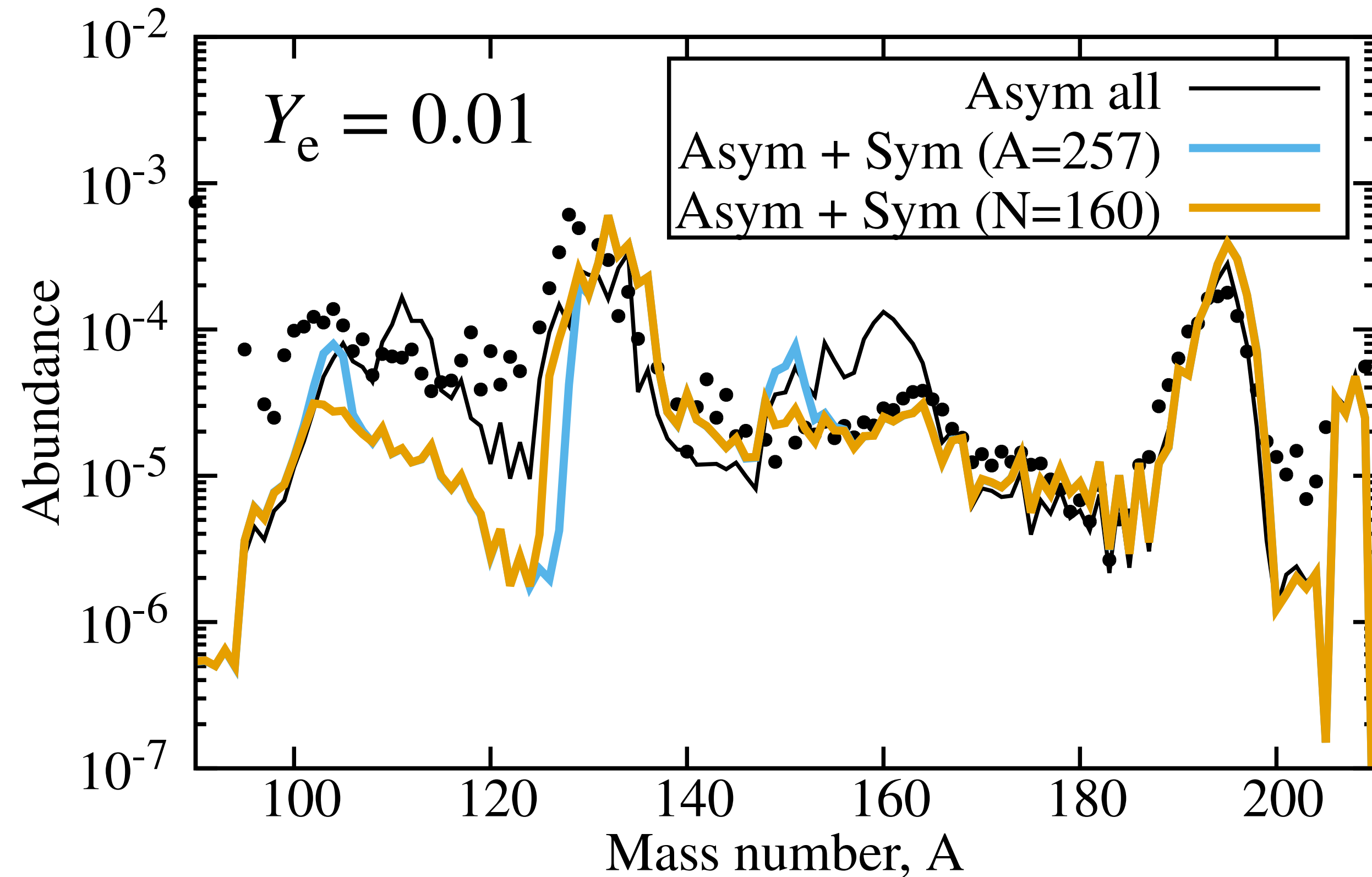


see also talk by Nishio



The impacts on the r-process

- Comparison: all asymmetric, asymmetric \rightarrow symmetric $A = 257$ & $N = 160$
- very neutron-rich conditions, e.g., NS mergers



Comparison to several fission data

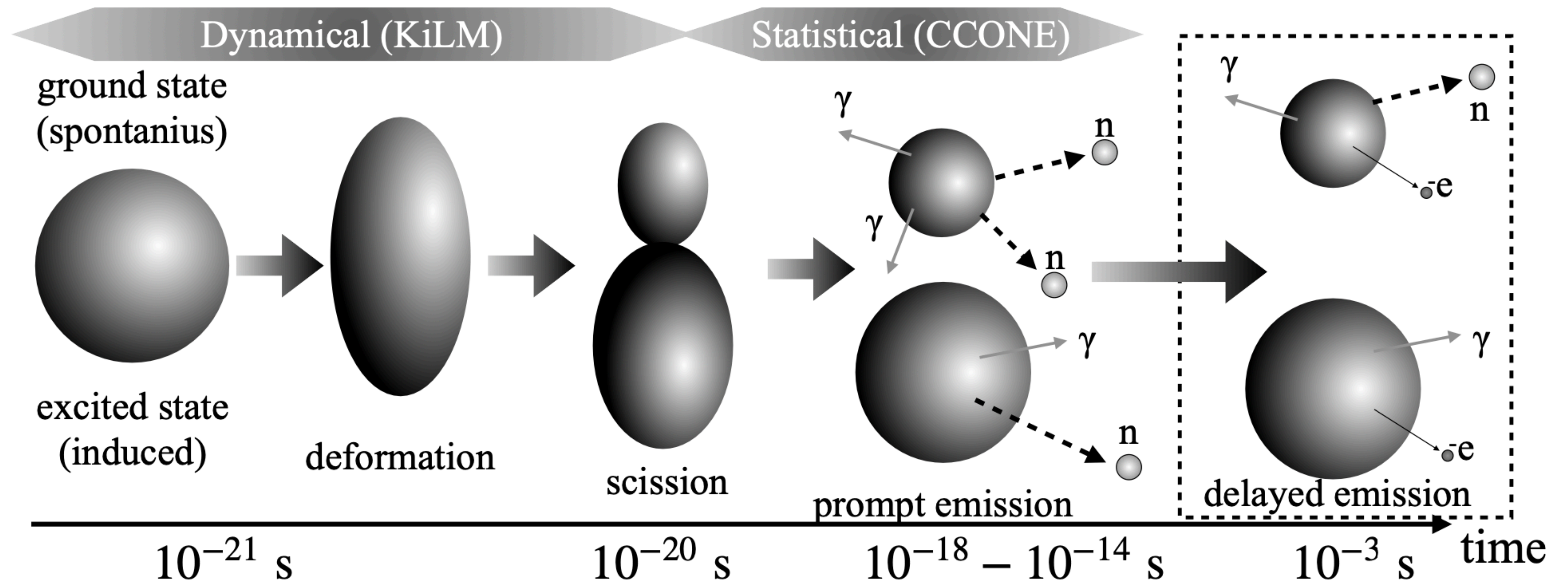
toward complete fission yields for r-process

theoretical data \leftrightarrow astrophysical nucleosynthesis

fission process has several experimental data \rightarrow comparison

see also talk by Liu

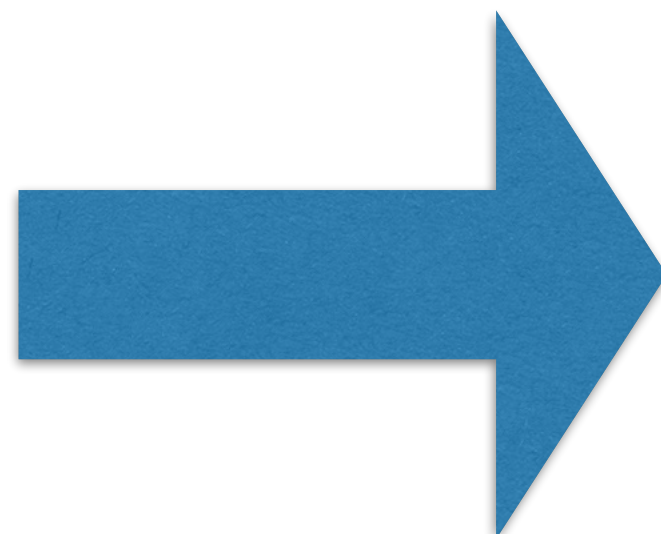
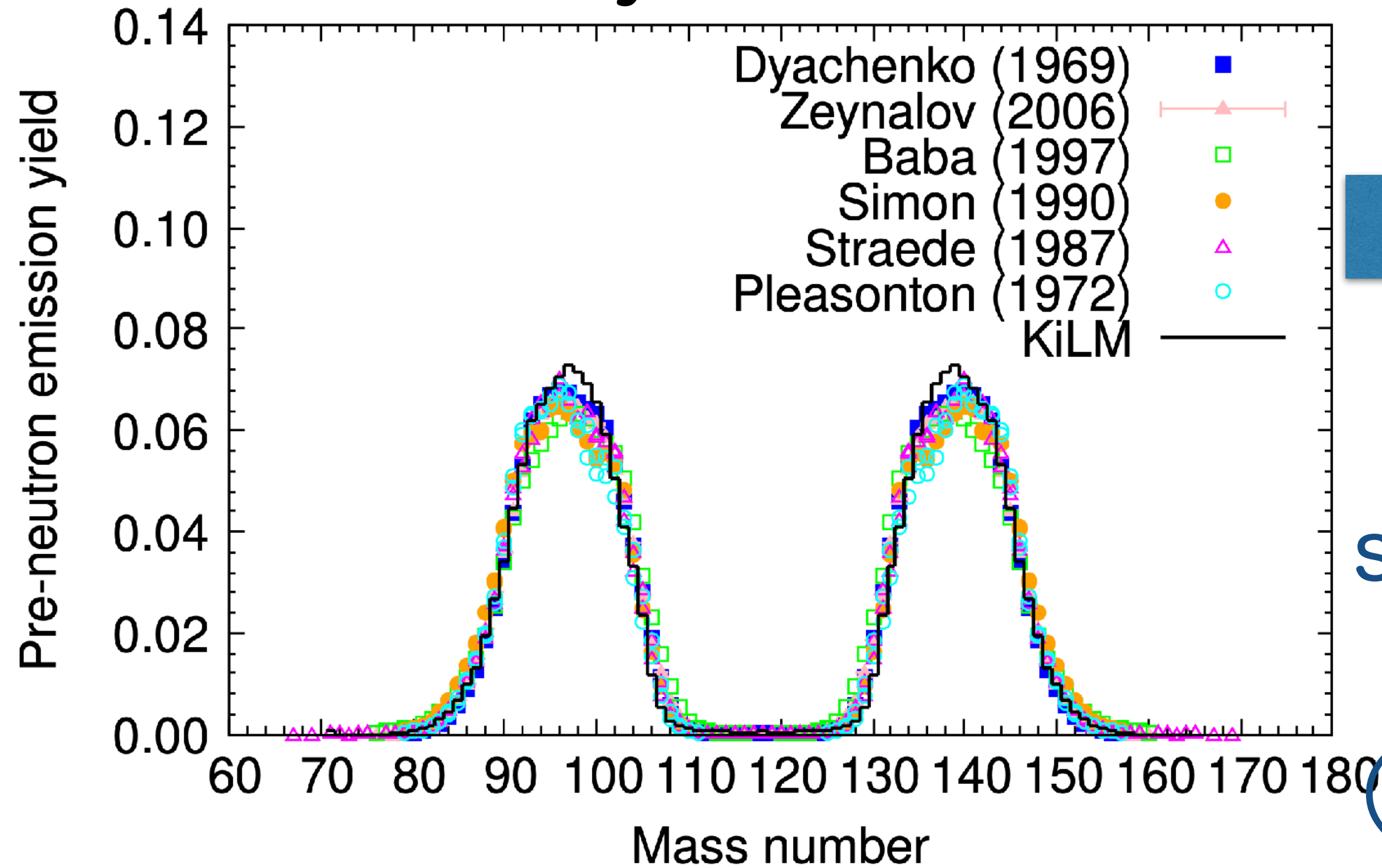
Tanaka, NN+2023



^{236}U : fission + n emission

^{236}U ($E^*=9$ MeV)

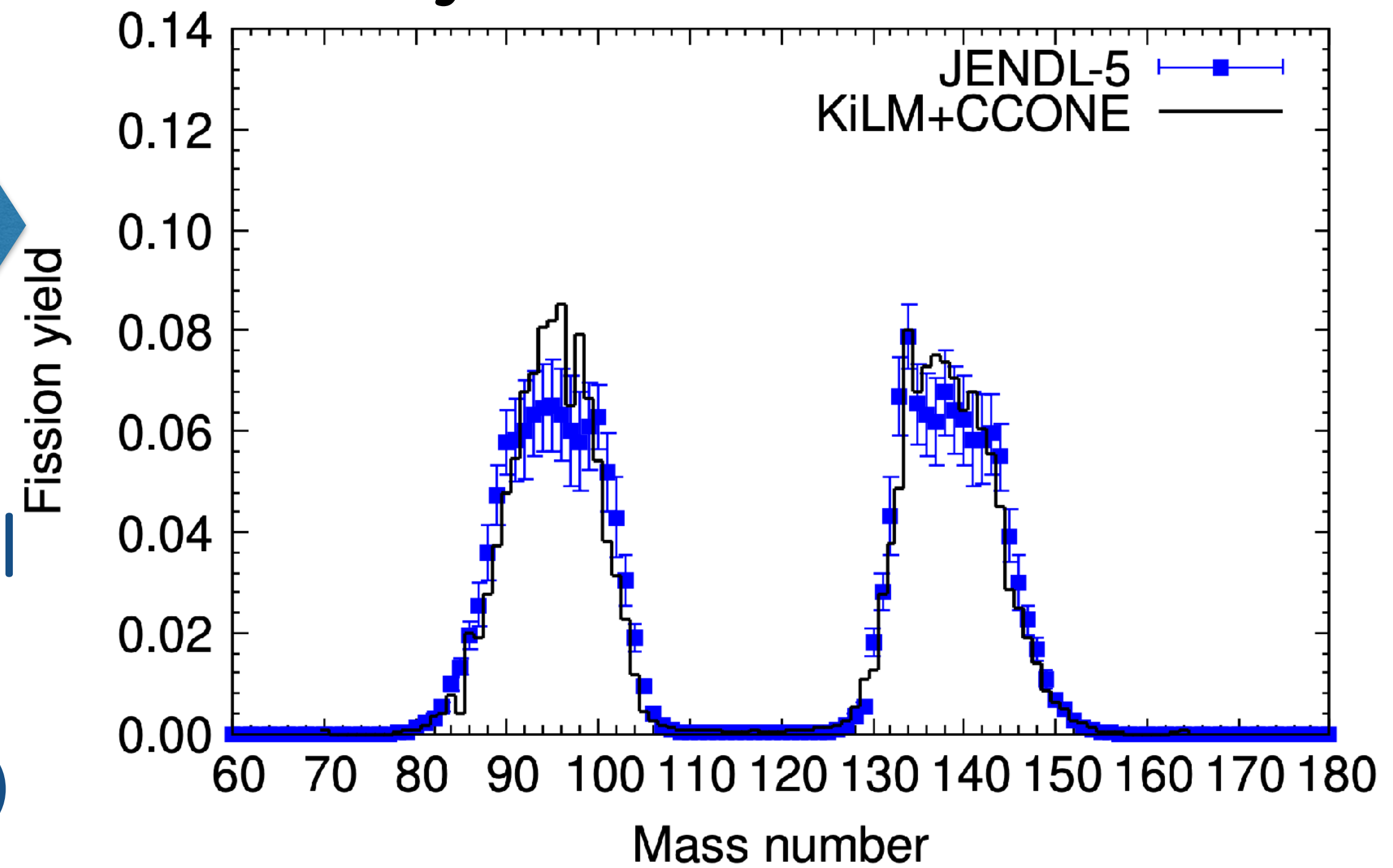
primary fission yields
by KiLM



HF
statistical
model
(CCONE)

Iwamoto et al.

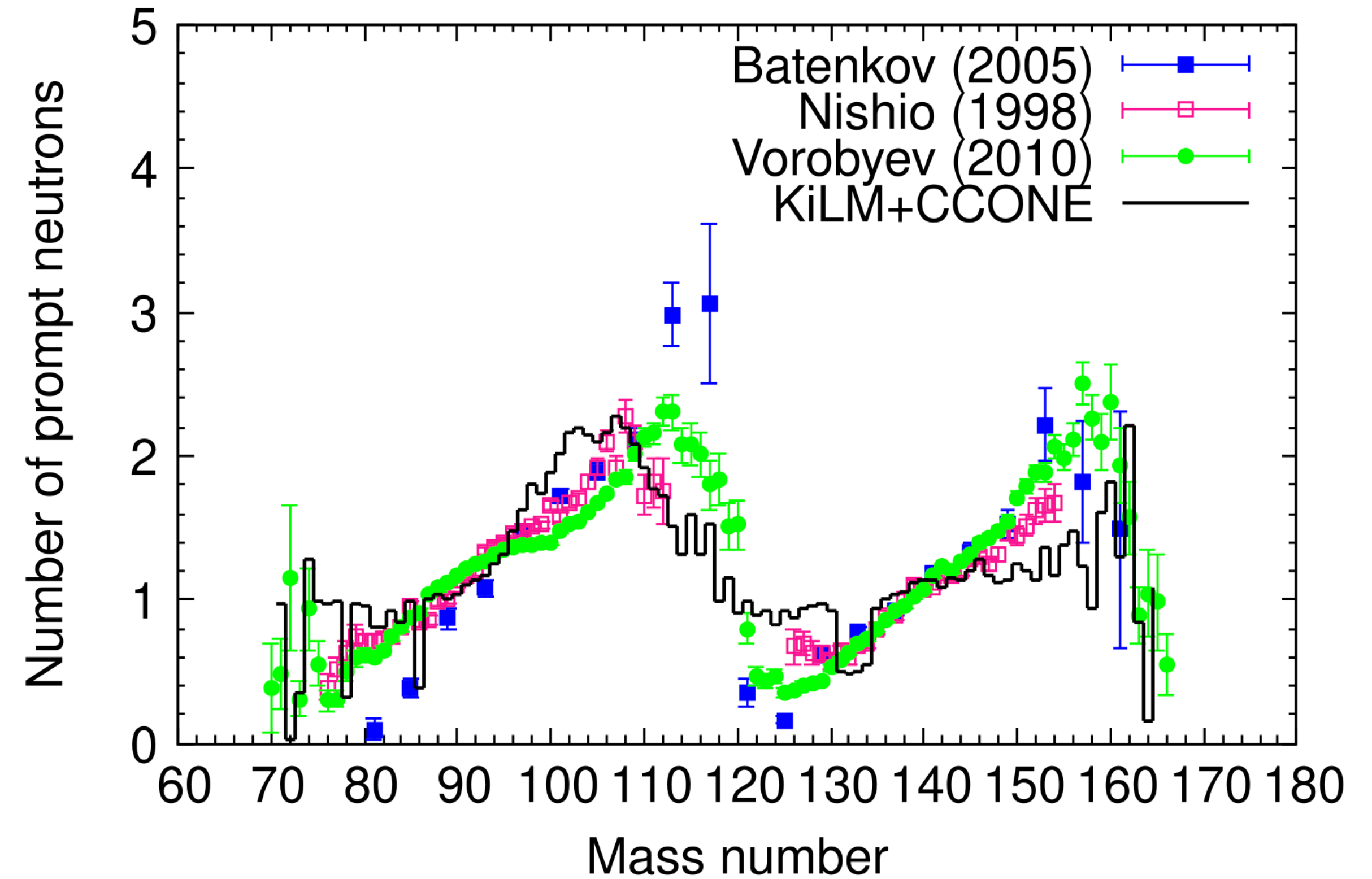
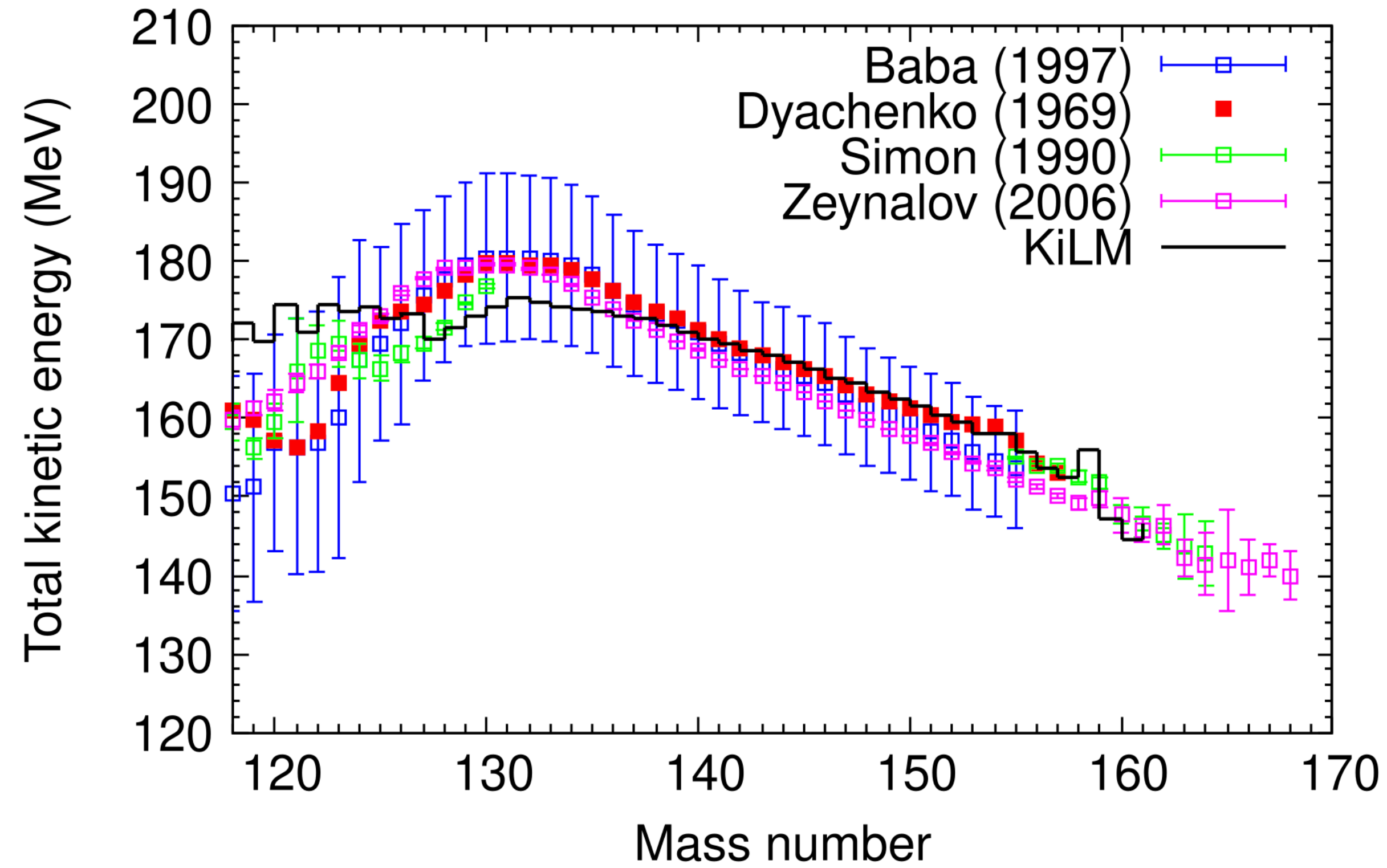
independent fission yields
by KiLM + CCONE



multiplicity $\langle n \rangle = 2.574$
(experiment : 2.413)

^{236}U : fission + n emission

^{236}U ($E^*=9$ MeV)



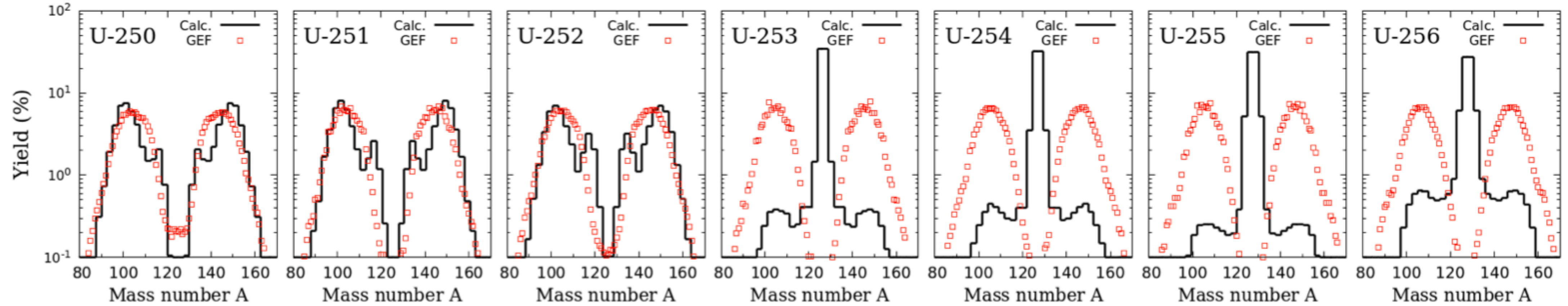
Tanaka, NN+2023

250, 255U : fission + prompt n emission

KiLM

GEF

(Schmidt & Jurado)

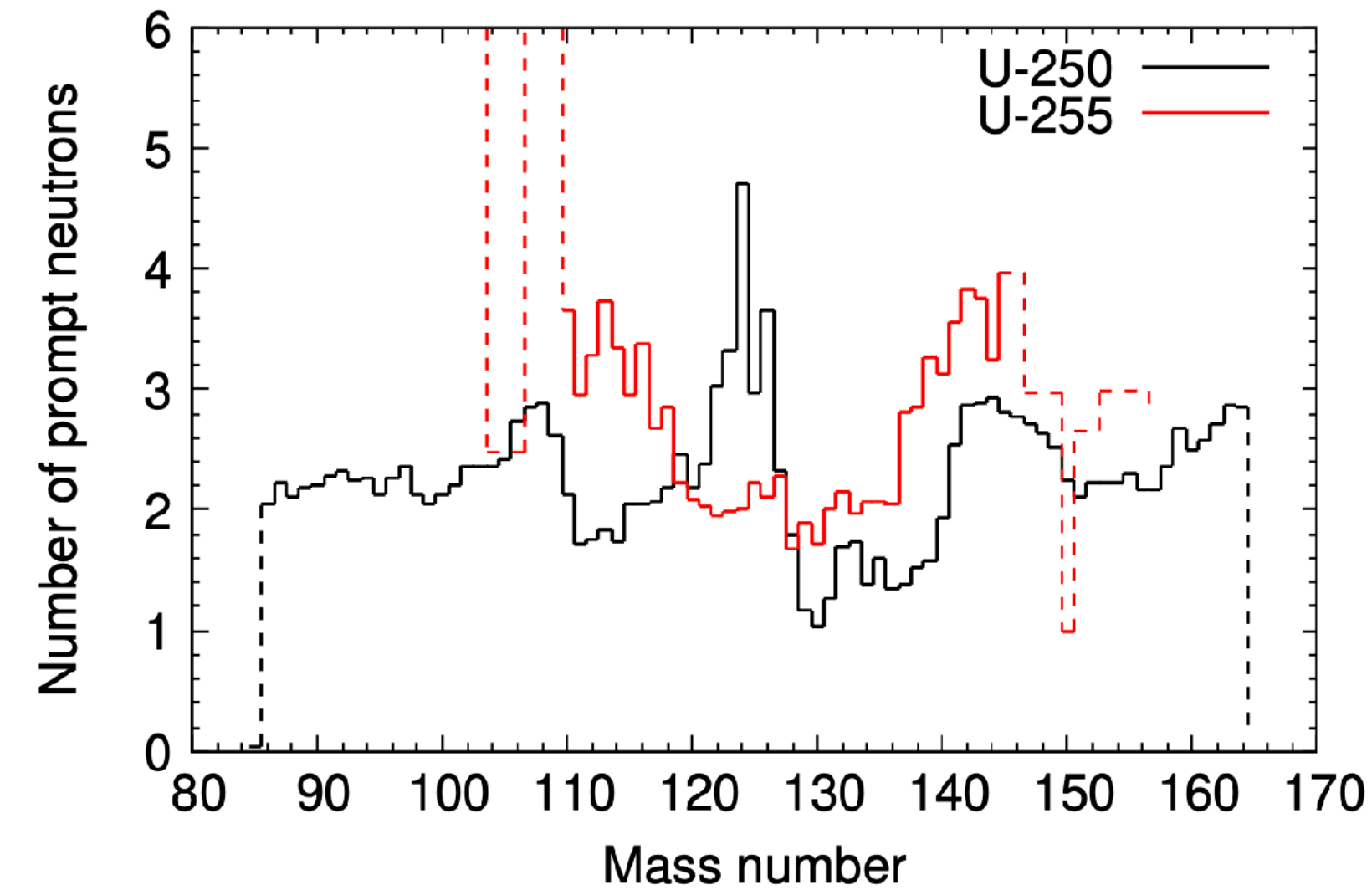
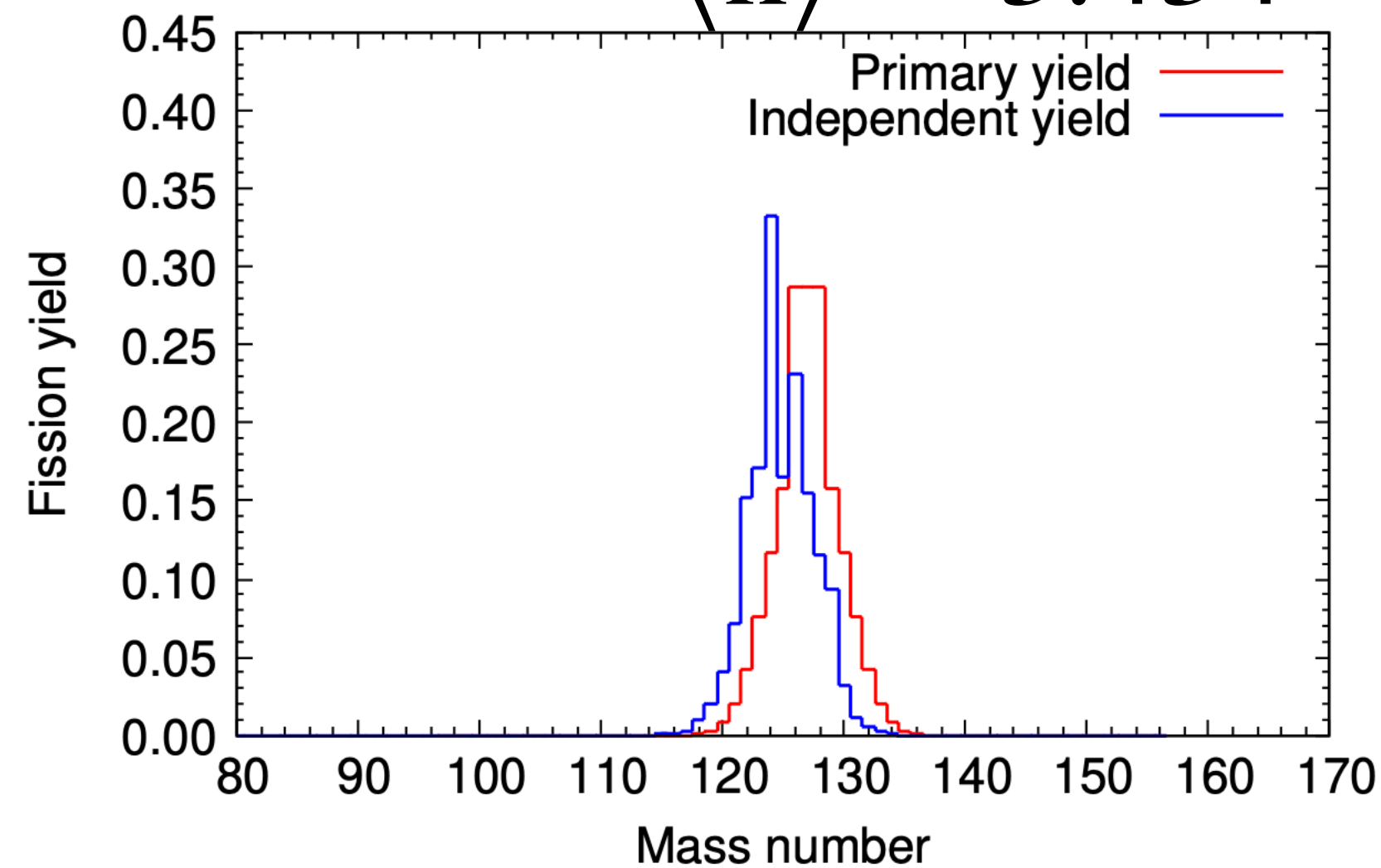
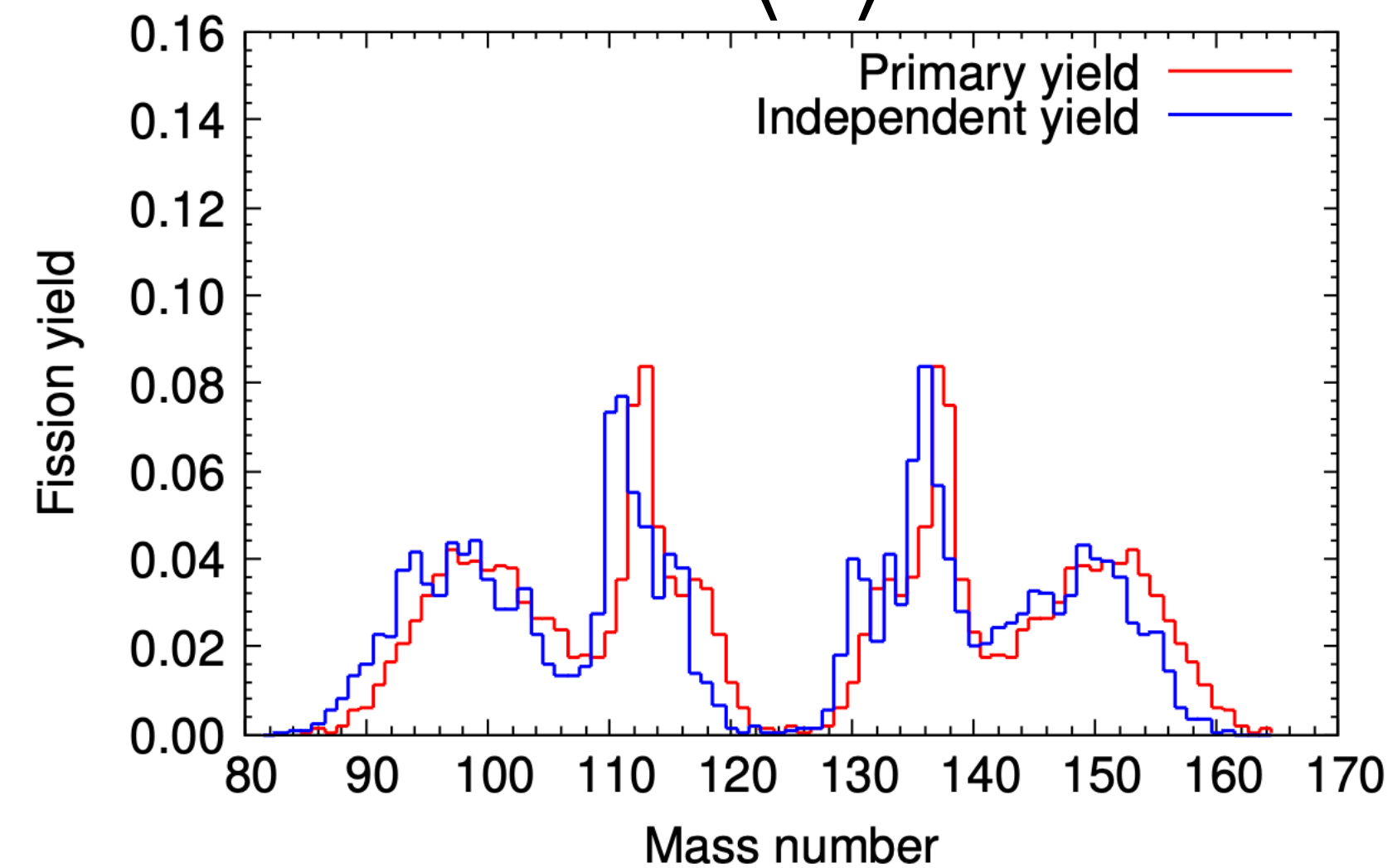


$\langle n \rangle = 2.574$ for ^{236}U

^{250}U ($E^* = 9$ MeV)
 $\langle n \rangle = 4.185$

^{255}U ($E^* = 9$ MeV)
 $\langle n \rangle = 3.434$

number of n emission



Tanaka, NN+2023

Neck parameter: ε

Aritomo's slide

Two Center Shell Model

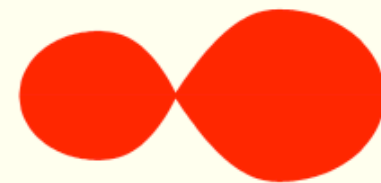
Neck parameter ε



$$q(z, \delta, \alpha) + \varepsilon$$

Distance const.

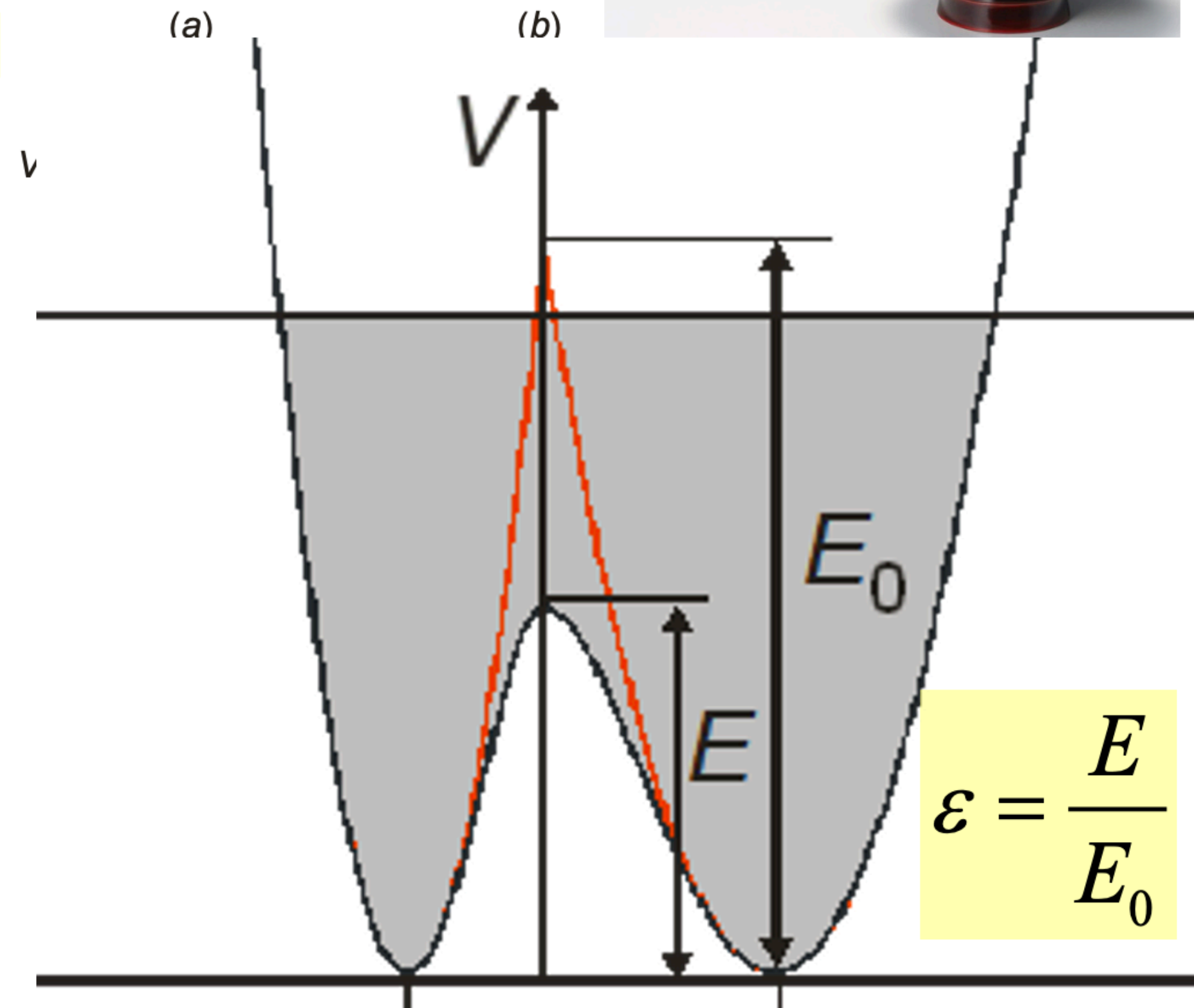
$\varepsilon = 1.0$



0.35



0.0



Scission point

$\varepsilon = 1.0$



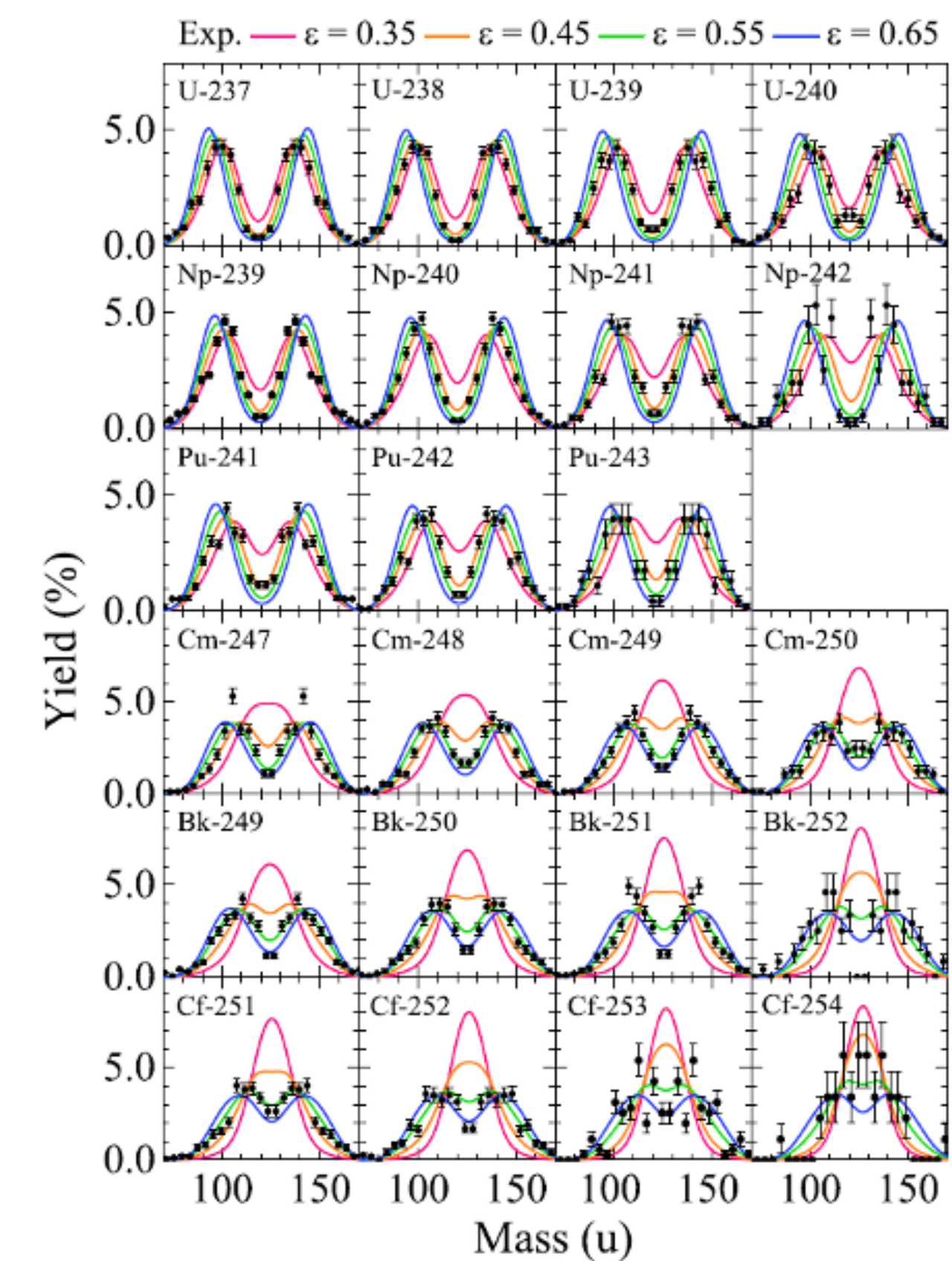
0.35



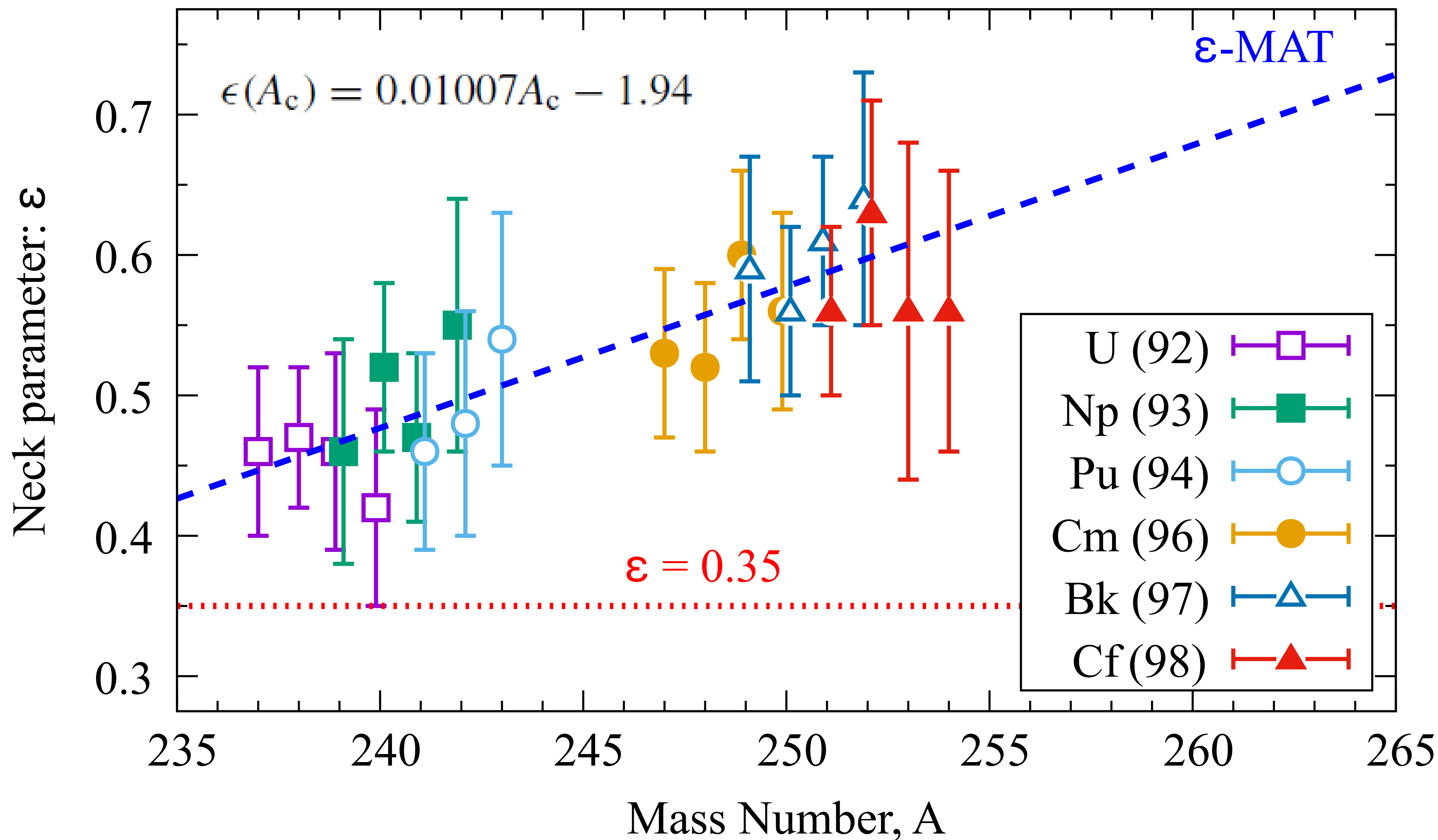
curvature

n multiplicity for neutron-rich U

ϵ -MAT (Miyamoto, Aritomo, Tanaka et al.)



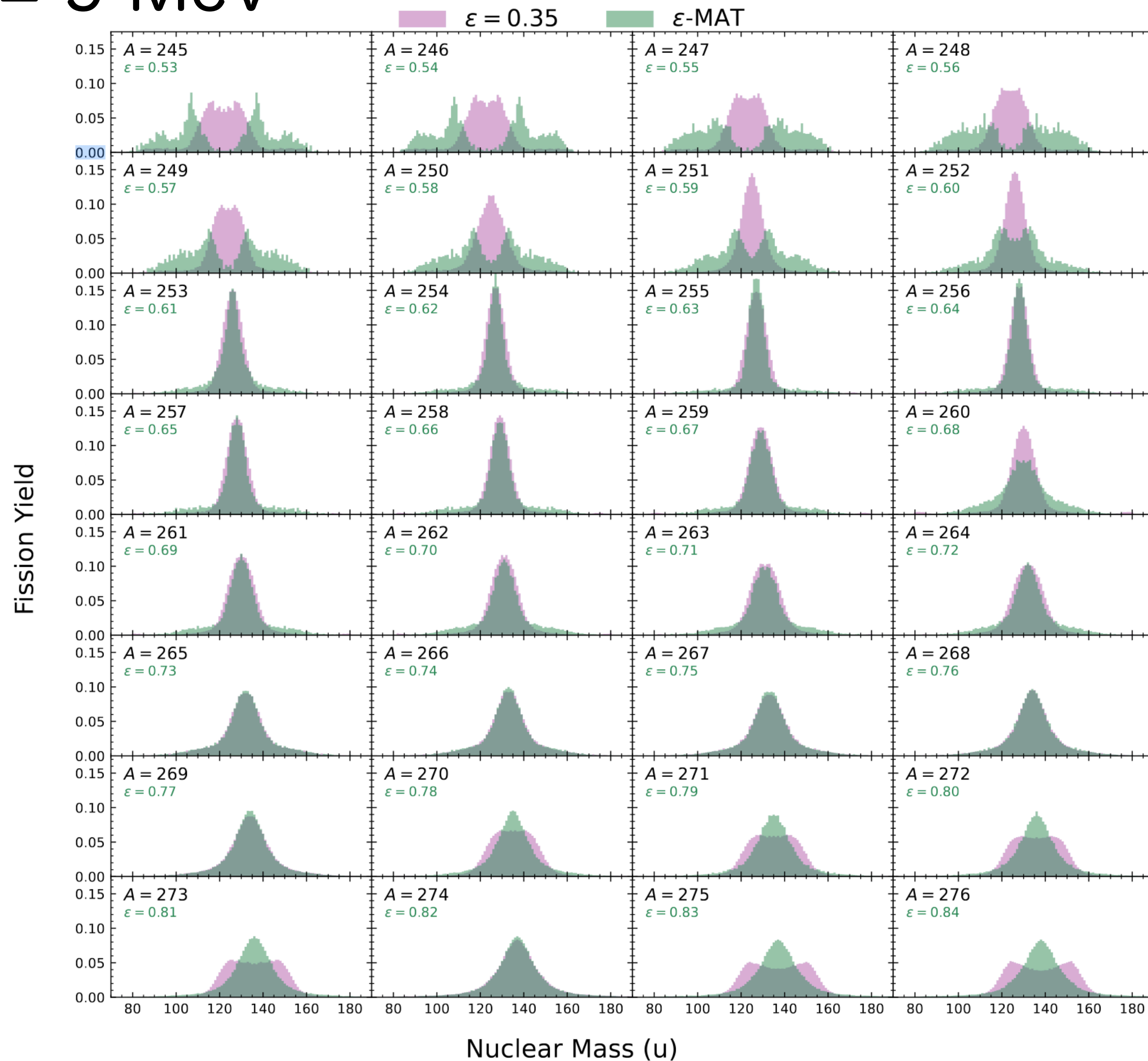
Miyamoto+2019



Fission yields: ϵ

$E^* = 9 \text{ MeV}$

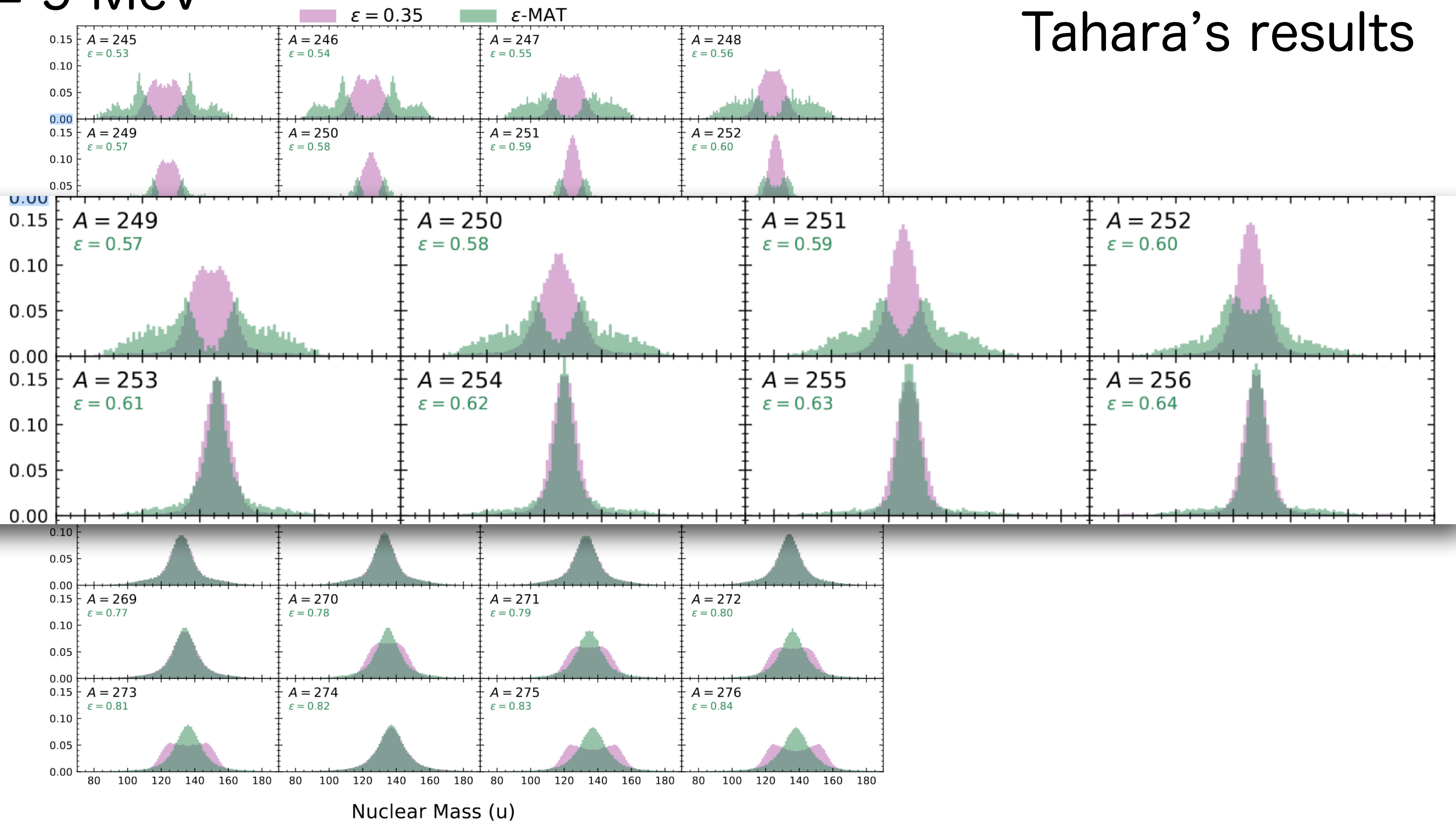
Tahara's results



Fission yields: ϵ

$E^* = 9 \text{ MeV}$

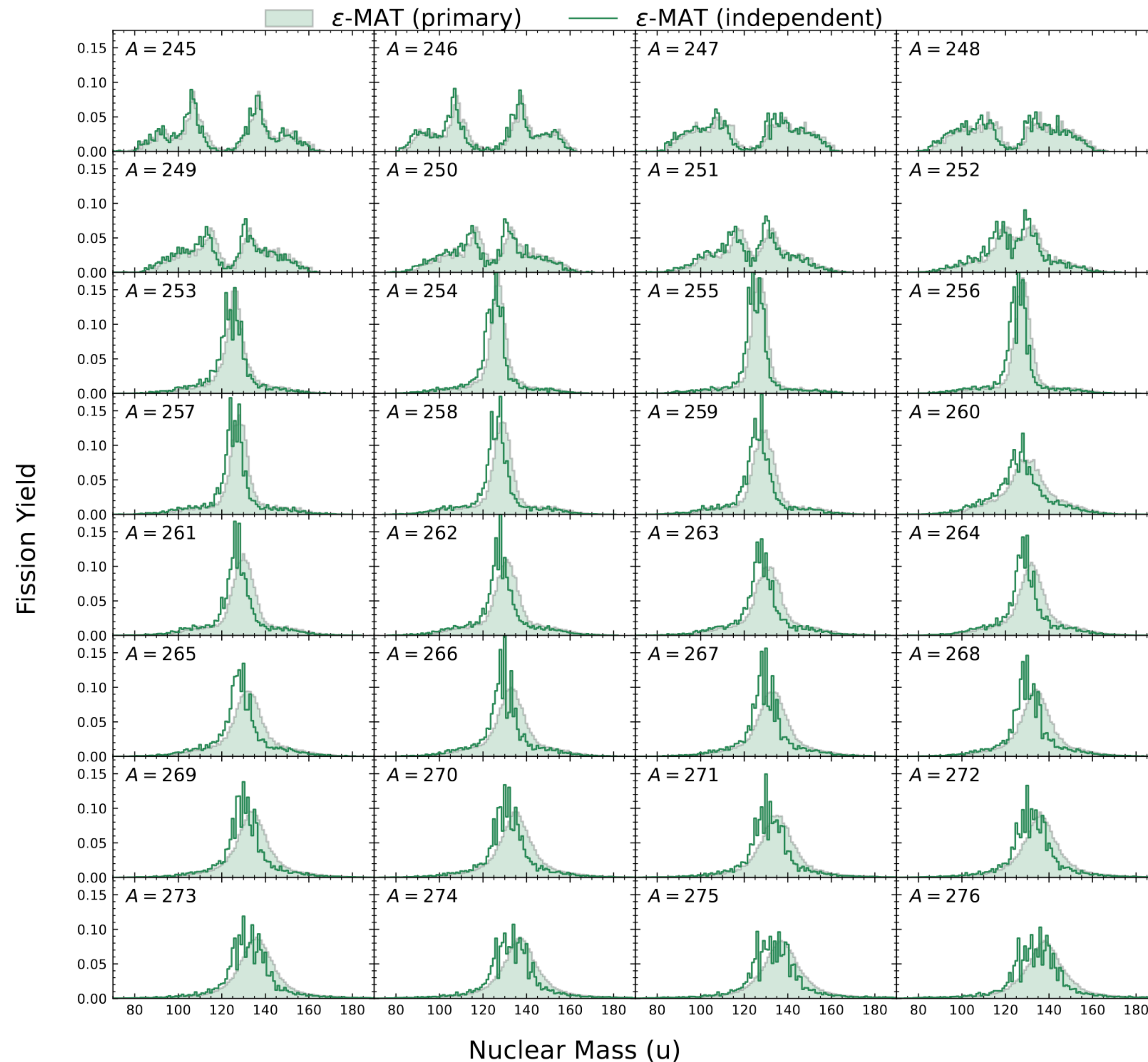
Tahara's results



independent fission yields

$E^* = 9 \text{ MeV}$

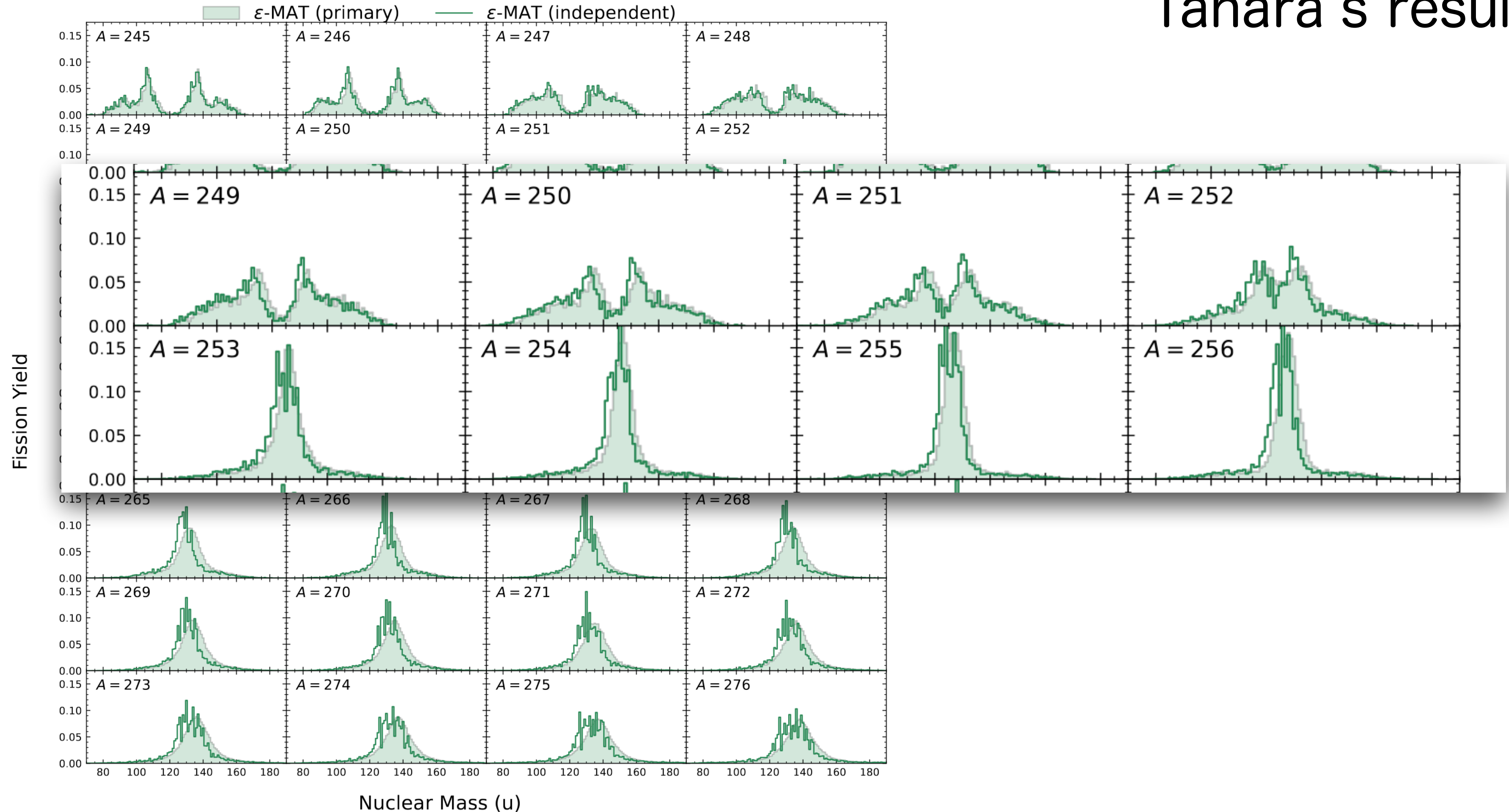
Tahara's results



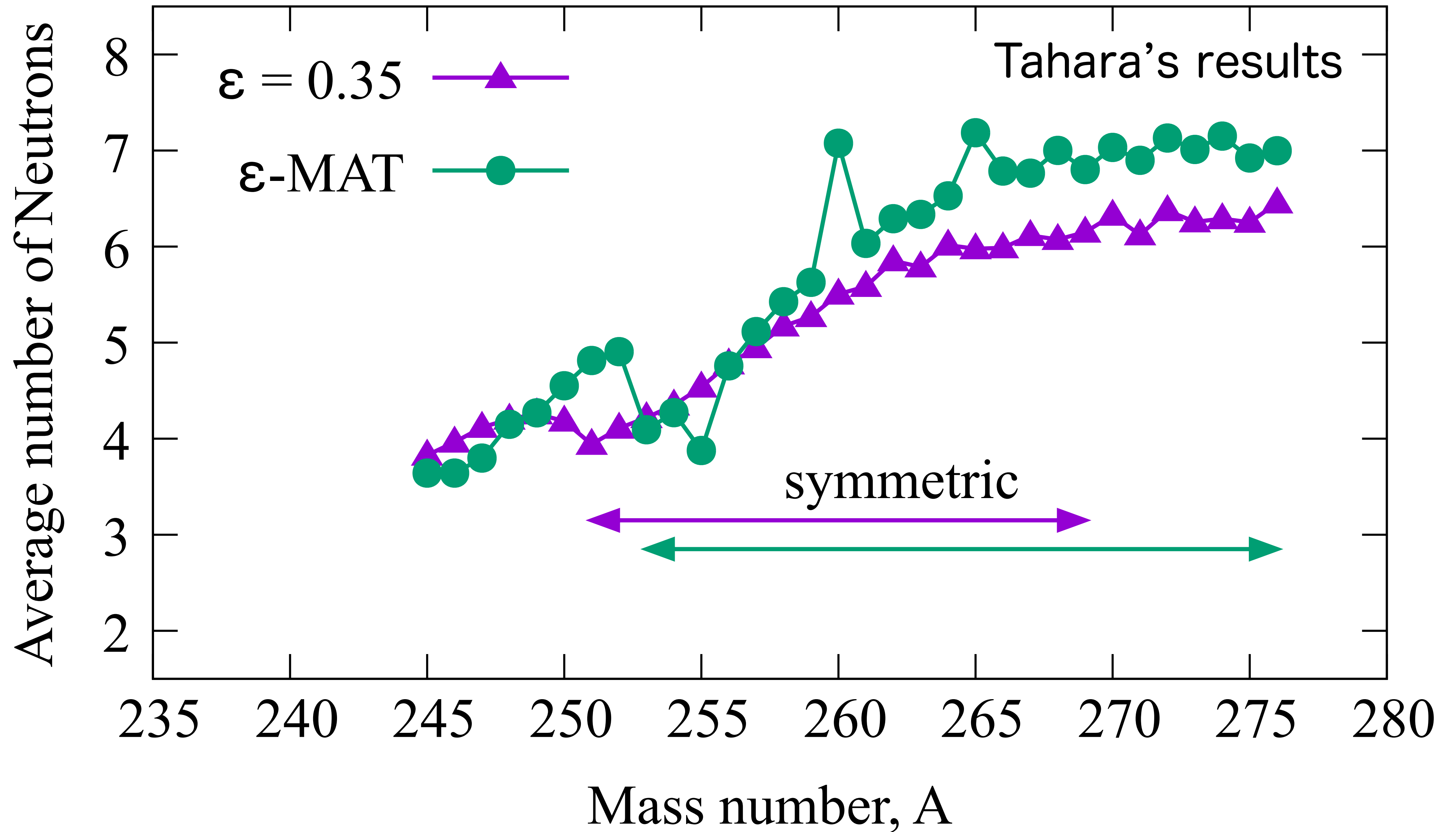
independent fission yields

$E^* = 9 \text{ MeV}$

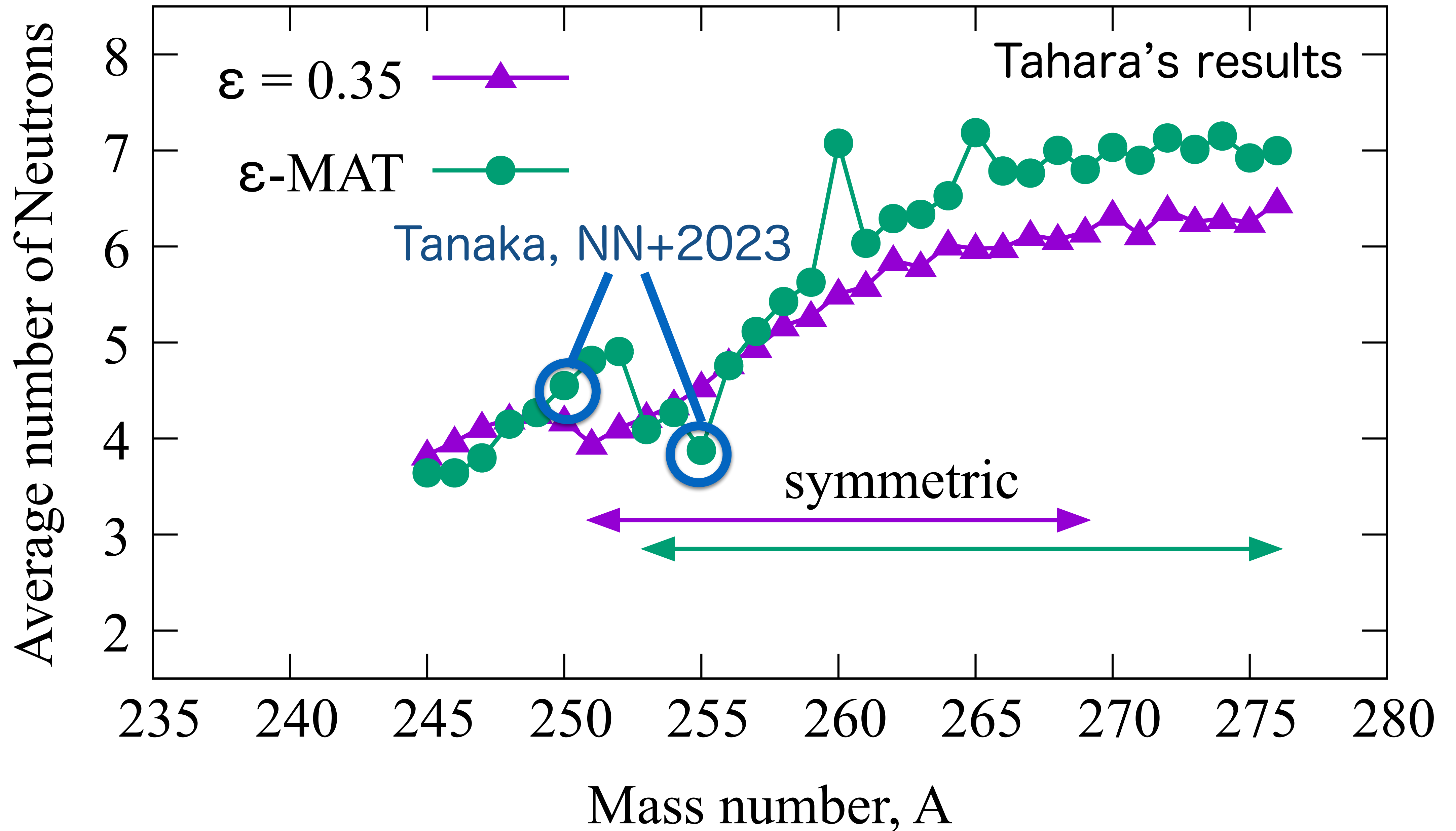
Tahara's results



Neutron multiplicity: different ε

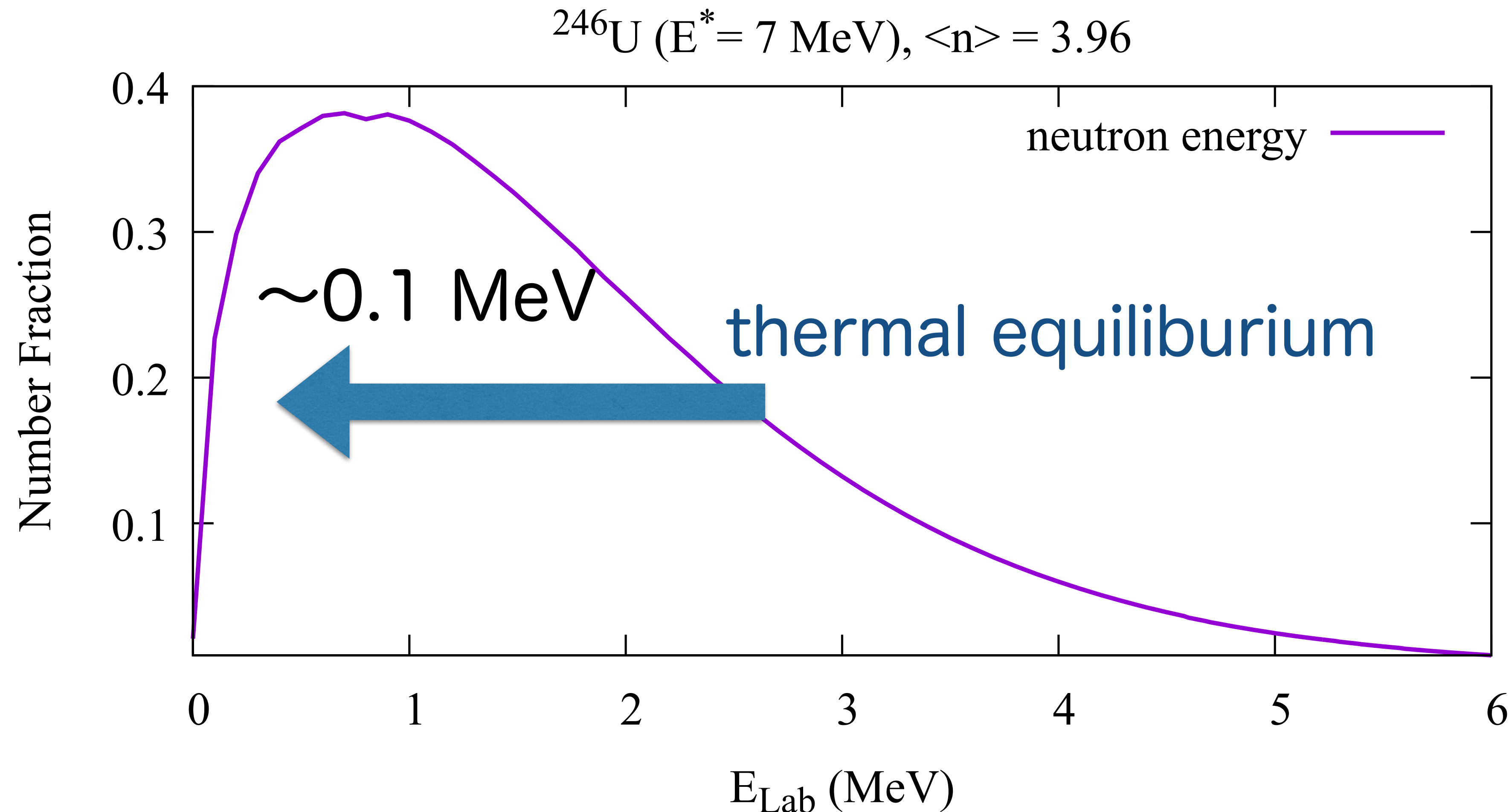


Neutron multiplicity: different ε



Energy of prompt neutron emission

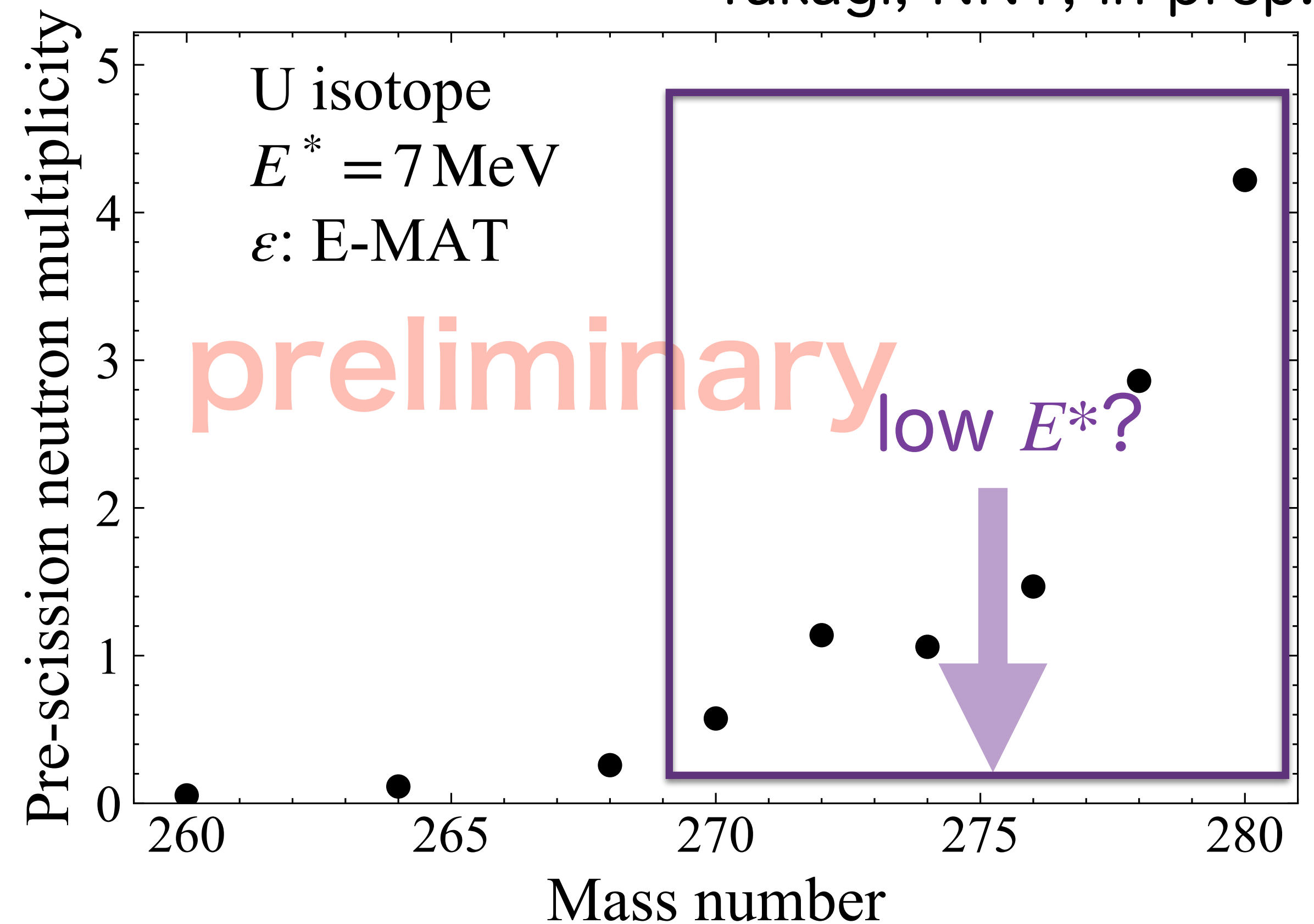
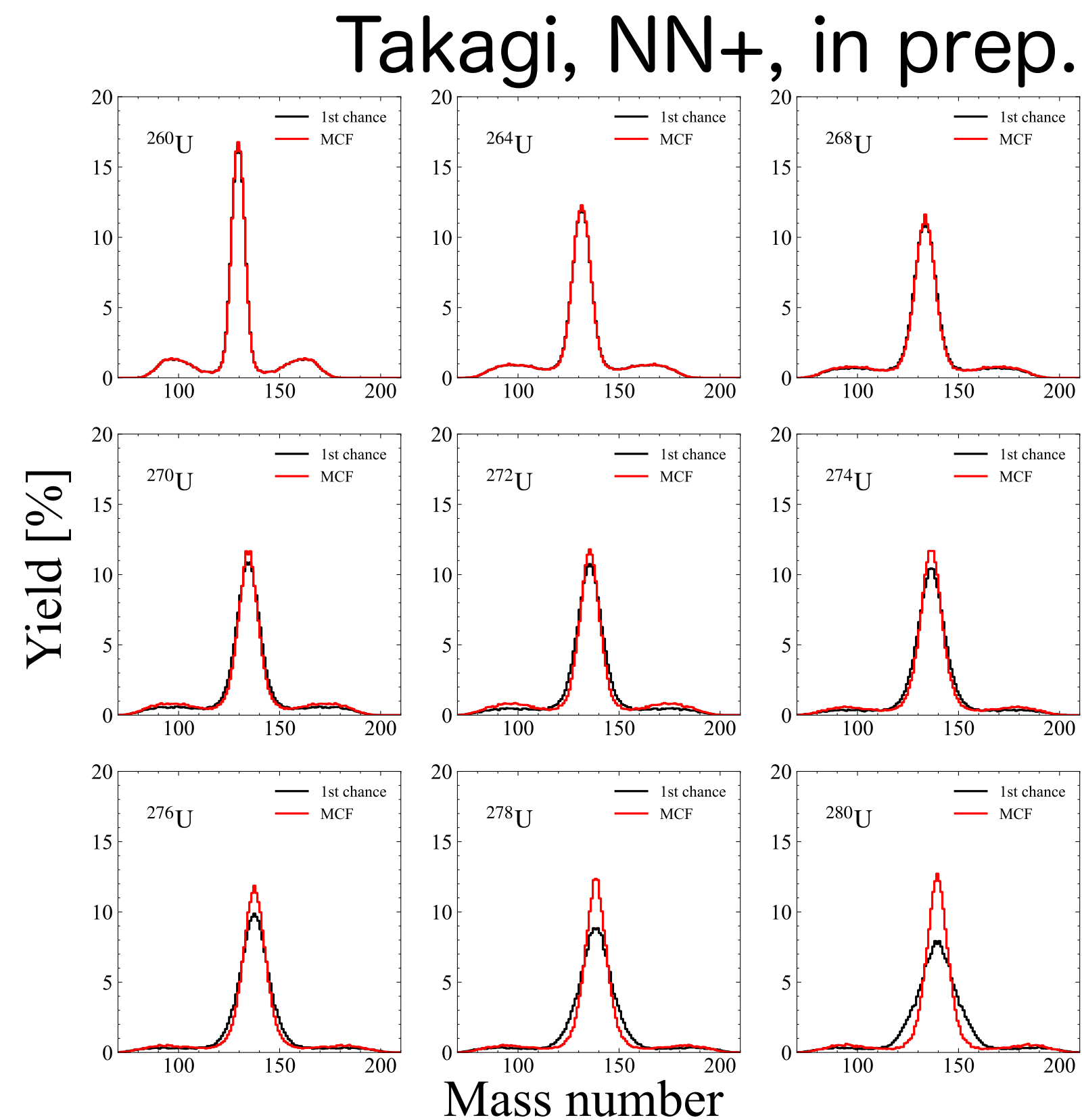
- Prompt emission neutrons have large energy $> \text{MeV}$
- They are considered to be immediately decreases 0.1 in r-process conditions
 - but in the low density cases (low neutron number density)?
 - high-energy (n,f) and others? peculiar observational signals??



Multi-chance fission ? : neutron-rich U

- may be significant for very neutron-rich U ($E^* = 7\text{MeV}$) : $A > 270$
- may change the total neutron multiplicity
- de-excitation: changes fission mode? suppresses n-induced fission?
- but for lower E^* ? trans-U nad superheavy isotopes?

Takagi, NN+, in prep.



Summary

• (background) Fission in r-process nucleosynthesis

- r-process is only nucleosynthesis process fission happens
- several astronomical observations
 - NS mergers: a kilonova lightcurve
 - metal-poor stars: actinoid-boost, evidence of fission yields?

• Dynamical fission calculations toward the r-process region

- n-rich U: symmetric distribution and larger neutron multiplicity
- transition point to symmetric has impacts on the r-process
 - neutron emission?
 - (reliminary) multi-chance fission?

