

# Previous Visit in 2001



110 Years of the r-process!

# TORQUING THE ELEMENTAL ABUNDANCES FROM SR-YB IN METAL-POOR STARS

J. J. Cowan (OU), C. Sneden (UT), I. U. Roederer  
(OCIW), J. E. Lawler (UW), R. Boyd (LLNL)



Heavy Elements Nucleosynthesis and the LEPP - October 10, 2011

# Abundances: Some results, Some questions and Some Clues

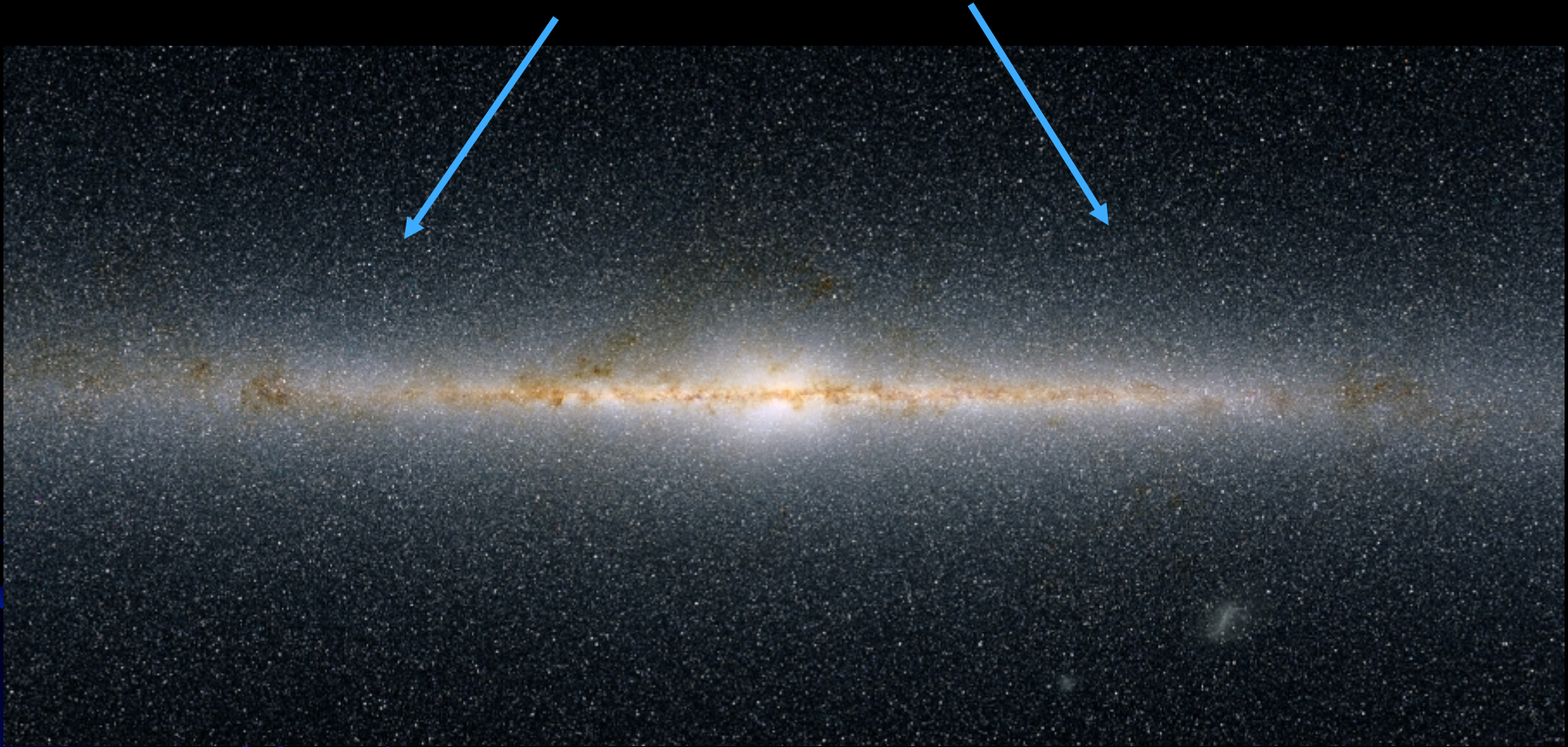
- New abundances (HST & Keck) of n-capture elements in low-metallicity Galactic halo stars :
  1. New experimental atomic data providing much more precise abundances, particularly for rare earth elements
  2. r-rich stars consistency at the upper end, but differences between r-poor stars
  3. What do Ge abundances tell us?
  4. What about Sr-Zr? What about Z=40-50 elements?
  5. New results for Yb: ``the ugly duckling'' element
    - How does the LEPP fit into all of this?

Periodic Table



# 2MASS View of the Milky Way

Galactic Halo Stars



- Metal-poor Halo Stars are ``fossils'' of the Early Universe
- These Stars are Relatives of the First Stars in the Universe



# New Atomic Data to Improve Elemental Abundance Values

1 H																	2 He										
3 Li	4 Be											5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F	10 Ne										
11 Na	12 Mg											13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar										
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr										
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe										
55 Cs	56 Ba											72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn	
87 Fr	88 Ra											104 Rf	105 Db	106 Sg	107 Bh	108 Hs	109 Mt	110 Uun	111 Uuu	112 Uub							
<u>lanthanides</u>		57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu											
<u>actinides</u>		89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U	93 Np	94 Pu	95 Am	96 Cm	97 Bk	98 Cf	99 Es	100 Fm	101 Md	102 No	103 Lr											

Concentrating on the Rare-Earth Elements

transition probabilities from Lawler's Wisconsin group

# Focus On Rare Earth Elements

New experimental atomic physics data:

Nd done (Den Hartog et al. 2003)

Ho done (Lawler et al. 2004)

Pt done (Den Hartog et al. 2005)

Sm done (Lawler et al. 2006)

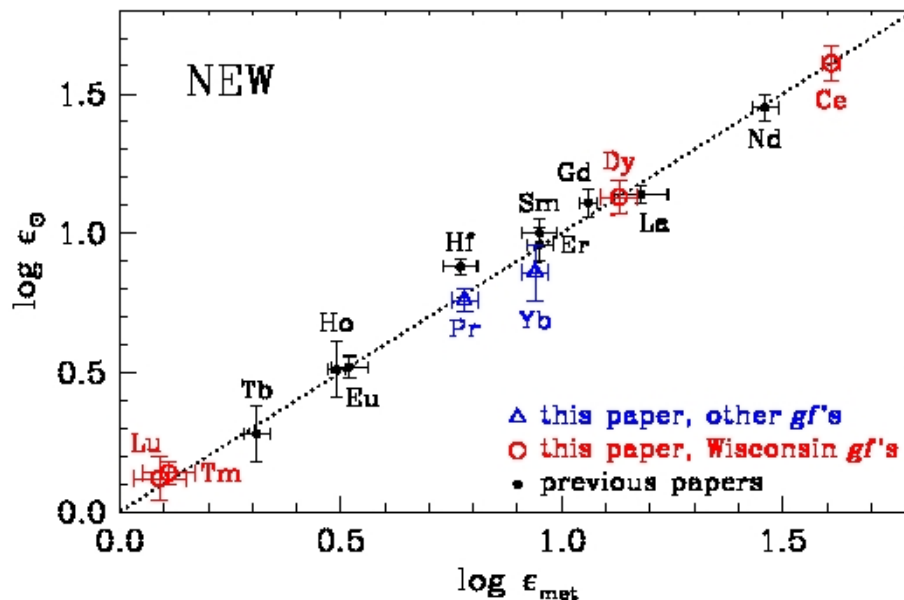
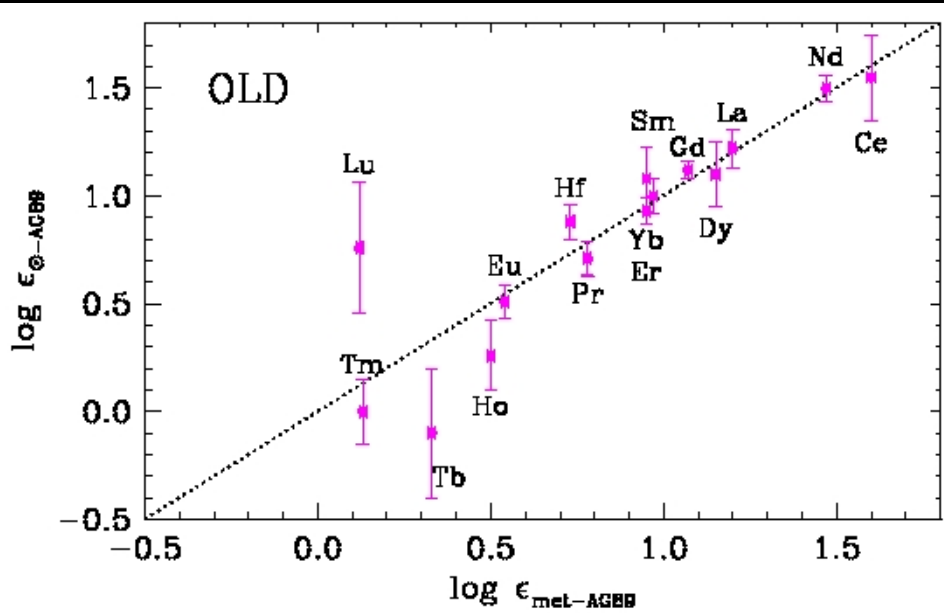
Gd done (Den Hartog et al. 2006)

Hf done (Lawler et al. 2007)

Er done (Lawler et al. 2008)

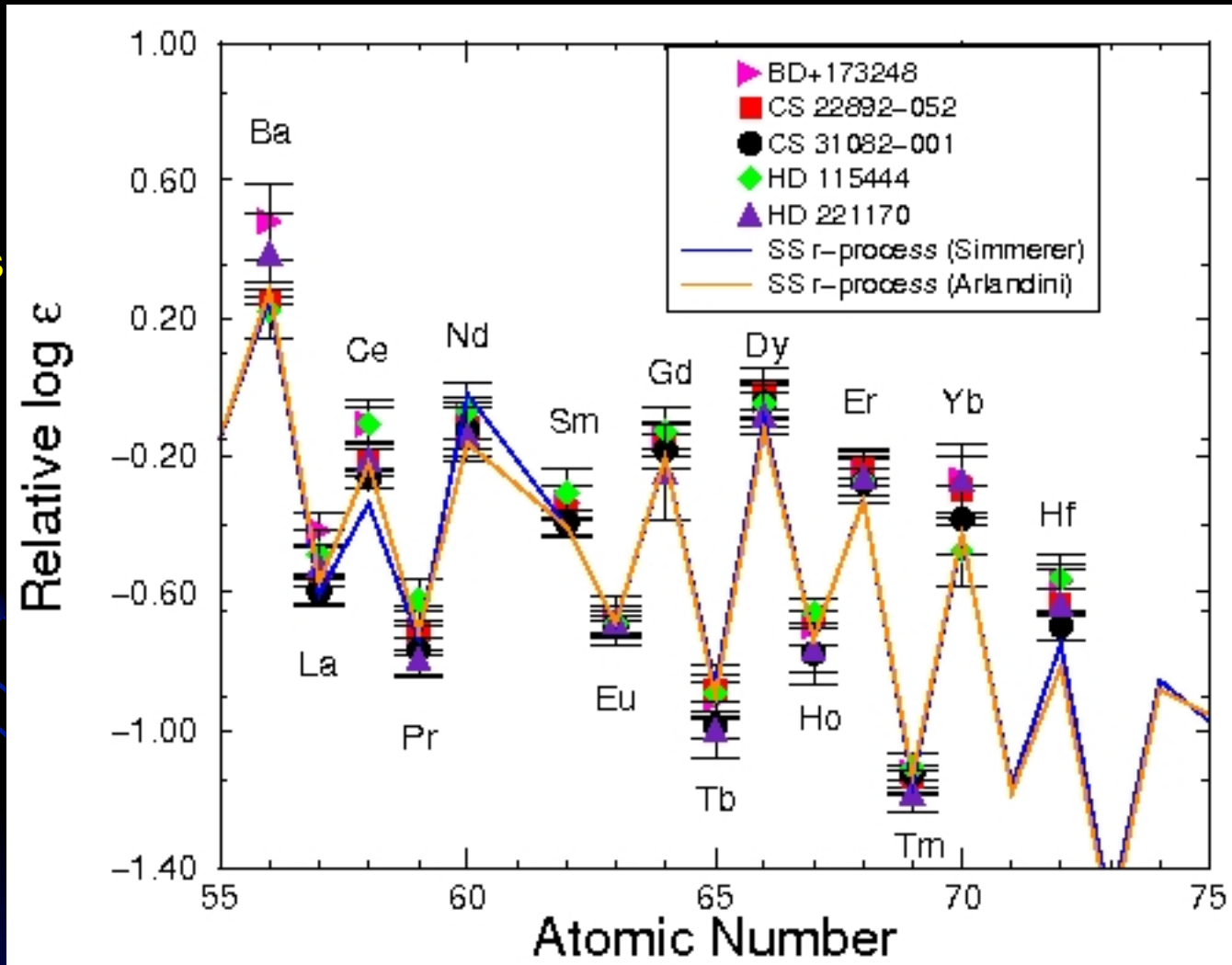
Ce, Pr done (Lawler et al. 2009, Sneden et al. 2009)

Comparisons of SS meteoritic & photospheric values of the REE



Working our way through the periodic Table!

# Rare Earth Abundances in Five r-Rich Stars



Very little scatter

All normalized to Eu

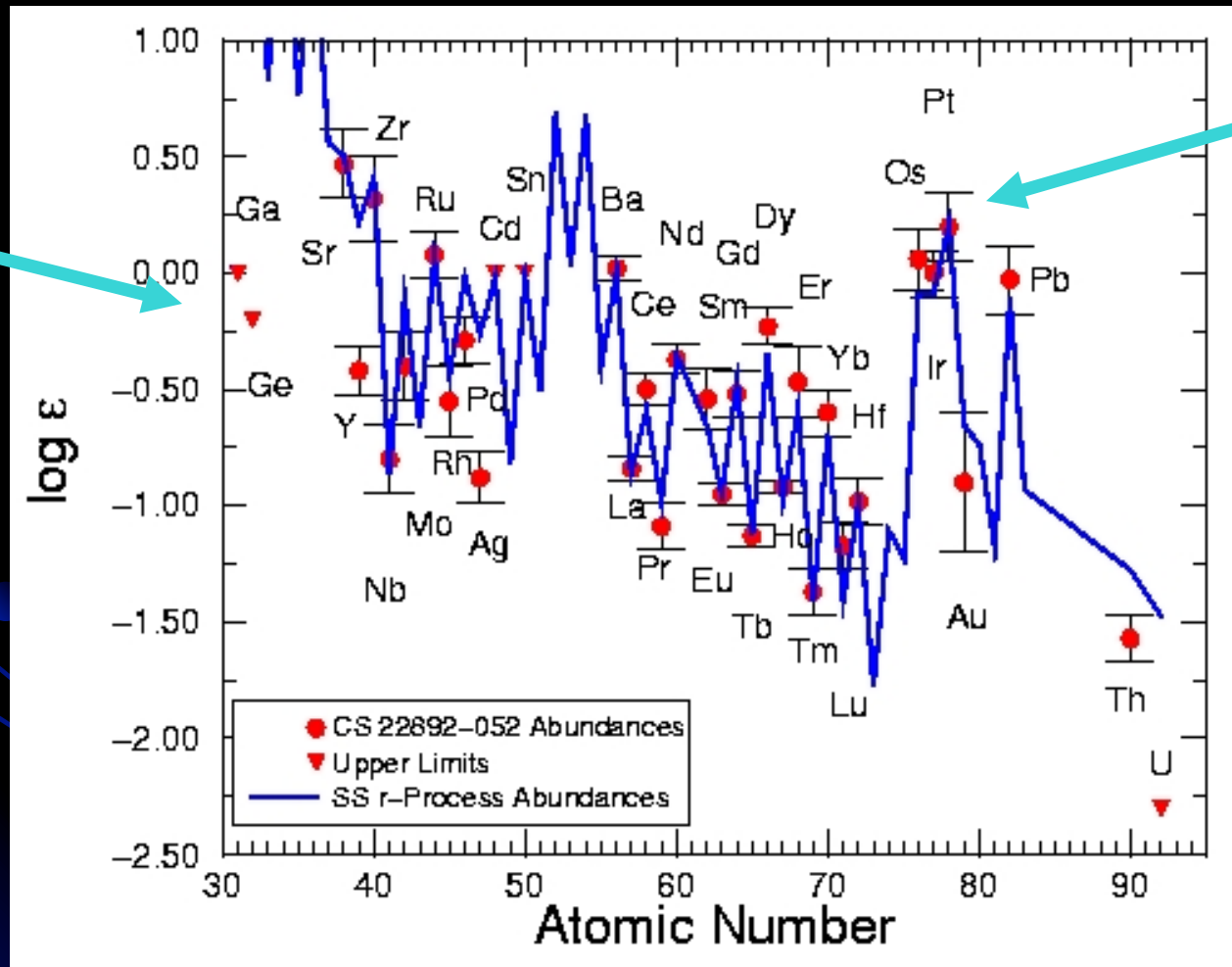
Comparisons of new REE abundances with SS r-only predictions



# CS 22892-052 Abundances

(with new atomic and stellar data)

31 N-Capture Elements Detected → The Old King

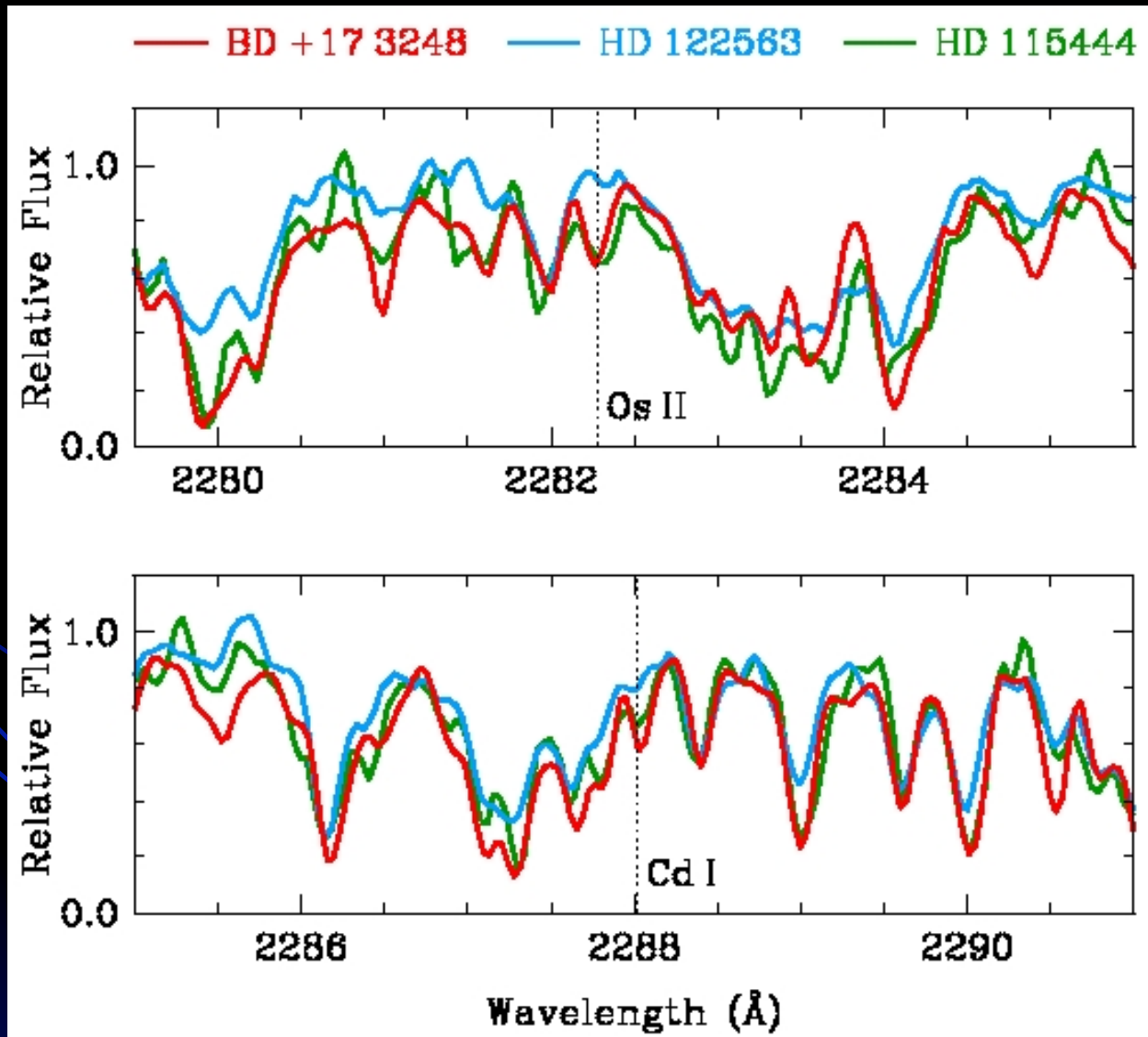


Platinum  
(64 HST Orbits)

57 elements  
observed.  
More than any  
star except  
the Sun.

$$\text{Log } \epsilon(A) = \text{Log}_{10}(N_A/N_H) + 12$$

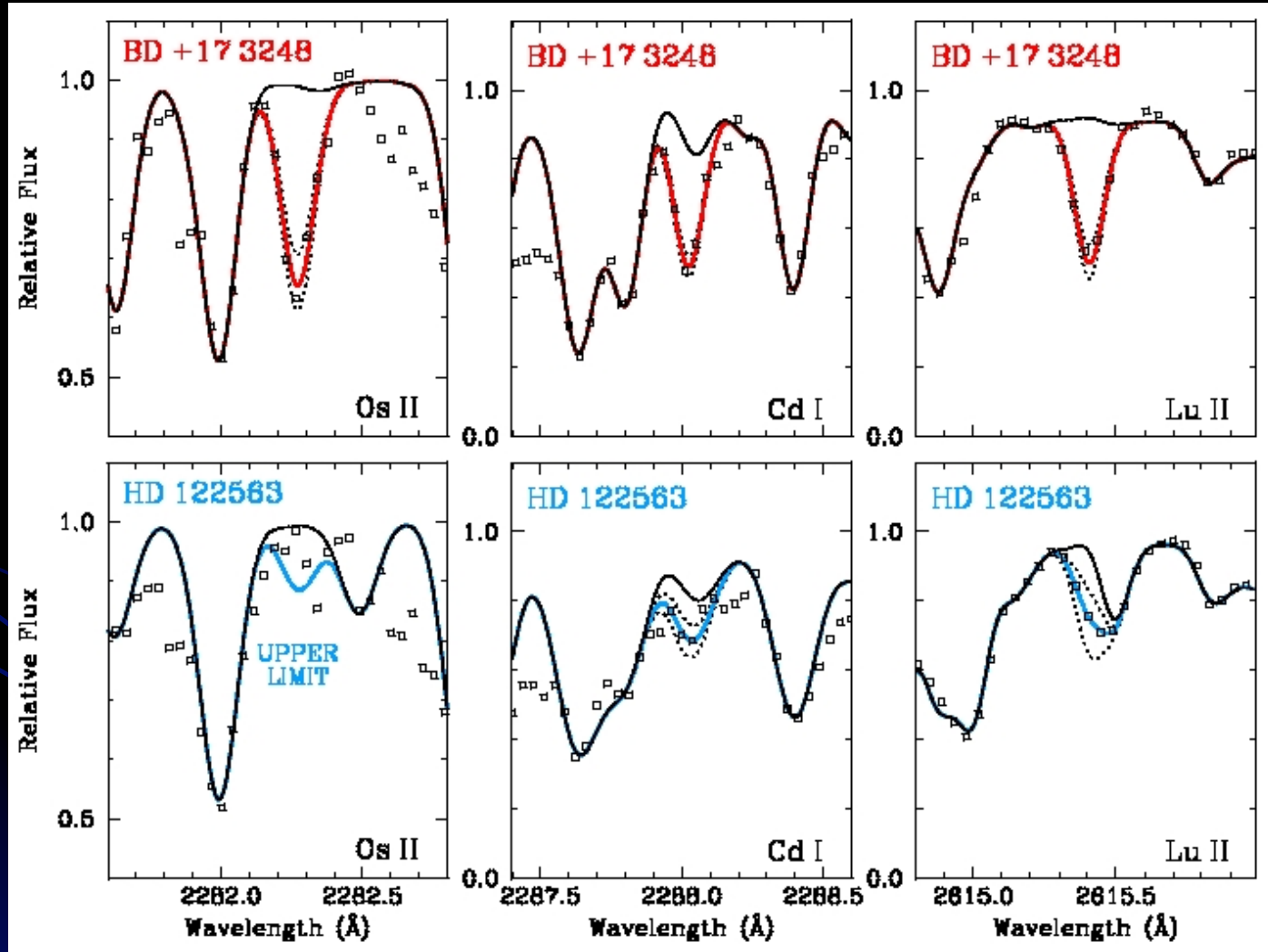
# New Abundance Detections in BD +17 3248



UV: HST STIS

Roederer et al.  
(2010a)

# New Abundance Detections of Cd I, Lu II and Os II in BD +17 3248



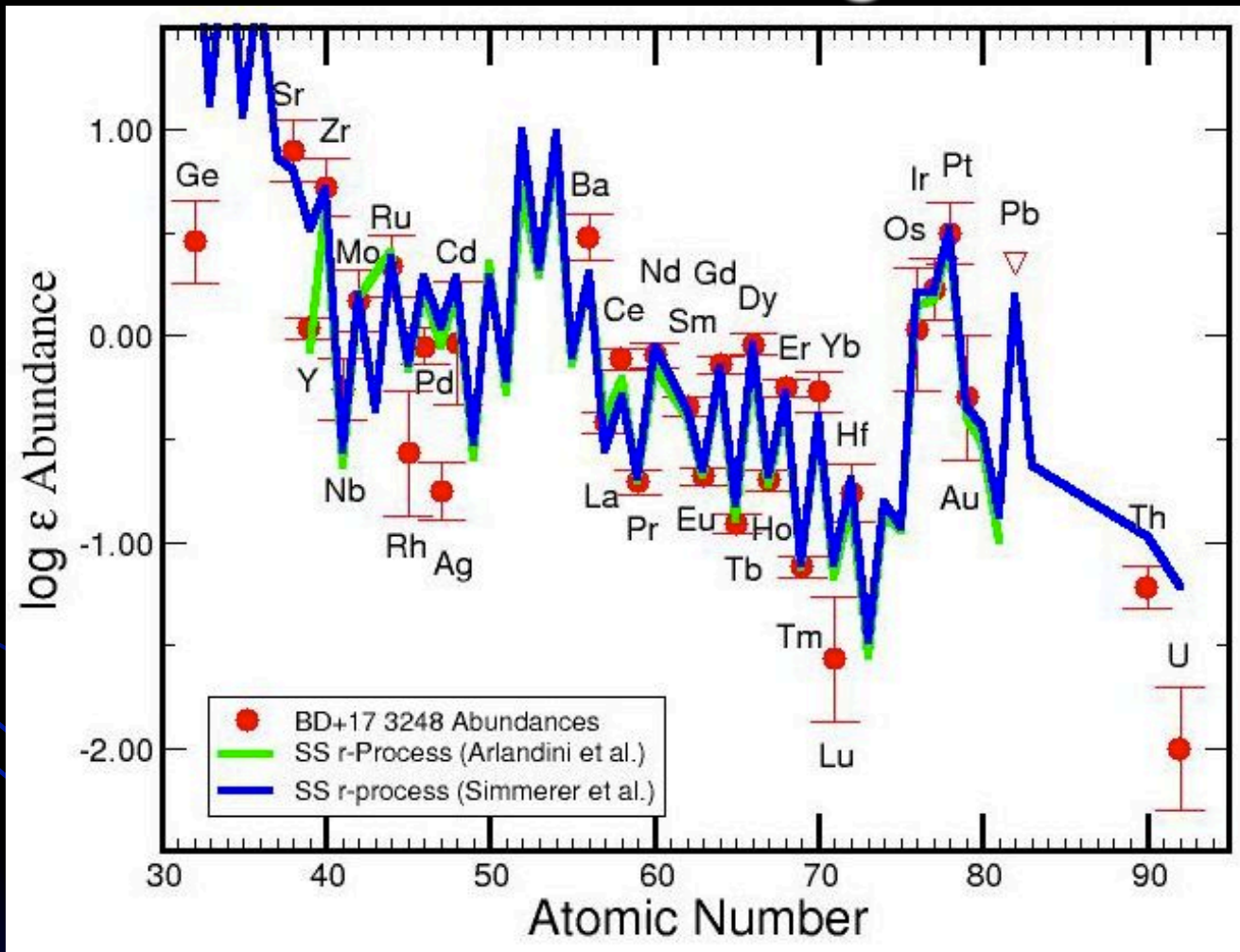
Roederer  
et al. (2010a)

First detections of these n-cap species in metal-poor stars



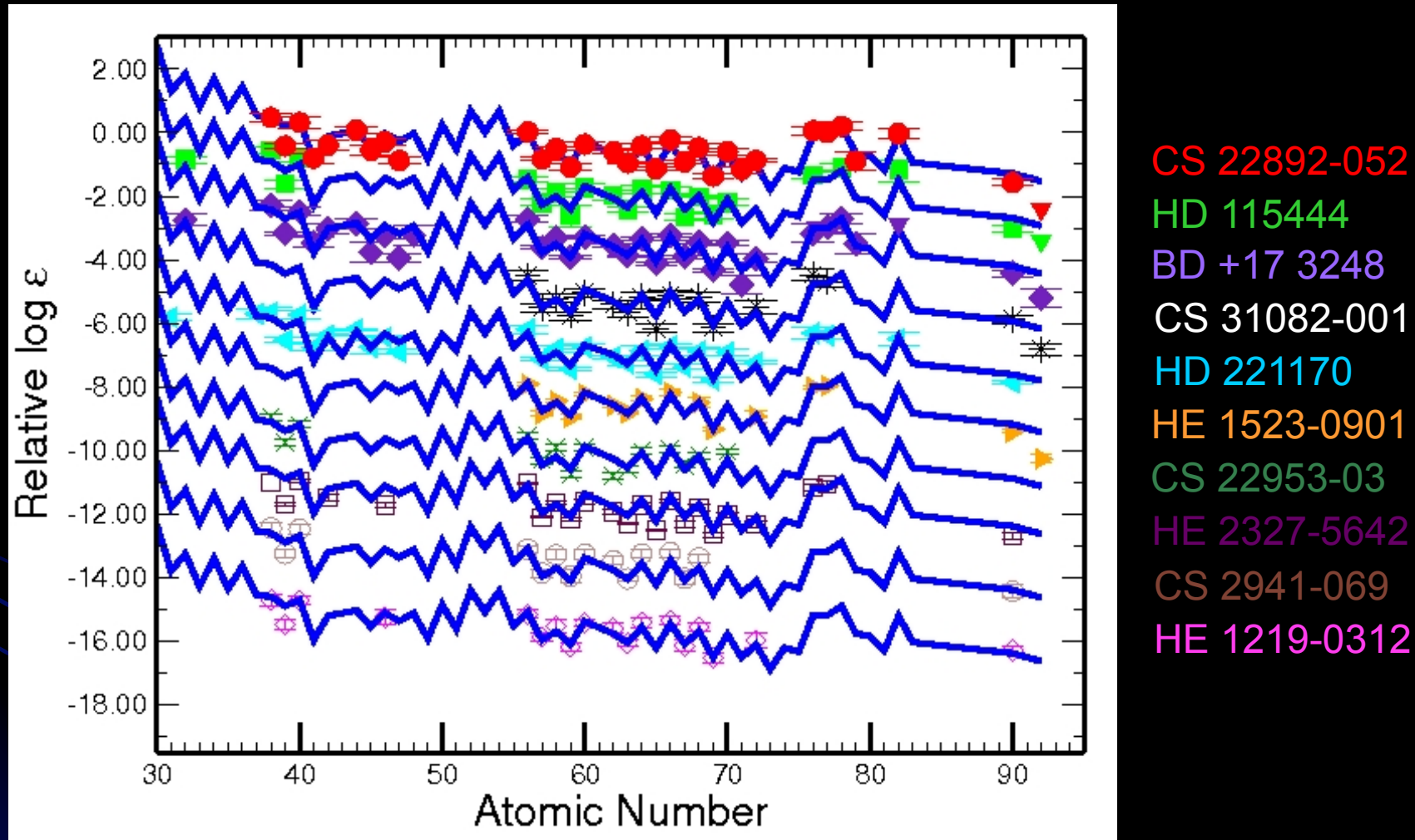
# Abundances in BD+17 3248: Meet the New King!

→  
note Ge:  
for halo  
stars not  
from n-cap



32 n-capture elements detected in BD +17 3248 → Most in any metal-poor halo star to date!

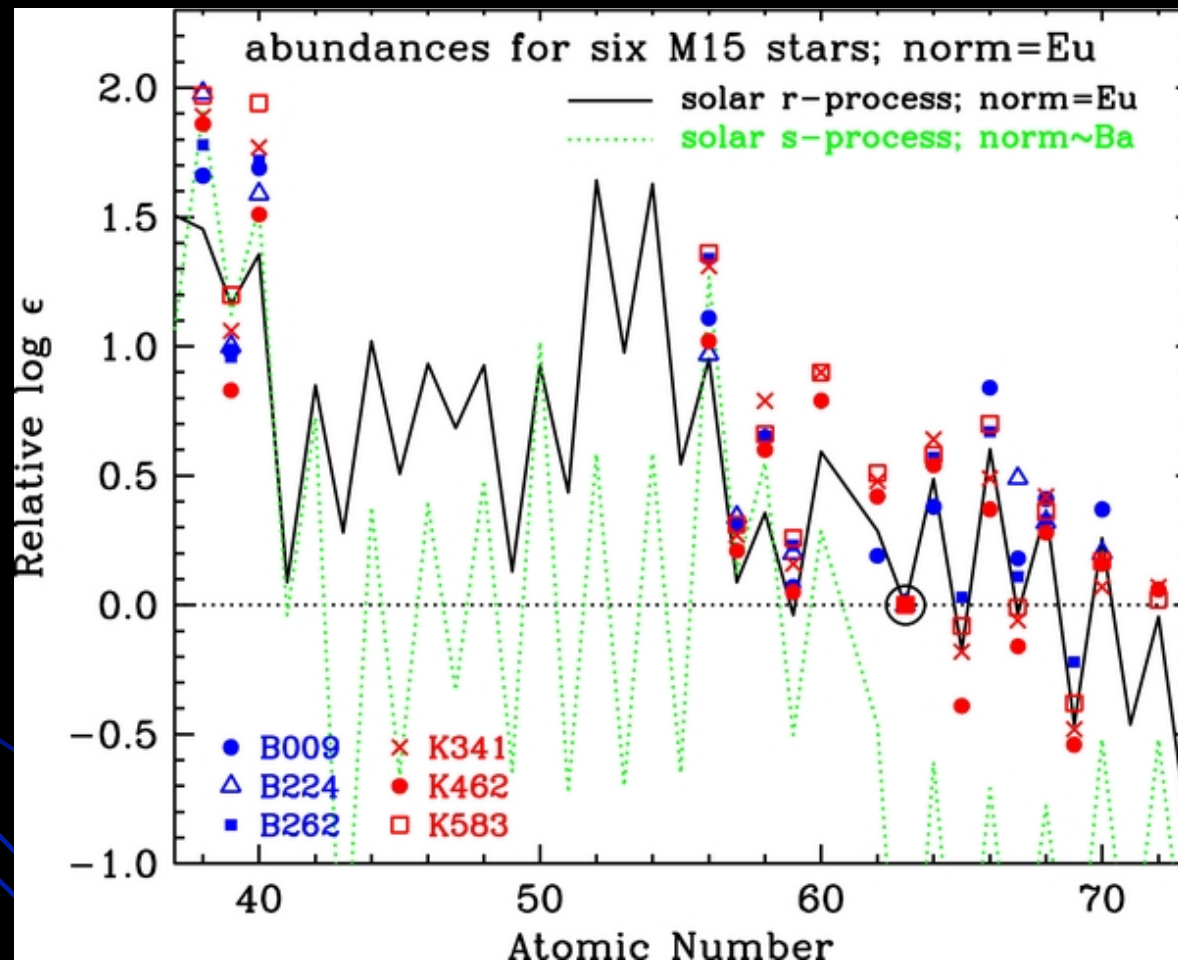
# Consistency for r-Rich Stars



10 r-process rich stars

Same abundance pattern at the upper end and ? at the lower end.

# Abundances in a Globular Cluster



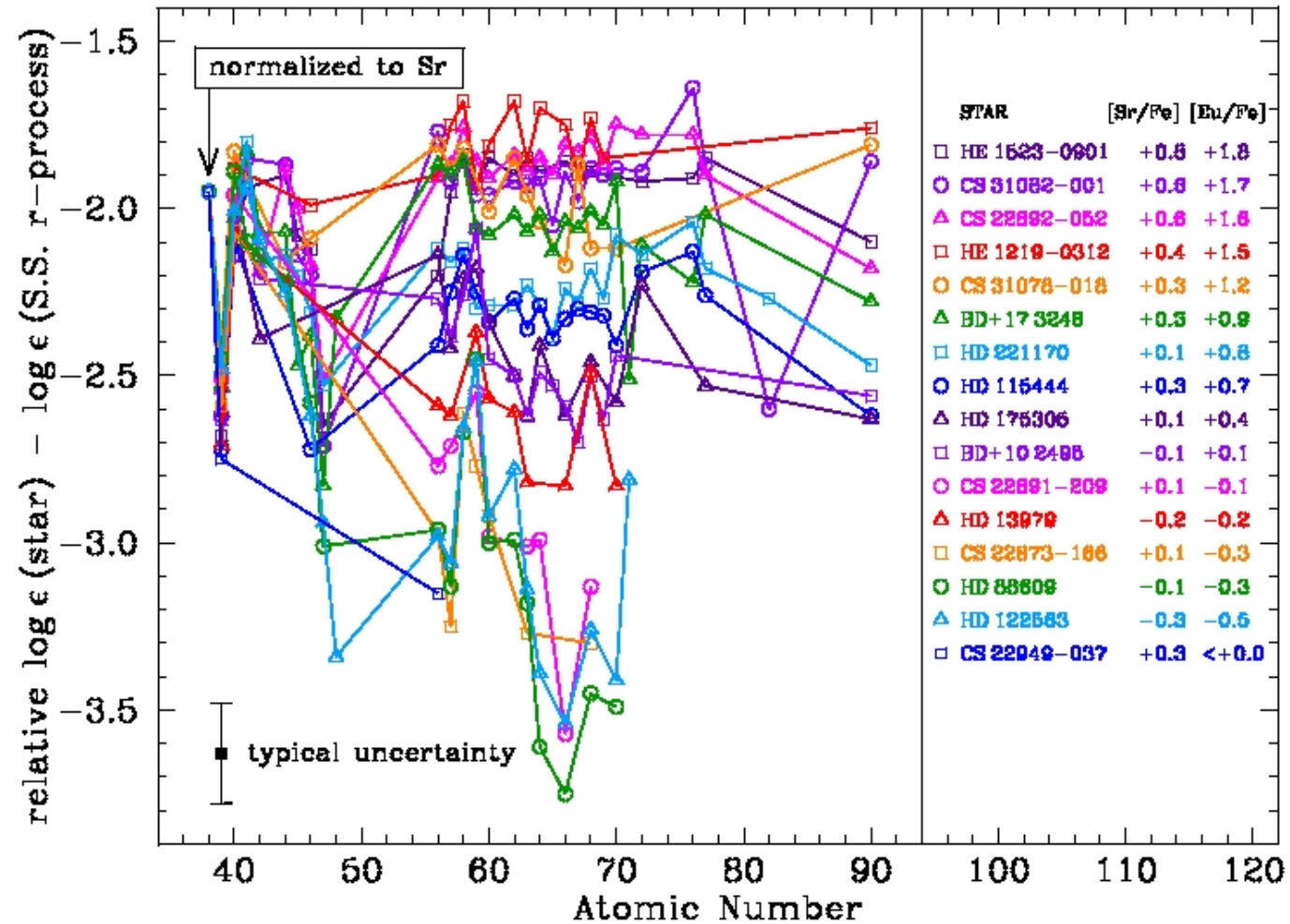
Sobeck et al.  
(2011)

RGB and RHB stars

Upper end SS r-process. Sr-Zr not fit.

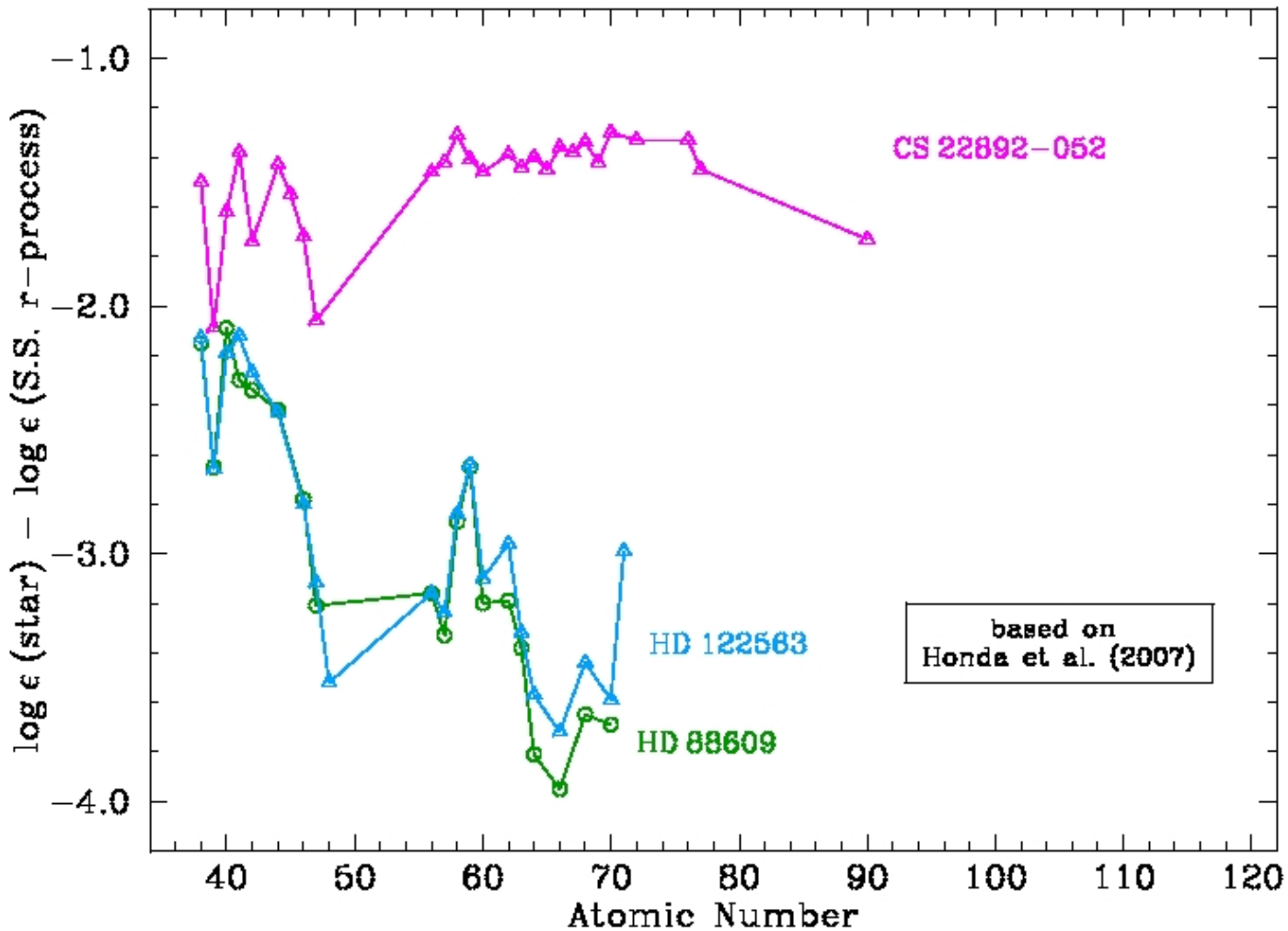


# Looking at a Range of r-Process Richness

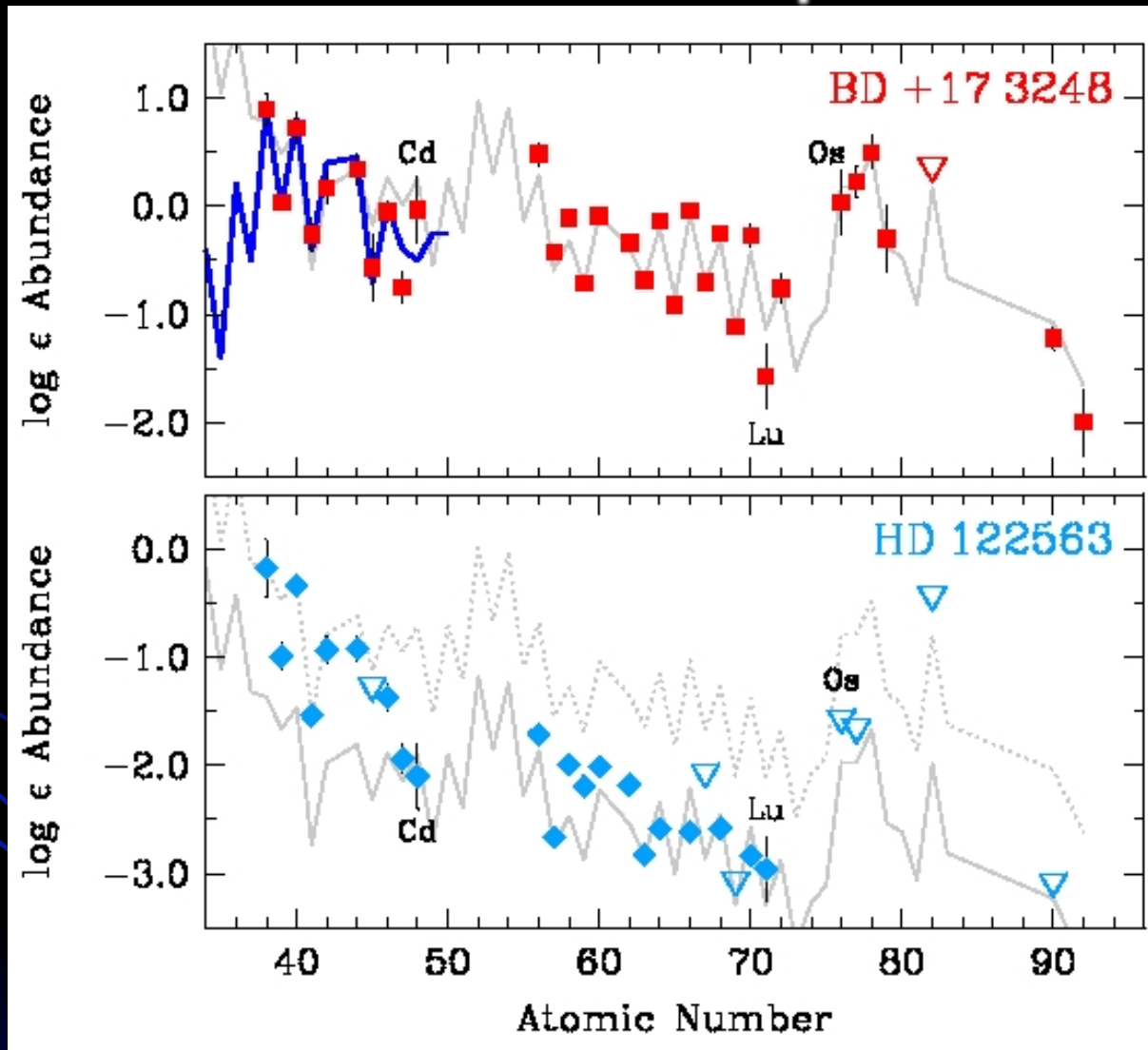


The ubiquity of the r-process (Roederer et al. 2010b)

# r-Process Rich vs. r-Process Poor



# Abundance Comparisons



HEW



SS r-process  
(Sr, Eu)



r-process rich

SS r-process

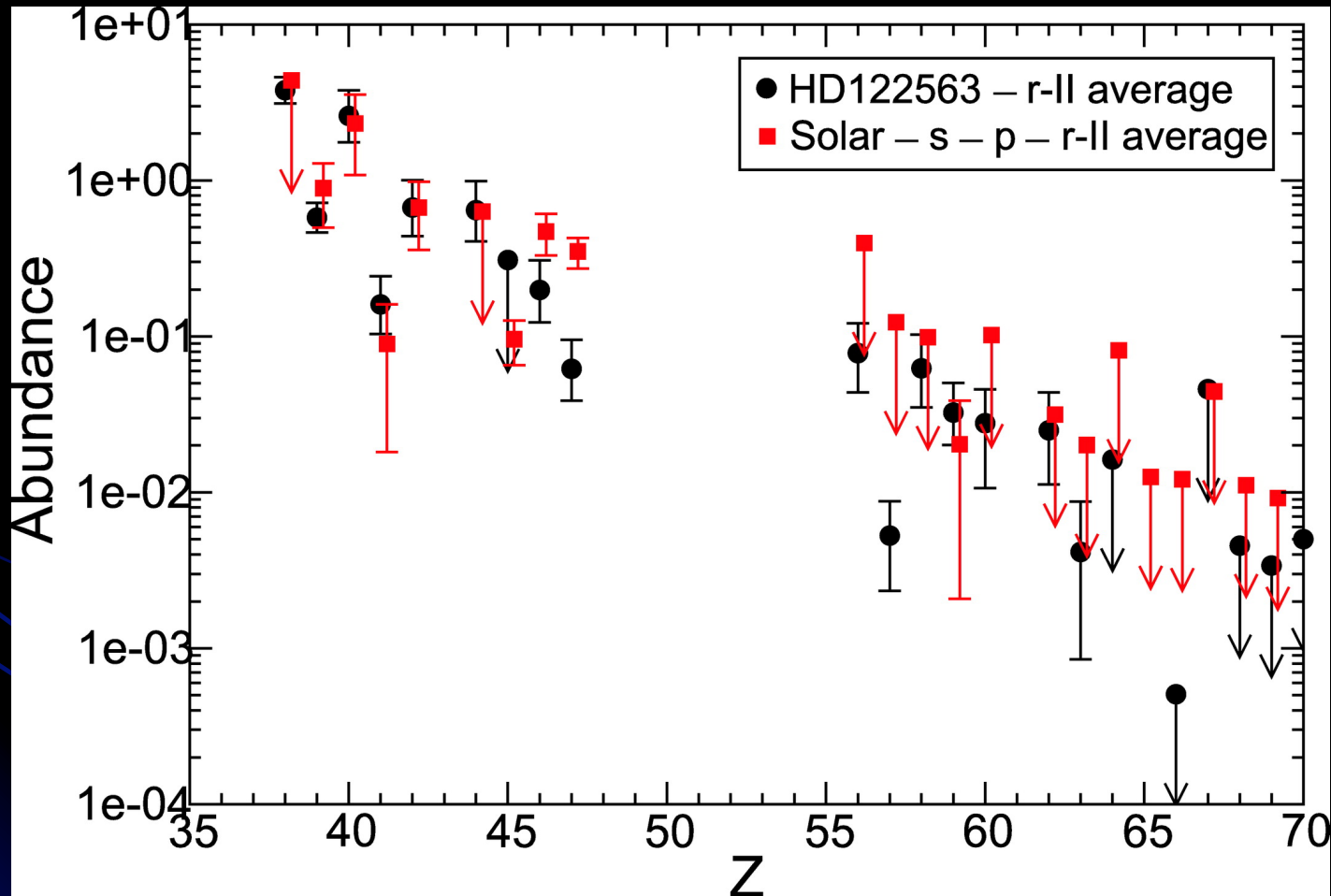
r-process poor



Note general fall off:  
weak r-process  
or LEPP  
(Montes et al.  
2007)

Roederer et al. (2010a)

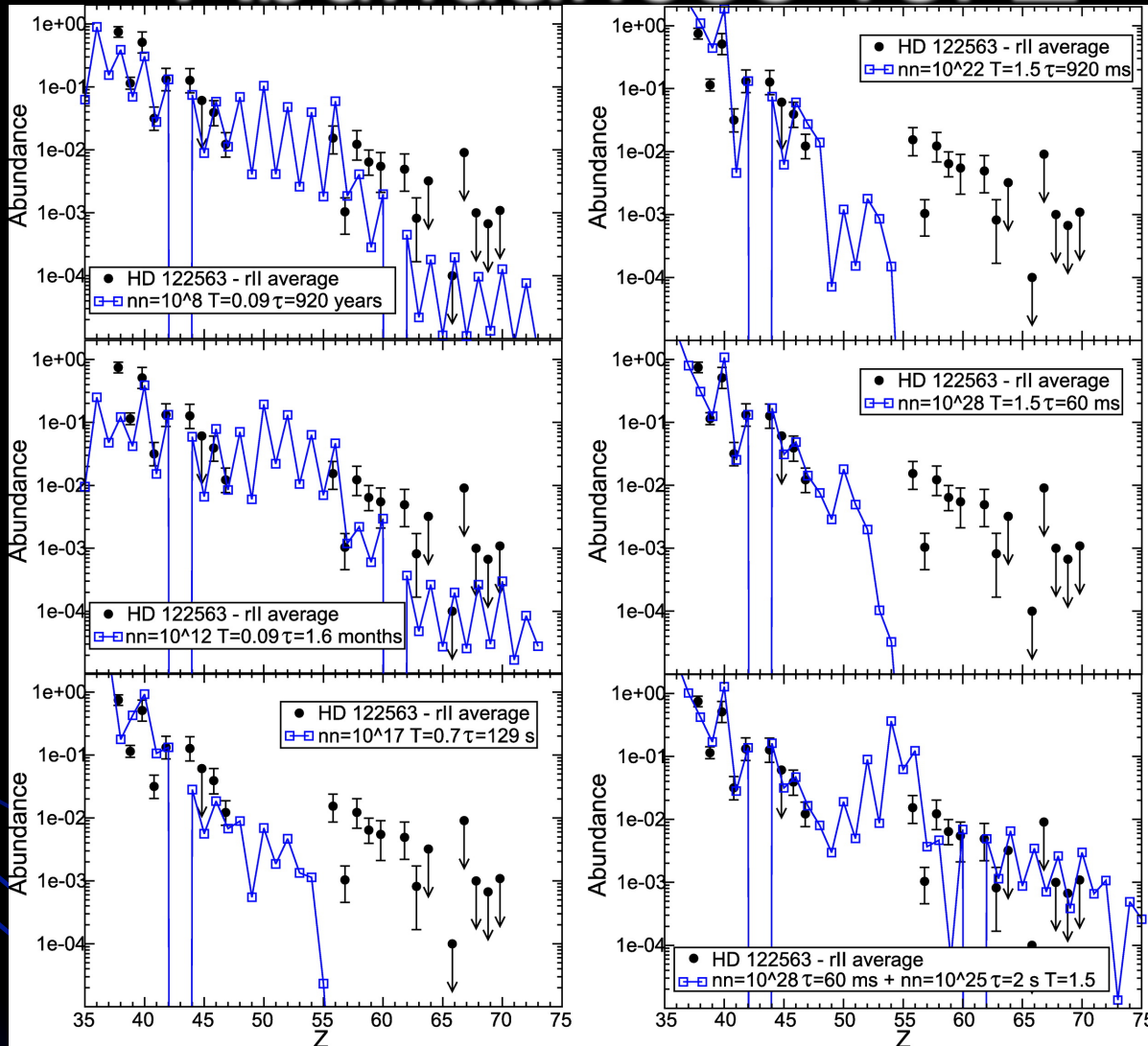
# Abundance Pattern Created by the LEPP from Montes et al.



■ Solar LEPP and ● stellar LEPP



# Abundances vs. Z



Montes et al. (2007)

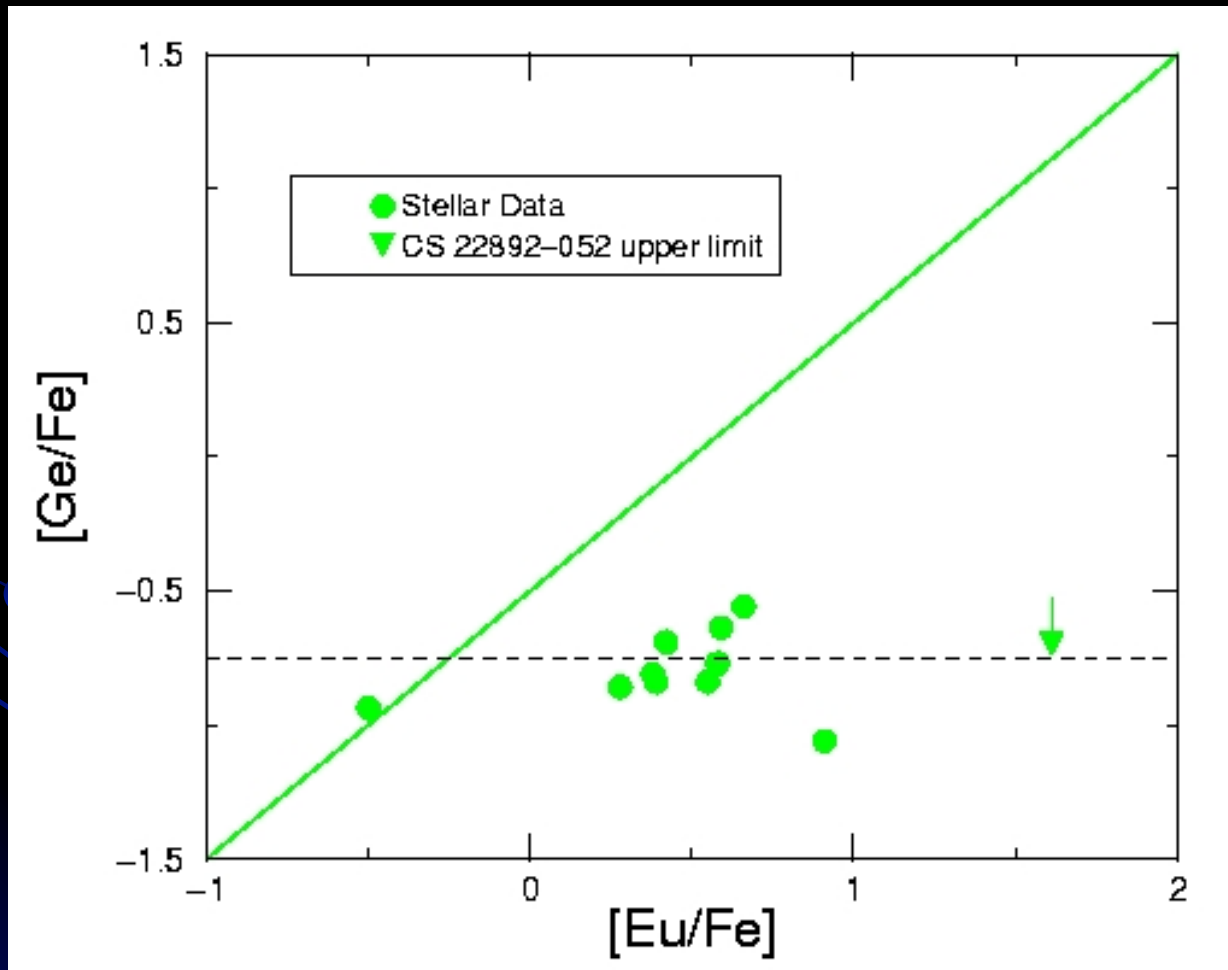
Normalized to Mo and compare with the stellar LEPP pattern

# Focus on Observations of Ranges of Lighter N-Capture Elements

- Elements just past the iron peak: Ge
- Sr, Y and Zr
- Z=40-50 including Ag and Cd
- New abundance determinations for selected elements from Sr to Yb (preliminary work)

# Ge vs. Eu in Halo Stars

If Ge and Eu are both n-capture elements and both synthesized in same process they should be correlated?

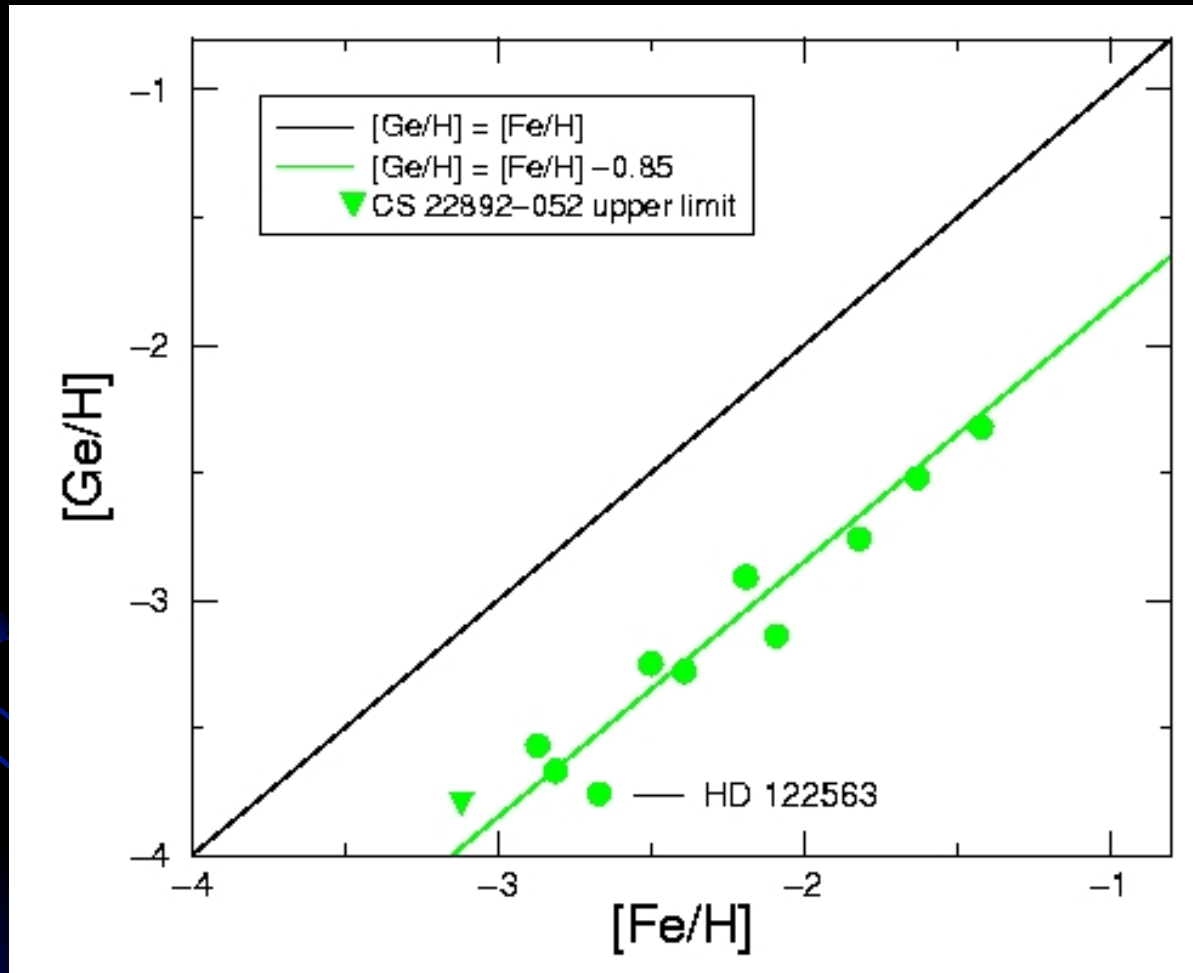


Ge  $\not\propto$  Eu

JC et al. (2005)

$$[A/B] = \log_{10}(A/B)_{\text{star}} - \log_{10}(A/B)_{\text{sun}}$$

# Ge Abundances in Halo Stars



$Ge \propto Fe$

Challenge to theorists.  
vp-process  
(Frolich et al.)

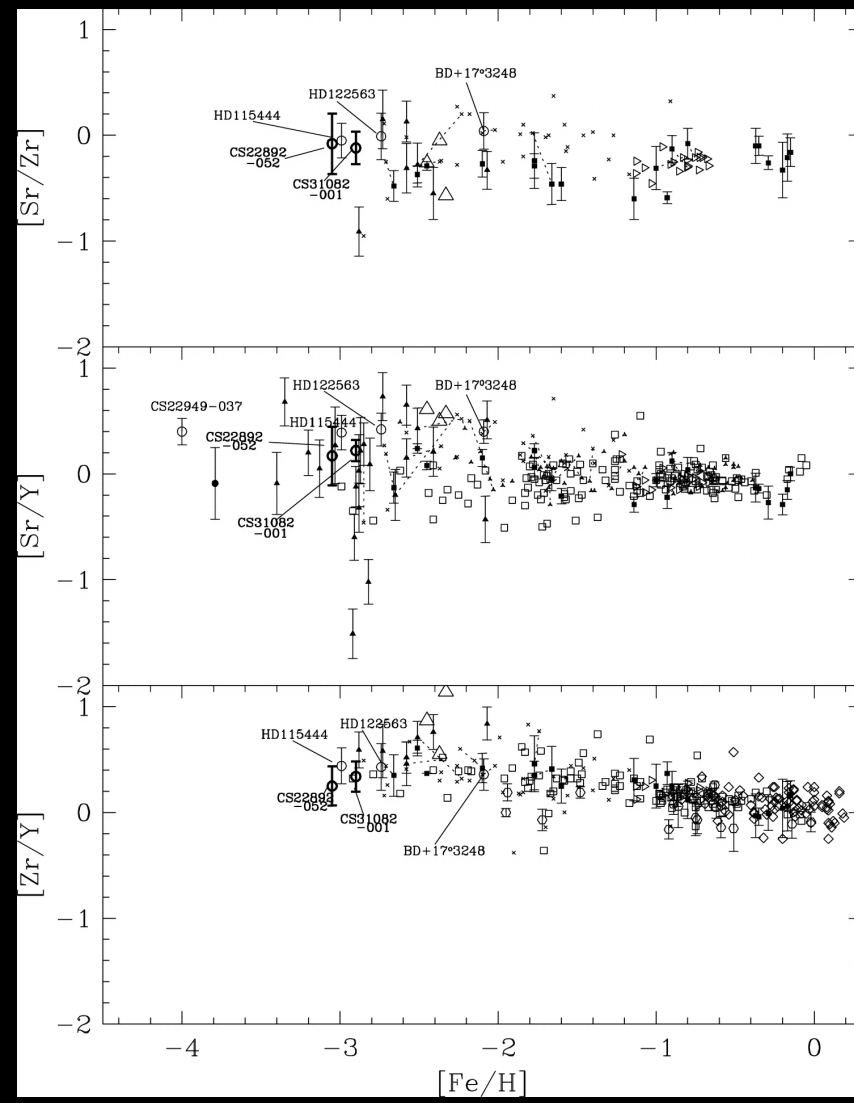
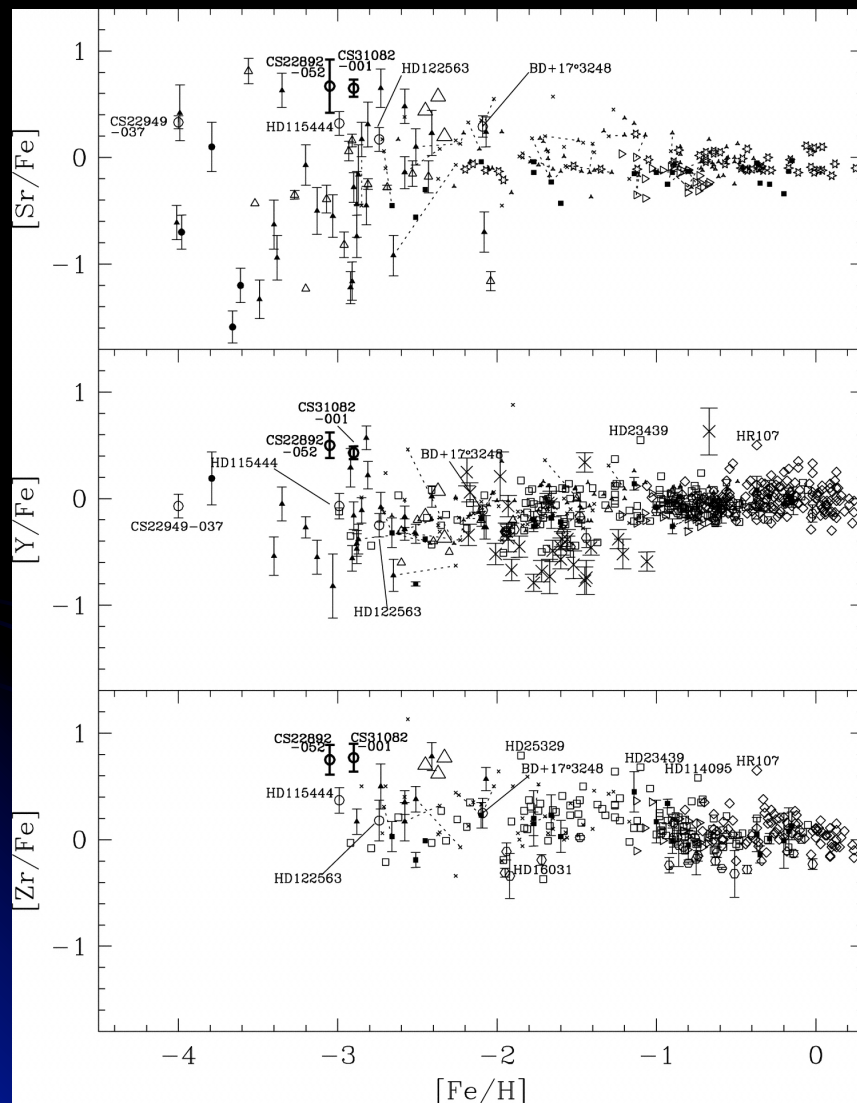
What happens at higher [Fe/H] with the s-process?

JC et al. (2005)

$$[A/B] = \log_{10}(A/B)_{\text{star}} - \log_{10}(A/B)_{\text{sun}}$$



# Metallicity Effects on Sr-Zr



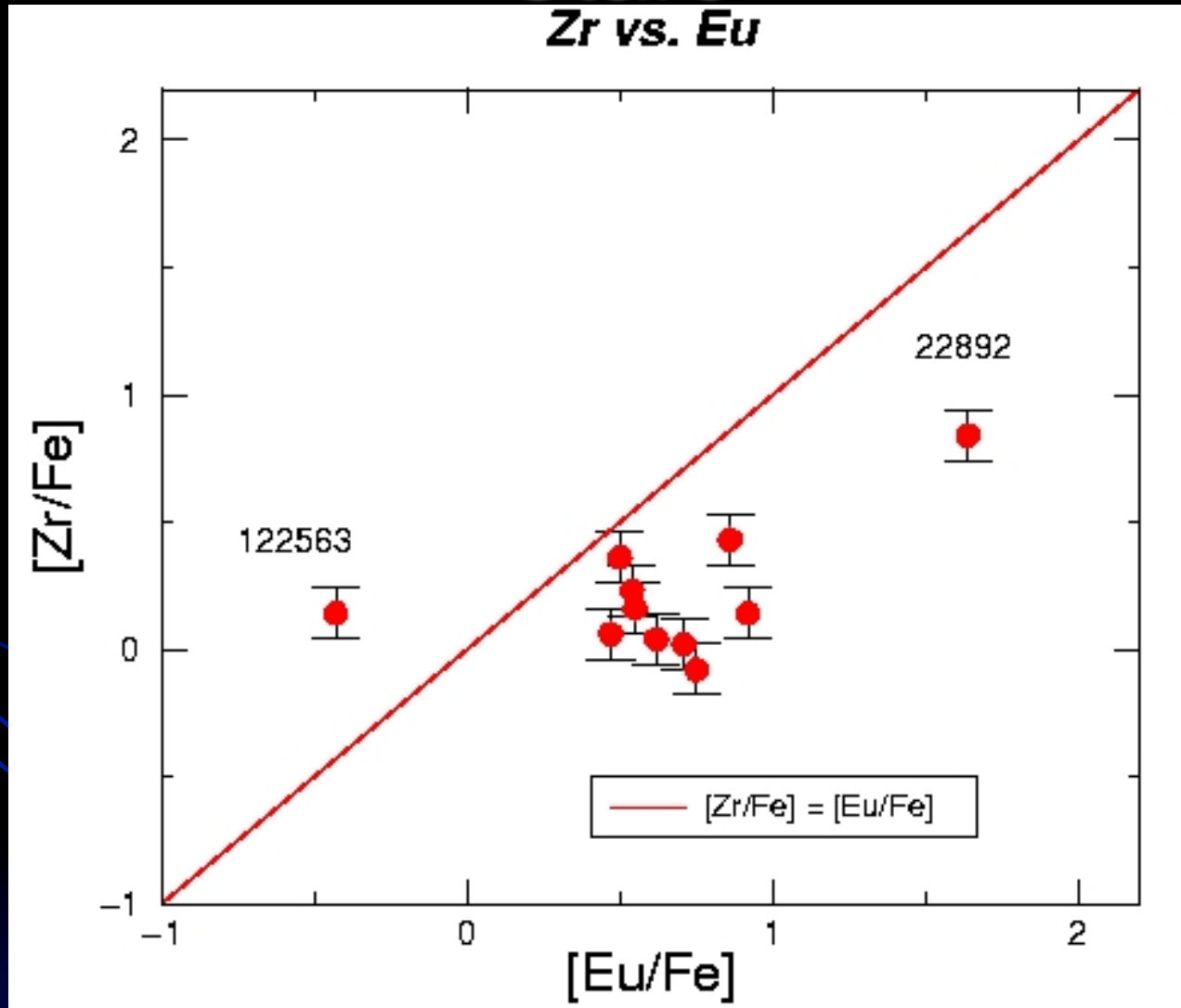
Travaglio et al. (2004)

# The Famous LEPP Invention

- Making use of the very *r*-process rich and very metal-poor stars like CS 22892-052 and CS 31082-001, we find hints and discuss the possibility of a *primary process* in low-metallicity massive stars, different from the "classical *s*-process" and from the "classical *r*-process" that we tentatively define LEPP (lighter element primary process). (Travaglio et al. 2004)

# Zr (HST) and Eu Abundances in Halo Stars

## Zr vs. Eu



Zr  $\not\propto$  Eu

Both n-cap elements but not from same source?

LEPP?  
SN models?

JC et al.  
(2005)

Trend first noticed by Travaglio et al. (2004)



# Y Rare on Earth!

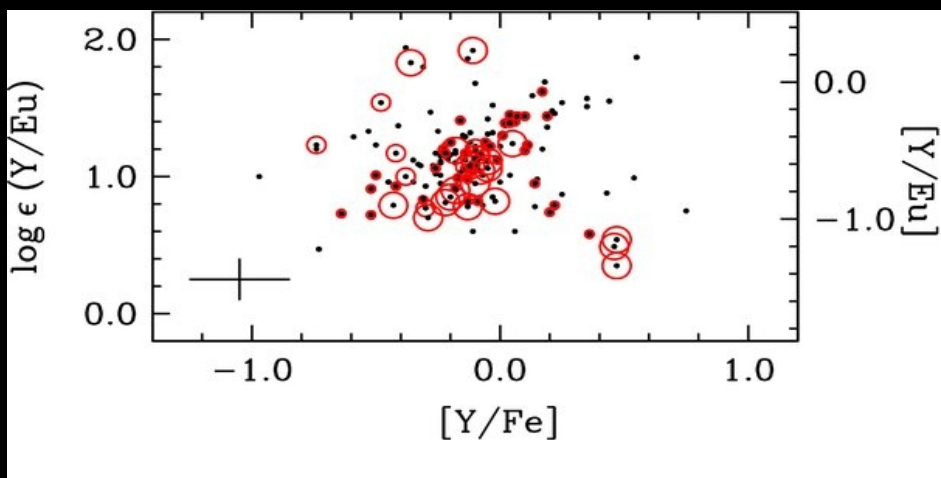
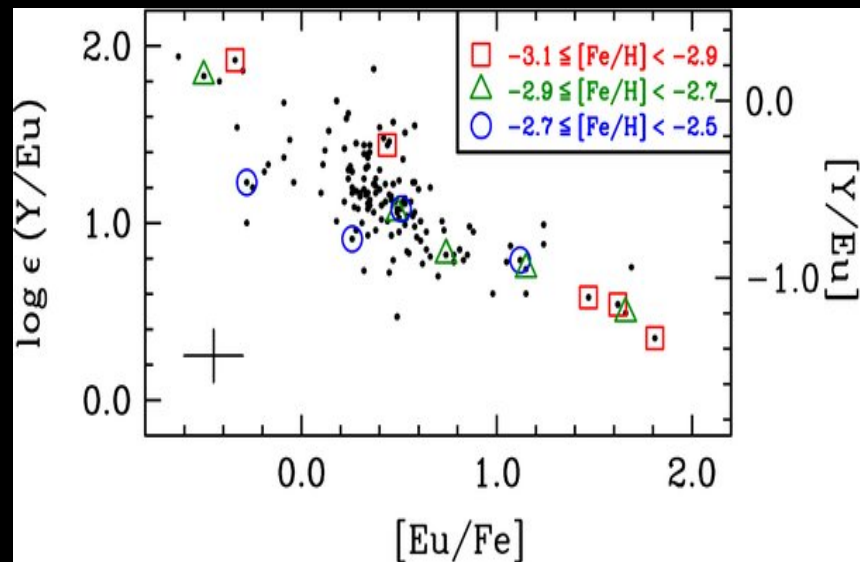
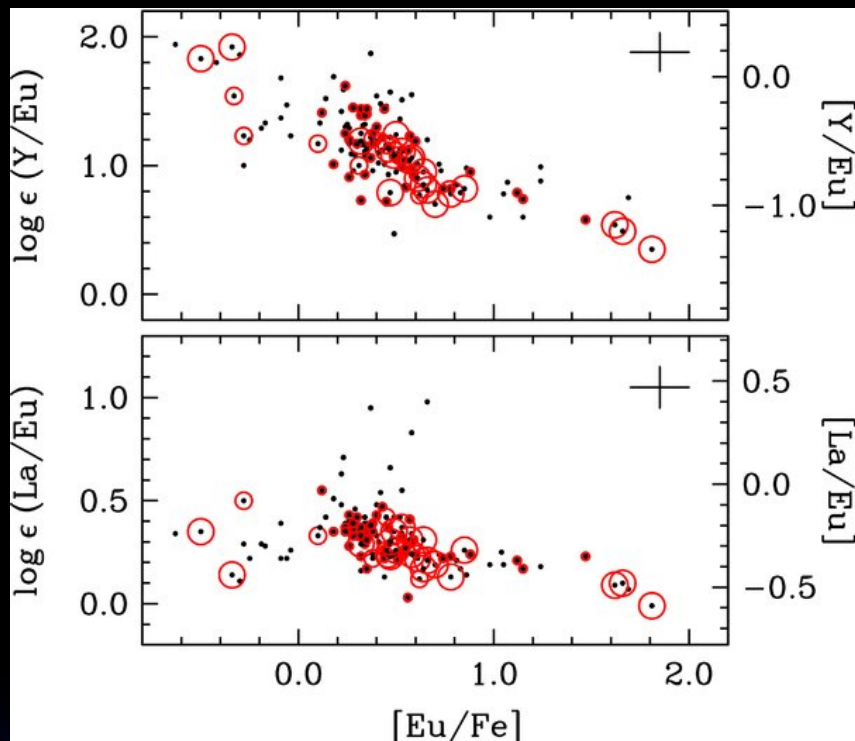


**Got Yttrium?** Probably not. Rare earths are key to tech, but China controls the supply. A U.S. mine is trying to change that

BY BRYAN WALSH



# Y vs. Eu

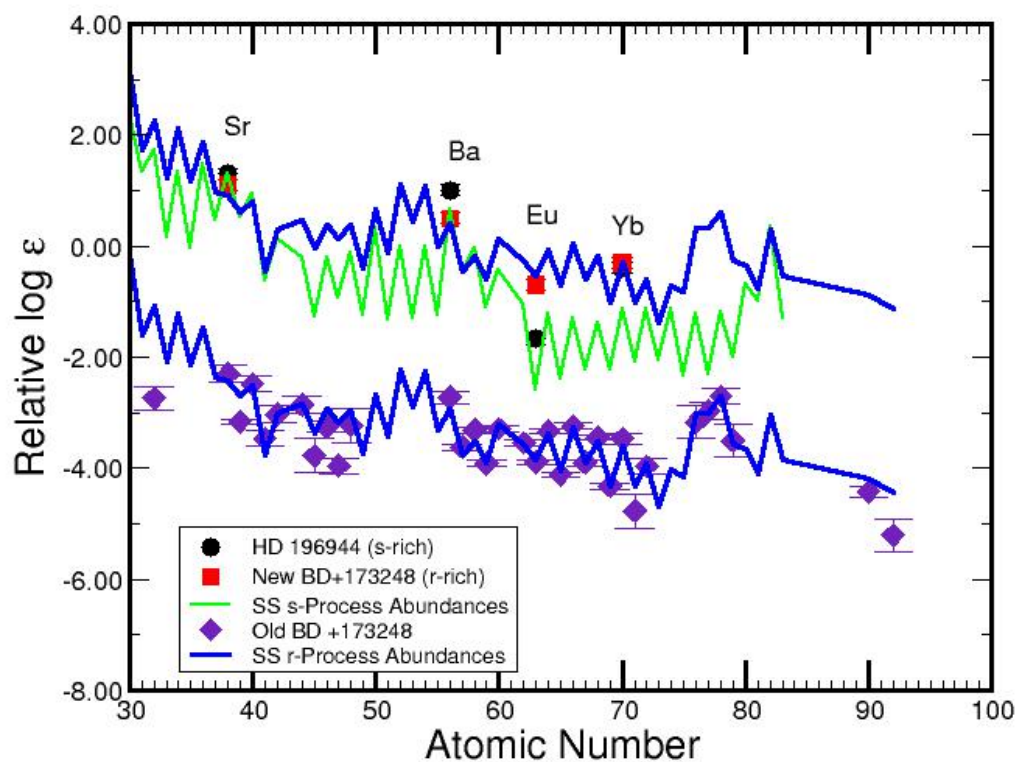


Note anticorrelation of  $[Y/Eu]$  vs.  $[Eu/Fe]$  – see also Montes et al.

Roederer et al. (2010b)

$[Eu/Fe]$  &  $[Y/Eu]$  independent of  $[Fe/H]$   
(Montes et al. 2007)  
 $[Y/Eu]$  &  $[Y/Fe]$  not related, except for r-rich

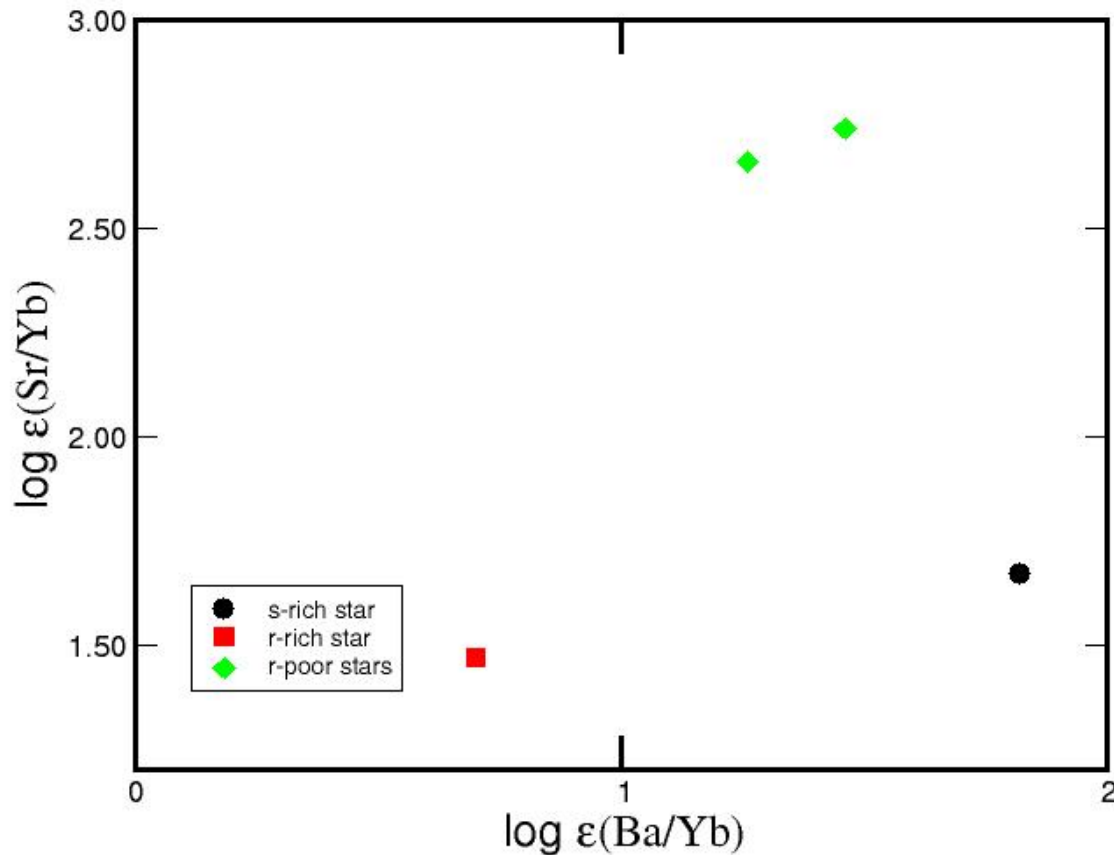
# New Abundances for Elements: Sr-Yb



Only one  
Spectral  
Line near  
3695 Å  
So hard!

New abundances from Sr-Yb (Snedden et al. 2012)

# How to Discriminate s-rich, r-rich and r-poor Stars?



Ba/Eu gives r/s dominance  
 $s=2.7$ ,  $r=1.1-1.2$

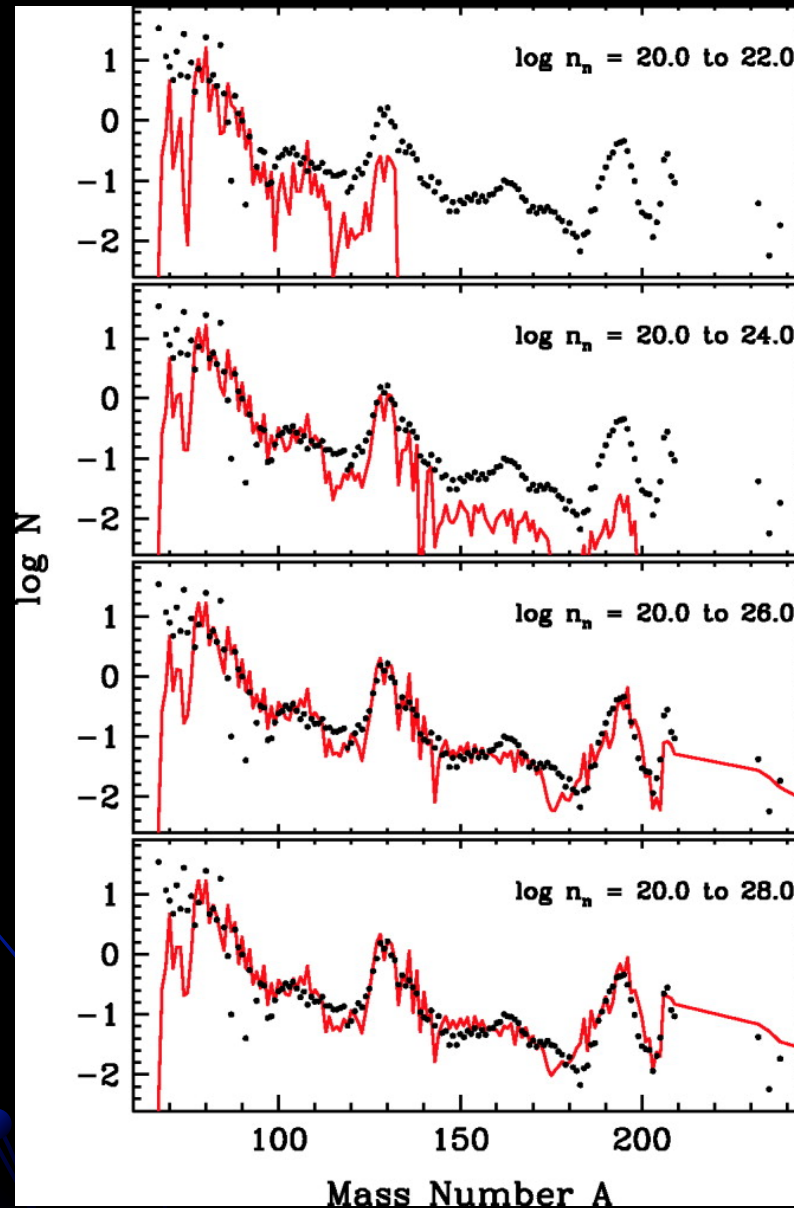
Ba/Yb shows r completeness  
(note lower nos.)

Sr/Yb shows r completeness BUT

New abundances from Sr-Yb (Snedden et al. 2012)

# “Weak” r-Process Model

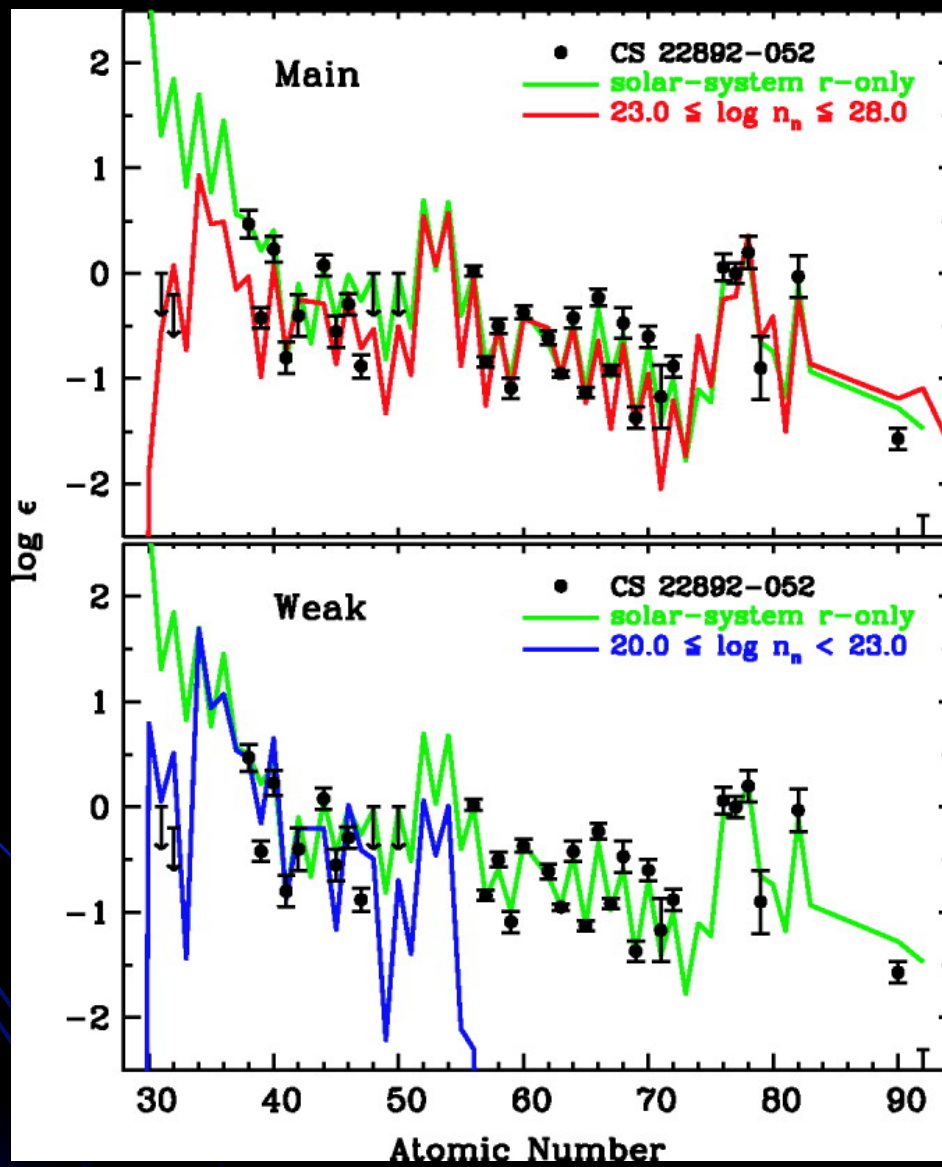
Classical w-p approximation



Kratz et al. (2007)



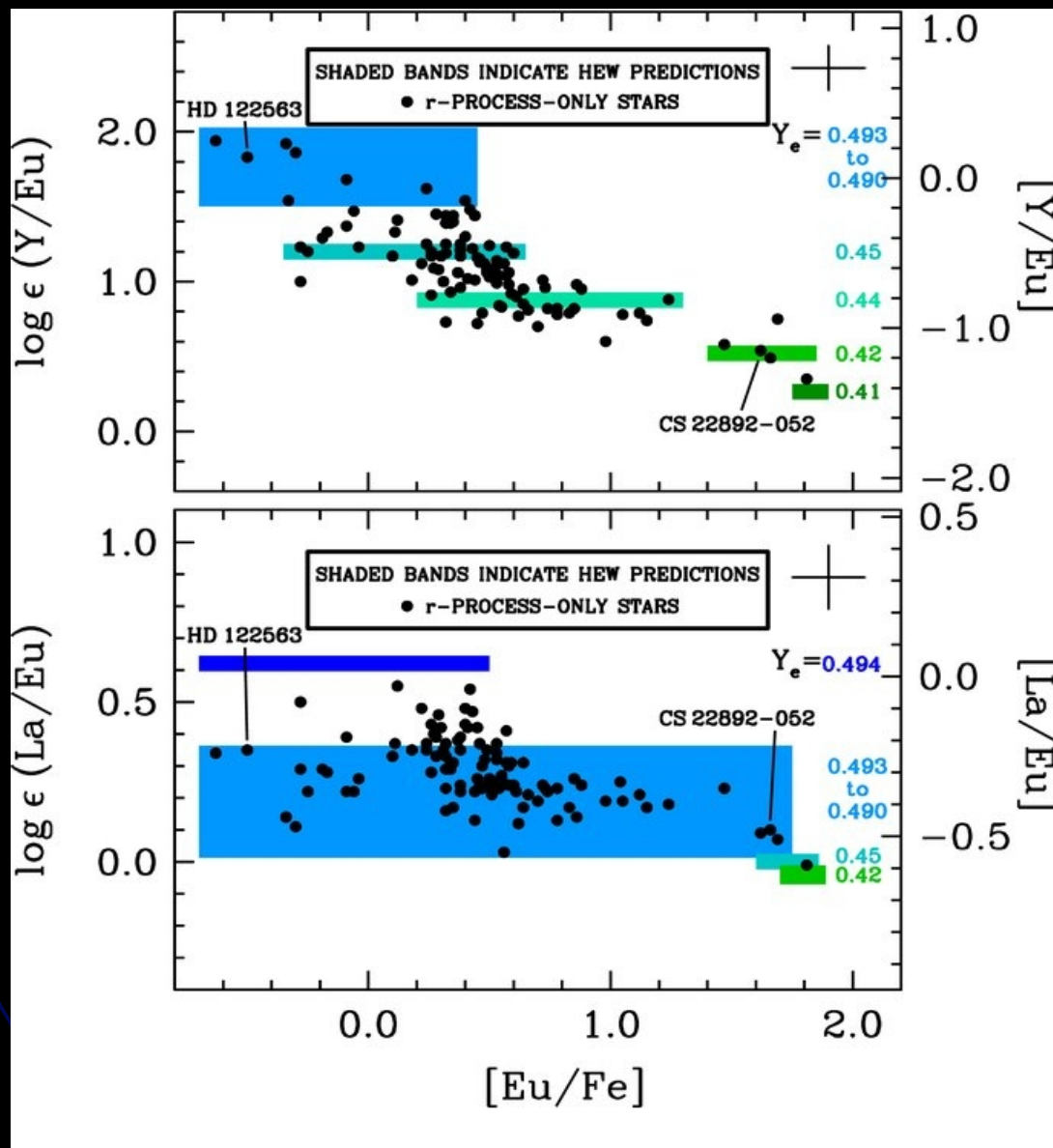
# W-P Models for CS 22892-052



Kratz et al. (2007)

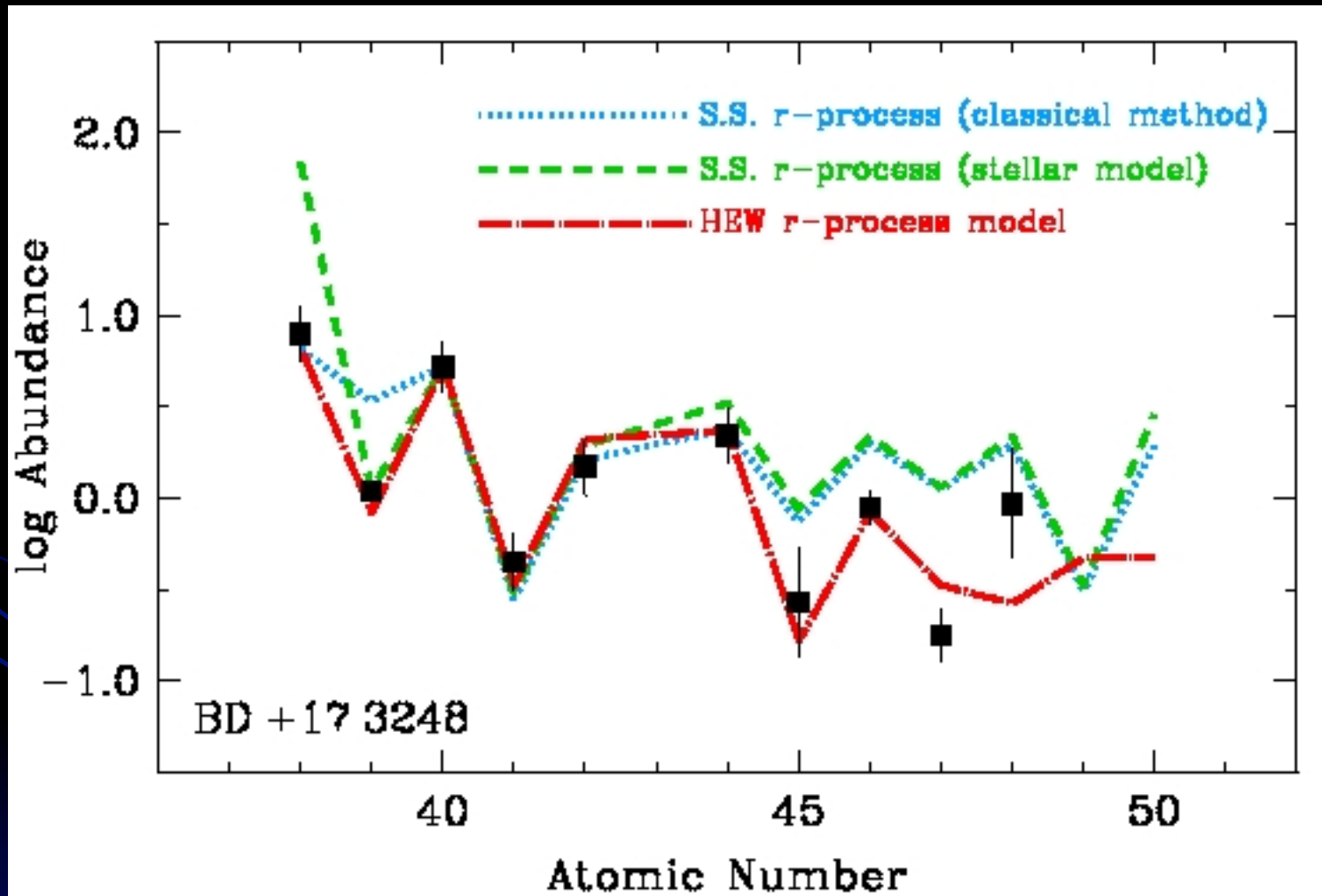
# HEW Models

CP or a-rich freezeout  
+ beta-delayed ns  
→ low entropy components  
for Sr-Zr → LEPP?



Roederer et al.  
(2010b)

# Origin of the Lighter n-Capture Elements: Work in Progress



# Lighter n-Cap Element Origin?

- Incomplete (‘‘weak’’) r-process, classical wp approximation, lower n-number densities
- More sophisticated: alpha-rich (charged particle with beta-delayed neutron recapture) freeze-out/ HEW (Kratz and Farouqi et al.) makes many of the elements from Sr-Pd but not Ag and Cd
- What about LEPP (Travaglio et al. and Montes et al.)? Weak s-process at low [Fe/H] for Sr-Zr?
- For some elements like Ge (and others?) nu-p process (Frohlich et al. )
- Maybe multiple processes?

# What is needed now?

- More observations of n-capture elements in the very metal-poor stars
  - more abundance determinations in r-process poor stars
- More observations of lighter n-capture elements, including Ag, Ge, etc. in metal-poor halo stars
- More theoretical models for light n-capture synthesis
  - better (experimental & theoretical) nuclear data, better SN models



# With Collaborators at:

- U. of Texas
- Carnegie Obs.
- U. of Wisconsin
- U. of Basel
- U. of Chicago
- U. of Mainz
- MSU
- LLNL
- Obs. de Paris
- Caltech
- U. di Torino
- ESO

With generous support from:  
the National Science Foundation  
& the Space Telescope Science Institute.

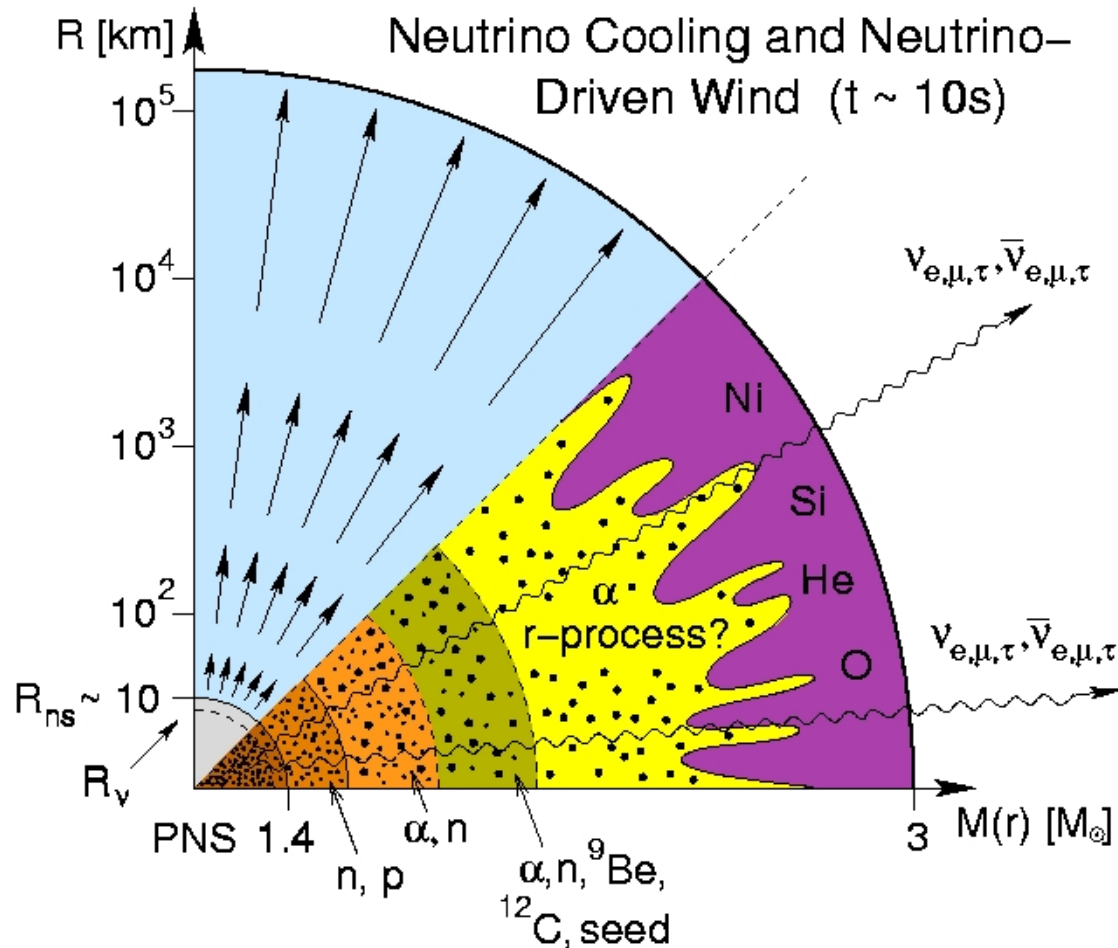
# Summary

- Three new n-capture species (Cd I, Lu II and Os II) detected in r-process rich star BD+17 3248 with HST
- Combined with other observations from Keck: new abundances for Mo I, Ru I, Rh I - brings to 32 n-capture element detections
  - most in any metal-poor star so far
- Lighter n-capture element abundances do not fit the scaled SS r-process curve
  - places constraints on sources and/or sites for these elements
- r-process is ubiquitous in the early Galaxy – not necessarily same pattern as CS 22892-052

HAPPY 80<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY  
GEORGE

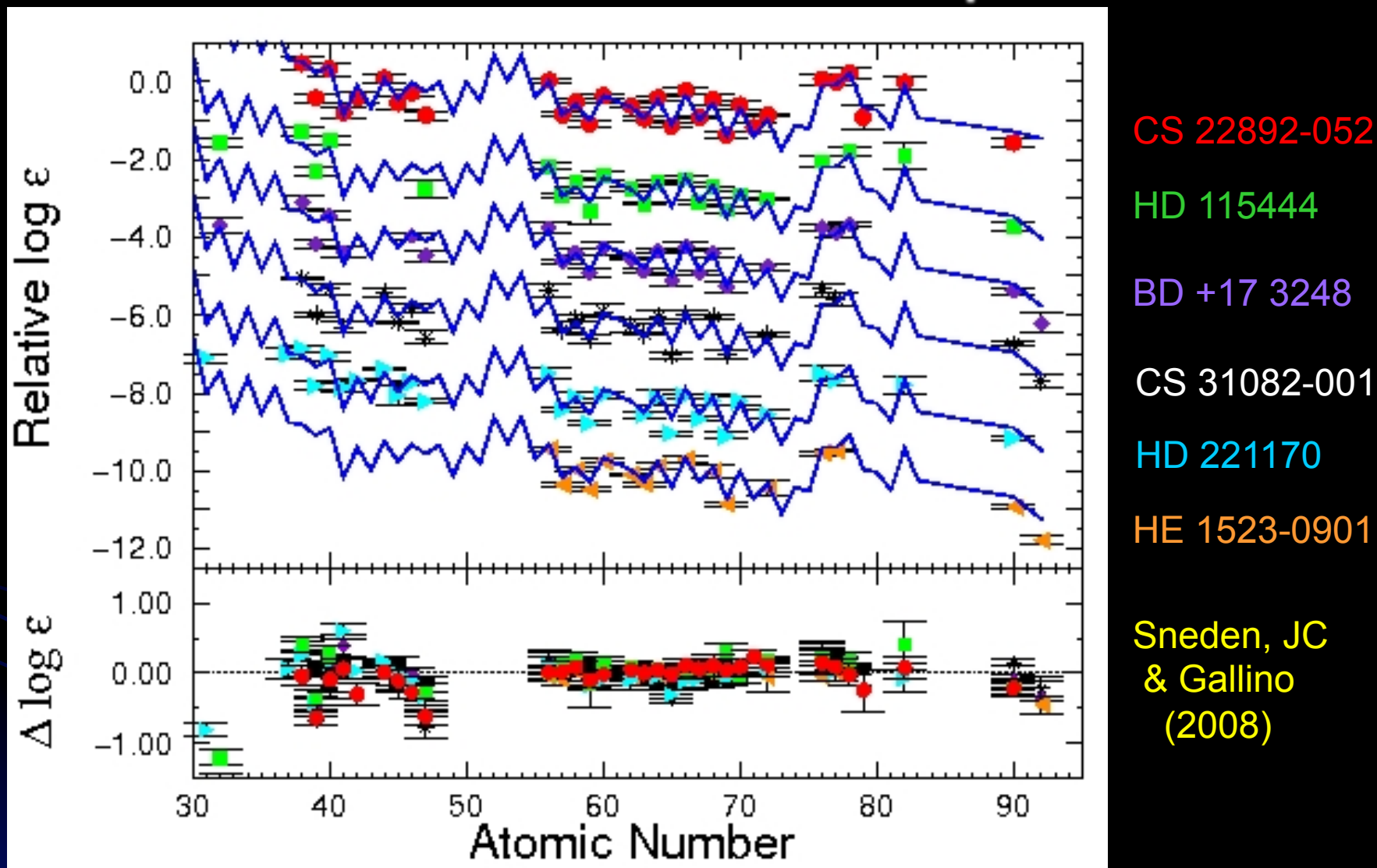


# Rapid Neutron Capture in Type II SNe ?



[back](#)

# Elemental Abundance Comparisons



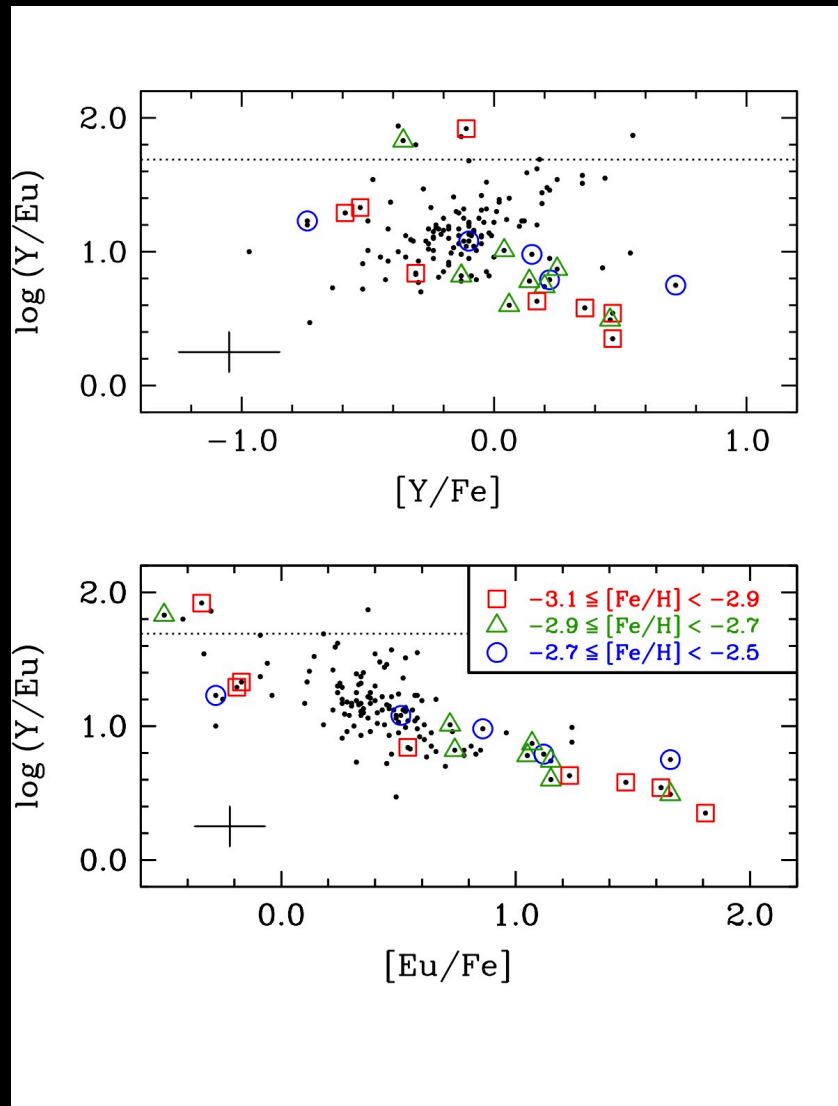
6 r-process rich stars



# Cadmium: Good in Stars, Bad in People!

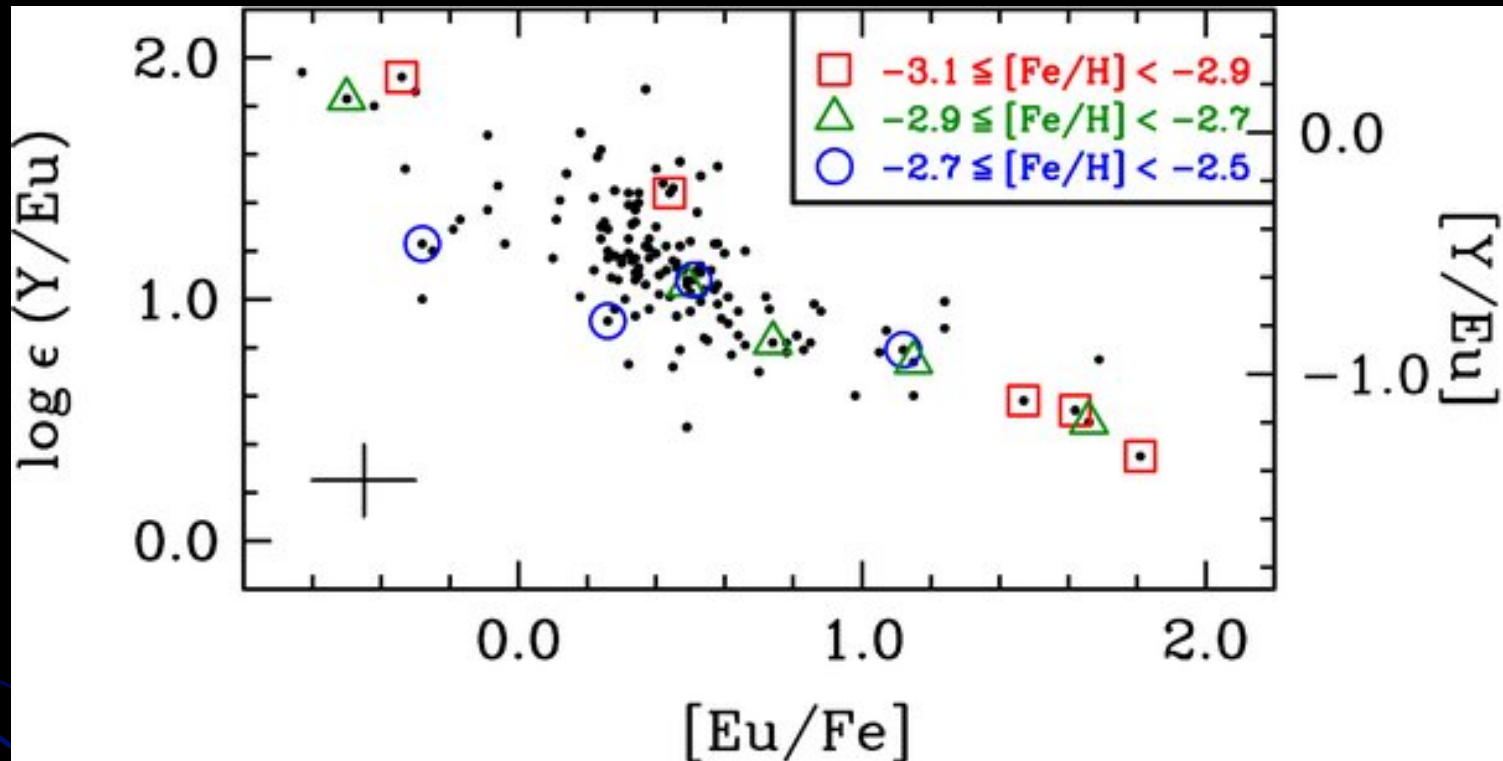
- **Heavy Metal:** It is not as pervasive as lead. But a study is underway to establish safe levels of **cadmium**.
- McDonald's recently recalled 12 million Shrek-themed glasses because of concern about the level of **cadmium** contained in the enamel.

# Y vs. Eu



Roederer et al. (2010b)

# Y vs. Eu



$[Y/Eu]$  not correlated with  $[Y/Fe]$

