

R-Process Abundances in the A=130 Region

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Using the proton-neutron formalism with the shell-model code OXBASH, calculations for the binding energies, level schemes and Gamow-Teller β -decay for very neutron-rich nuclei at $N \simeq 82$ have been performed. A renormalized G matrix based upon the CD-Bonn potential has been used in a model space which contains 20 orbits (including all experimental knowledge) around the doubly closed shell nucleus ^{132}Sn . Details about the model space and the effective interactions are described in [1].

The calculated $T_{1/2}$ and P_n values were applied in our canonical r-process calculations to reproduce the $A \simeq 130$ solar-system r-abundance ($N_{r,\odot}$) peak. This region is of particular importance for the understanding of the r-process: (i) it is around ^{132}Sn that the heaviest isotopes directly lying in the r-process path are known experimentally, and (ii) this $N_{r,\odot}$ peak is the major bottle neck for the r-process matter flow to the rare-earth and actinide elements, up to the Th, U cosmochronometers. In the upper part of Fig. 1, the mass region around the $A \simeq 130$ $N_{r,\odot}$ peak is displayed. The r-abundances in the rising wing of the peak are predicted far too low due to very short model- $T_{1/2}$ below ^{129}Ag , which were calculated with the "optimized" OXBASH parameters prior to our recent experiments. As outlined in Refs. [1, 2], in order to describe the recently measured $E(1^+)$ excitation energy in ^{130}In , the $\nu h_{11/2}$ orbital had to be shifted by 200 keV and the $[\pi g_{9/2} \otimes \nu g_{7/2}]$ matrix element had to be readjusted. As is shown in the lower part of Fig. 1, a recalculation of the r-abundances with this new data set for $N=82$ isotopes below $Z=47$ (OXBASH (B)) and experimental $T_{1/2}$ for ^{130}Cd and ^{129}Ag resulted in a considerably improved agreement with the $N_{r,\odot}$ observables. These results demonstrate that guidance from nuclear structure experiments is essential for reliable predictions from local shell-model calculations. Recently, other groups [3, 4] had presented results more in accordance with predictions from older OXBASH (A) parameters, and had drawn wide-ranging conclusions concerning the validity of the "waiting-point" concept in the $A \simeq 130$ r-process peak region.

References

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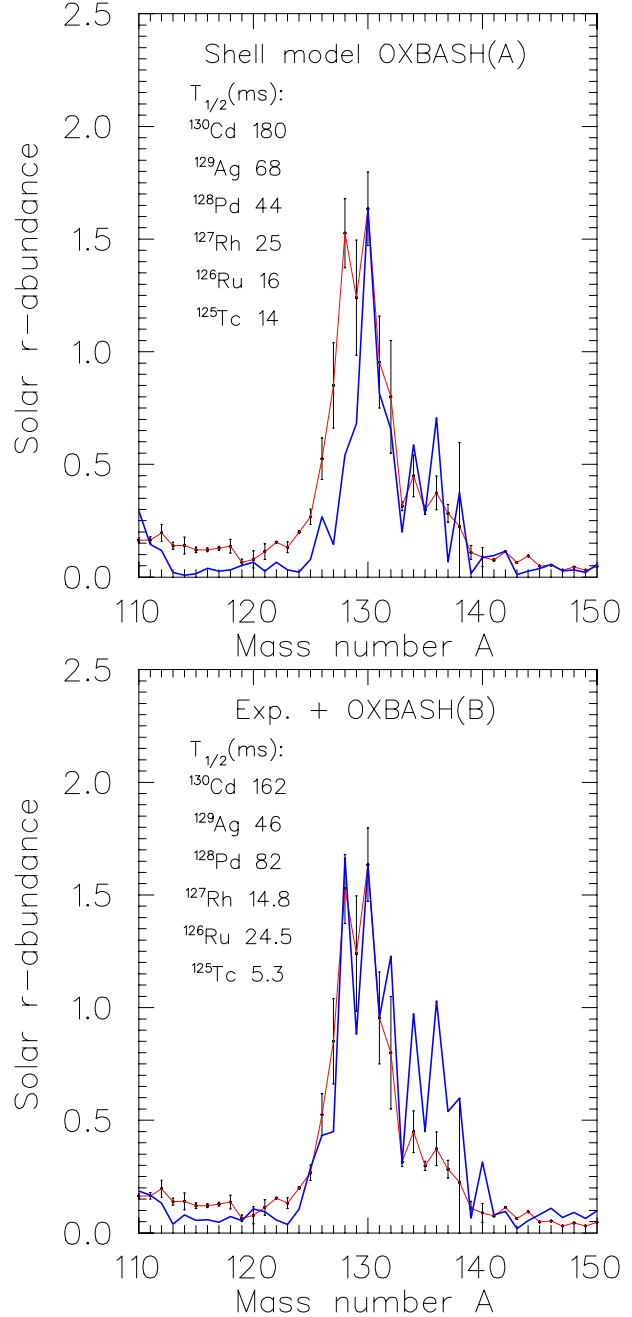


Figure 1: R-process abundances calculated with decay data from the OXBASH program. Data applied for the upper part were calculated prior to our experiments on ^{130}Cd decay. Values obtained with readjusted interaction parameters give a much better agreement (see lower part).