

ELECTRON-CAPTURE RATES OF NUCLEI AT STELLAR ENVIRONMENTS AND NUCLEOSYNTHESIS

Toshio Suzuki^{1,5}, M. Honma², N. Shimizu³, Y. Tsunoda³, T. Otsuka⁴, T. Kajino⁵, K. Mori⁵, M. Famiano⁶, J. Hidaka⁷, K. Nomoto⁸, K. Iwamoto⁹

¹Department of Physics, College of Humanities and Sciences, Nihon University, Setagaya, Tokyo 156-8550, Japan

²Center for Mathematical Sciences, University of Aizu,

³Center for Nuclear Study, the University of Tokyo,

⁴Department of Physics, the University of Tokyo

⁵National Astronomical Observatory of Japan,

⁶Department of Physics, Western Michigan University,

⁷Mechanical Engineering Department, Meisei University,

⁸WPI, the University of Tokyo,

⁹Department of Physics, College of Science and Technology,

Electron-capture rates in nuclei at stellar environments are evaluated by using new shell-model Hamiltonians. A new Hamiltonian for pf-shell, GXPF1J, can describe Gamow-Teller (GT) strengths in Ni isotopes very well. In particular, large spreading in the GT strength in ⁵⁶Ni and ⁵⁵Co obtained for GXPF1J has been confirmed by a recent experiment. The updated e-capture rates as well as beta-decay rates obtained in a large region of pf-shell nuclei are applied to study nucleosynthesis in type-Ia supernova explosions and core-collapse supernova explosions as well as cooling of stars by nuclear URCA processes.

The e-capture rates with GXPF1J, which are generally smaller than those with conventional shell-model Hamiltonians such as KB3G and lead to less production of neutron-rich nuclei such as ⁵⁸Ni and ⁵⁴Cr, can thus solve the problem of over-production of neutron-rich isotopes in the Fe region compared to the solar abundance.

For more neutron-rich isotopes such as ⁷⁸Ni, extension of the configuration space outside the pf-shell is essential. Here, GT strength and spin-dipole strengths in ⁷⁸Ni are evaluated within pf+g_{9/2}+d_{5/2} shells. Core-collapse supernova explosions are sensitive to the e-capture rates for nuclei around this region. Electron-capture rates of nuclei around ⁷⁸Ni will be discussed with shell-model as well as with RPA calculations.