

Outline for Senior Thesis

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B. Introduction

- a. Explanations of neutron stars, nucleosynthesis, r-process, supernovae, etc
- b. Explanations of necessary Atomic Physics concepts

C. Motivation

- a. Explain the factors that affect models of neutron star merger nucleosynthesis output, including atomic physics data
- b. Explain how many groups model NSM abundances but use varying atomic data

D. Procedure

- a. Skynet data and Saha equation
- b. Calculation of Charge state abundances
- c. Analysis of abundances
- d. How Skynet parameter variation affects abundance calculations

E. Key Functions

- a. Saha_mult class
- b. Ionization Generator function
- c. Temperature Evolution model functions
- d. Elemental and Charge State Abundance calculation function

F. Data Tables

- a. Display key data tables such as ionization energies, elemental abundances for Nd and Sm, etc

G. Data Analysis Procedures

- a. Explain how the charges state abundance are scrutinized and analyzed to reveal important info such as cutoff values

H. Results

- a. Explain what the calculated charge state abundances actually mean in the context of r-process or heavy element production due to mergers found in the universe

I. Importance to Bigger Picture and Other Work

- a. Compare data to other works
- b. Explain how this work helps reduce uncertainty in NSM models

J. Conclusion

- a. Restate basics on NSMs
- b. Discuss motivation
- c. Talk about basis of procedure
- d. Discuss results
- e. Future Work
 - i. Make our models more precise
 - ii. Test more atomic models and create light curves using calculated abundance data
 - iii. Run experiments to uncover spectral data on key charge states and atoms

K. References