

# From Accreting White Dwarfs to Explosions: The Story of W7 ... and beyond, or spherically symmetric approaches to SNe Ia

Wickenburg, AZ



HP



Sony DSC-W7 Digital Camera  
CCD 7.2Mpixels



Eutelsat W7 Communication Satellite  
(Launch 2009)



W7 Traffic Sign Series



Deflagration



Detonation

# Pre-History

**Pioneering Ideas:** el-degenerate cores (Hoyle & Fowler 1960), C-detonations (Arnett 1969, but inconsistent abundances)

**Observational Constraints:** H-deficient stars (Oke & Searke 1974), only SNe in elliptical galaxies (Tammann 1974), not concentrated in spiral arms (Maza & van den Bergh 1976), exponential tail of light curves (Barbon et al. 1973), detailed (light curve) observations of 1972e (Kirshner & Oke 1975), Ni-Co-Fe in spectra (Meyerott 1980), Branch (1982, 1984) saw Ca, Si, S, Mg, O and Co at  $v_{\text{exp}} = 10,000 \text{ km}$  in 1981b...., the differences between the SNe I subclasses became just clear or recognized.

## **Theoretical Conclusions and Models:**

Exploding white dwarfs (Finzi & Wolf 1967, Whelan & Iben 1973), energy source  $^{56}\text{Ni}$  (Arnett 1979, Colgate et al. 1980, Axelrod 1980, Weaver, Axelrod, Woosley 1980, Chevalier 1981, Trimble 1982, Wheeler 1982),

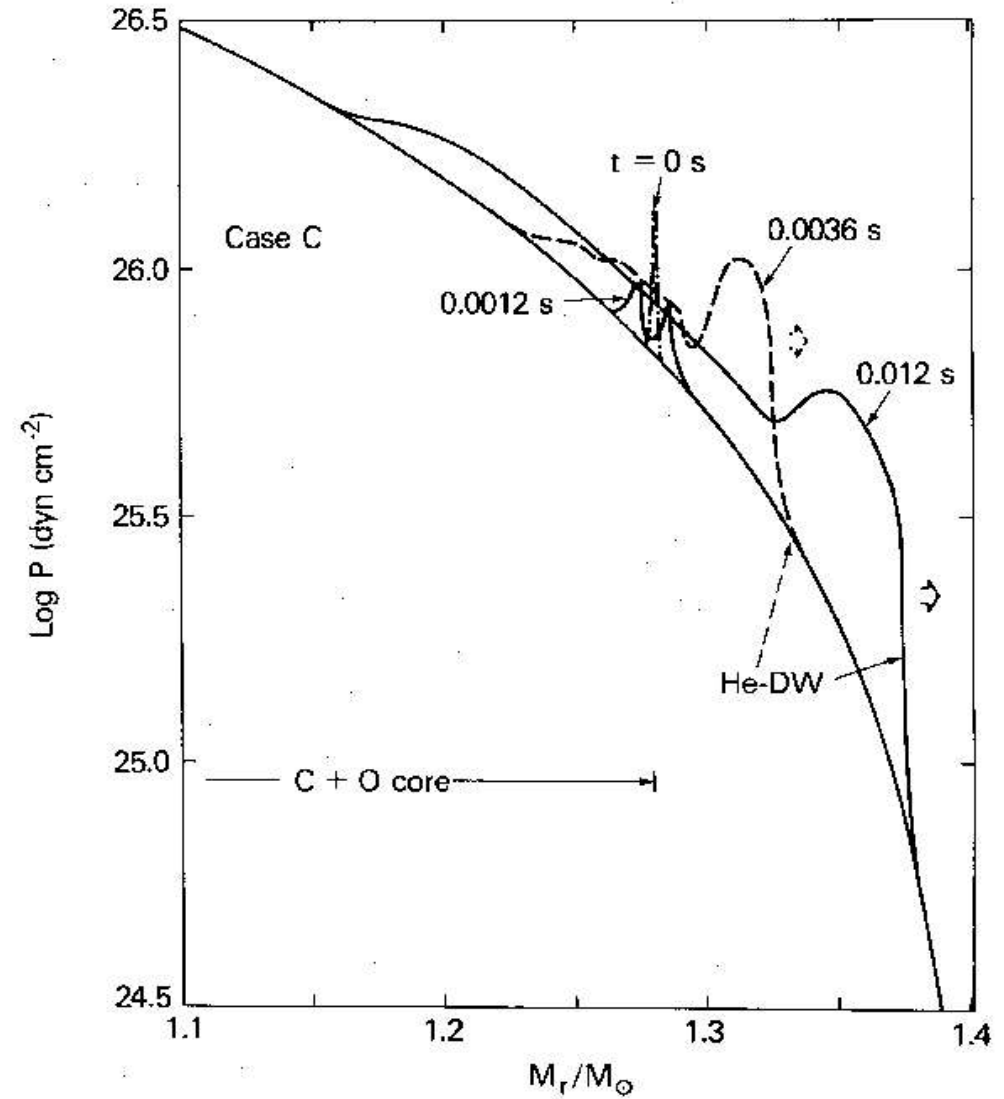
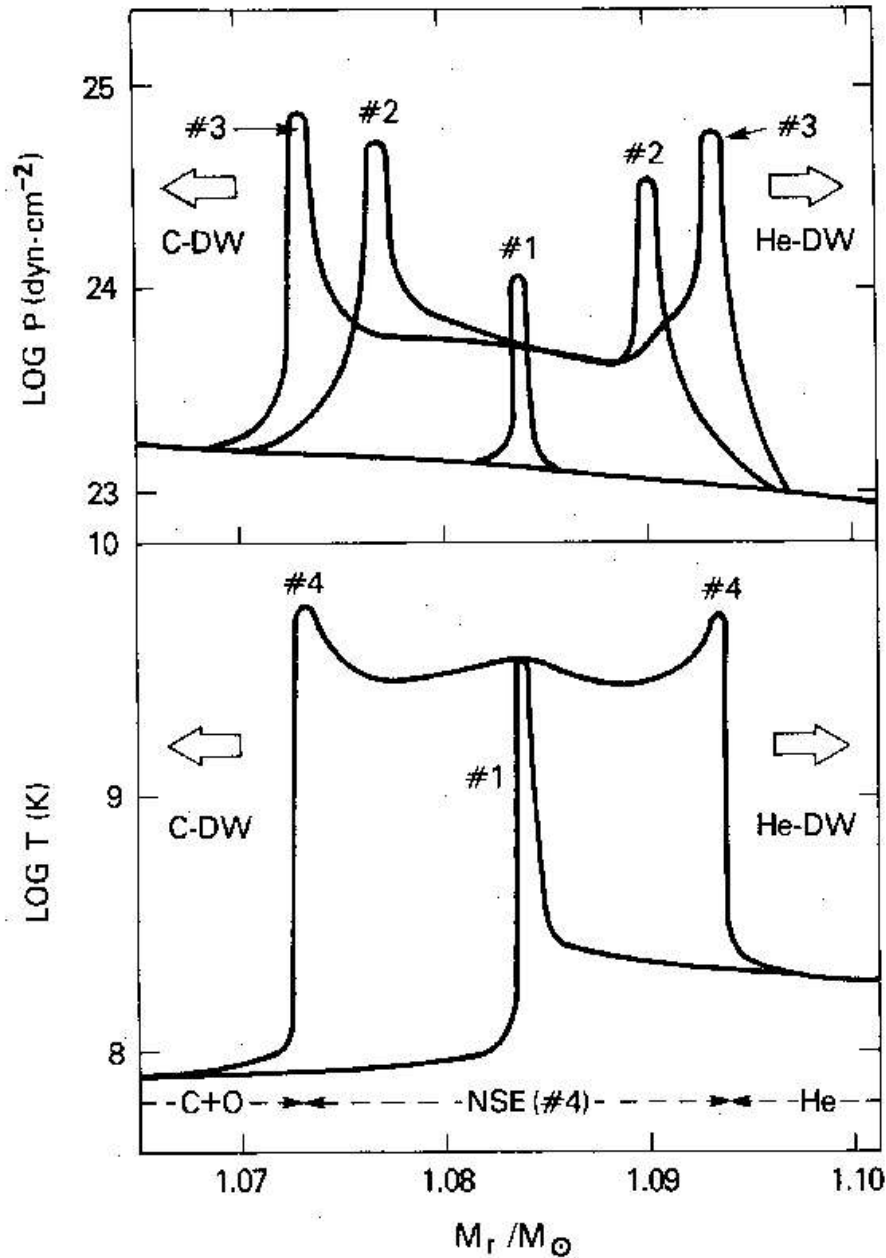
He white dwarfs (Arnett 1971, Mazurek 1973, Nomoto & Sugimoto 1977, Wheeler 1978, Arnett 1979),

He-accreting white dwarfs (Nomoto & Sugimoto 1977, Fujimoto & Sugimoto 1979, 1981, Taam 1980, Nomoto 1980, 1981, Woosley, Weaver & Taam 1980, Sugimoto & Miyajy 1981, Fujimoto & Sugimoto 1982)

Options: Single detonations, double detonations, central carbon deflagrations (Ivanova, Imshennik & Chechetkin 1974, instabilities and convective propagation: Buchler & Mazurek 1975, Nomoto, Sugimoto & Neo 1976, Müller & Arnett 1982, 1984, Sutherland & Wheeler 1984)

# Single and Double Detonations and other Options

Nomoto 1982

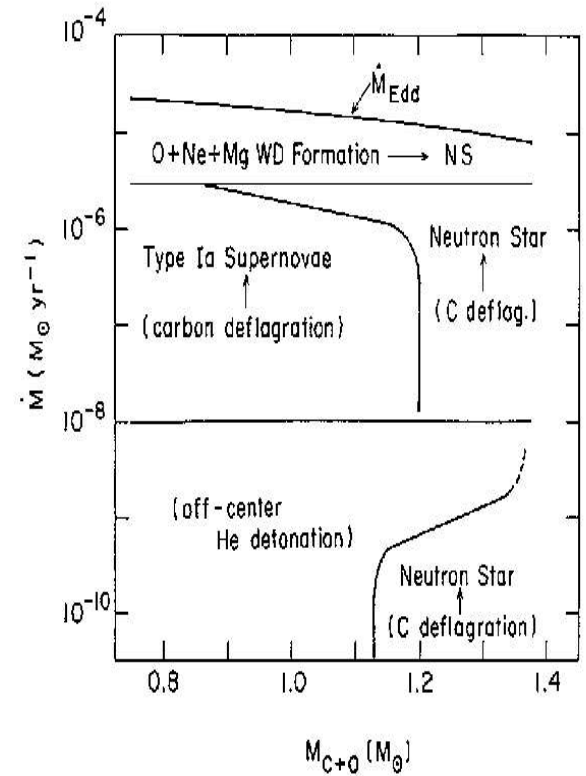
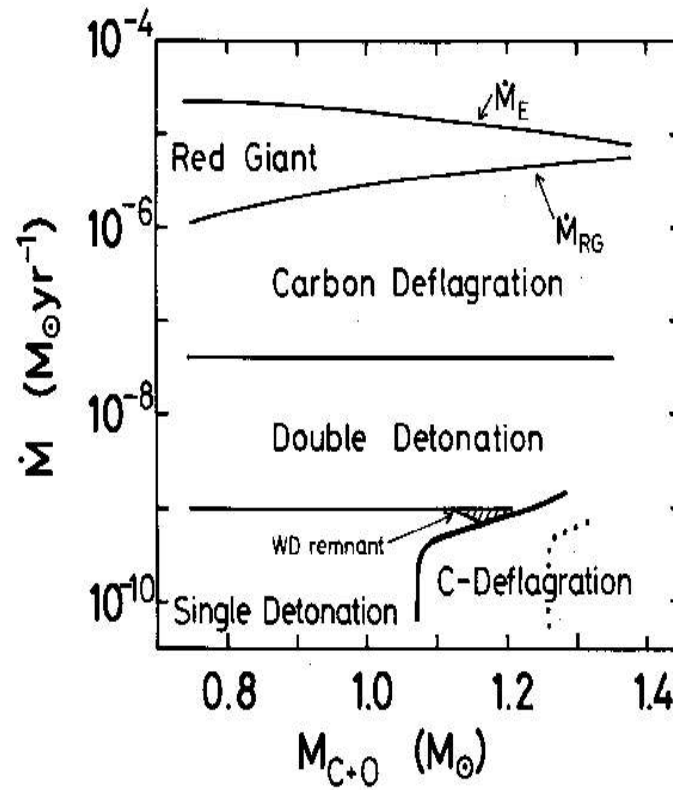
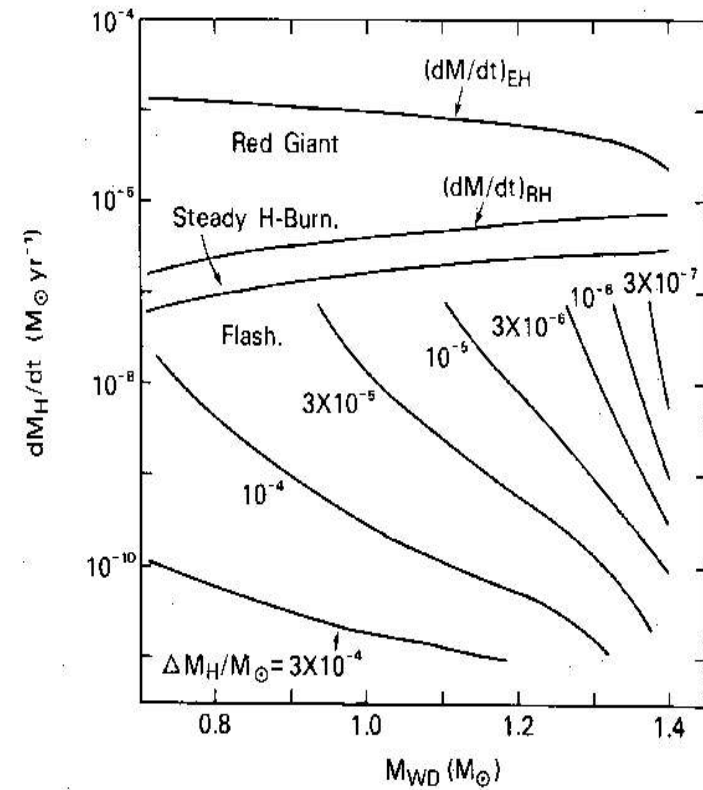


# Accretion History and Outcome:

Nomoto 1982a,b, Nomoto & Kondo 1991

H-accretion

He-accretion





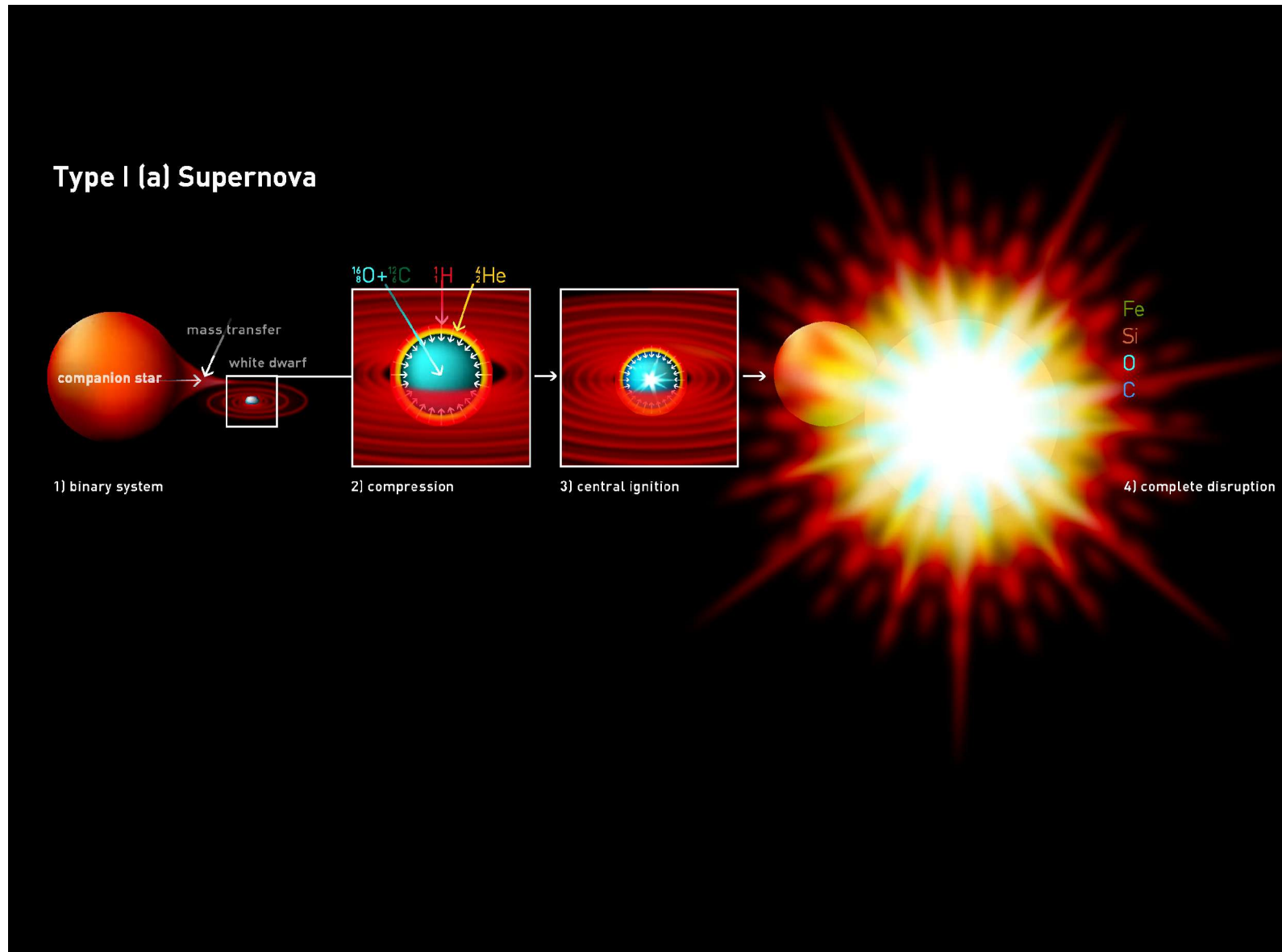
# Preparation for W7

In 1982 and 1983 Ken and Yoyo came to the MPA in Garching.

The large nuclear network was just ready to go with the new WFHZ rates and after some tests with Dave Arnett in Chicago.



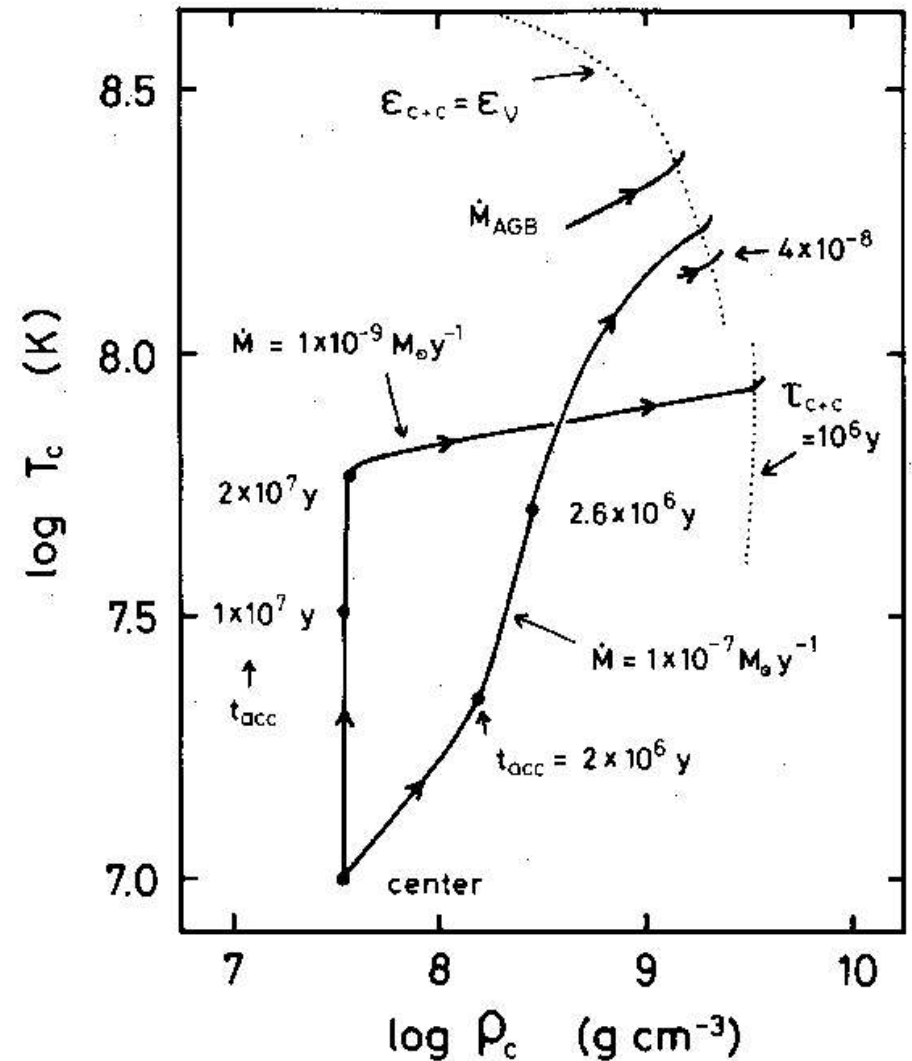
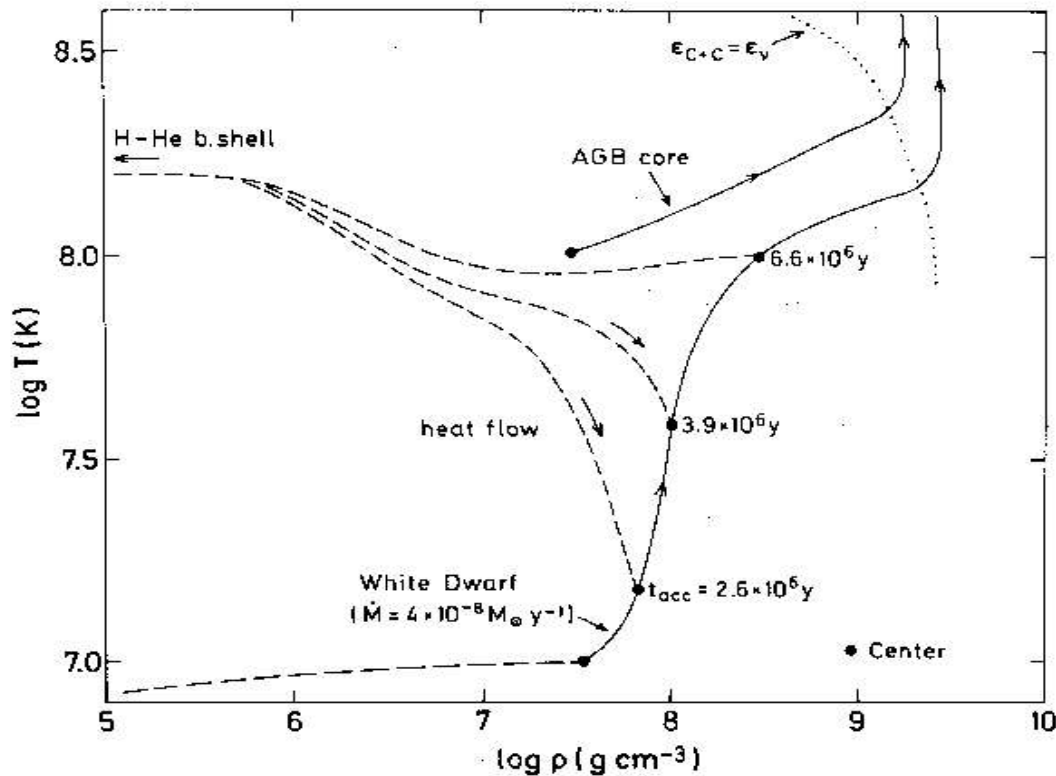
# Type Ia Supernovae from Accretion in Binary Stellar Systems



# Central Ignition

## for three different accretion rates

Nomoto, Thielemann, Yokoi 1984



# W7: A C-Deflagration Supernova

Ignition of adjacent layers due to subsonic heat transport via turbulence/convection (or conduction in very early phase). Approximation of 1D (spherically symmetric) burning front velocity from time-dependent mixing length theory of Unno (1967) with

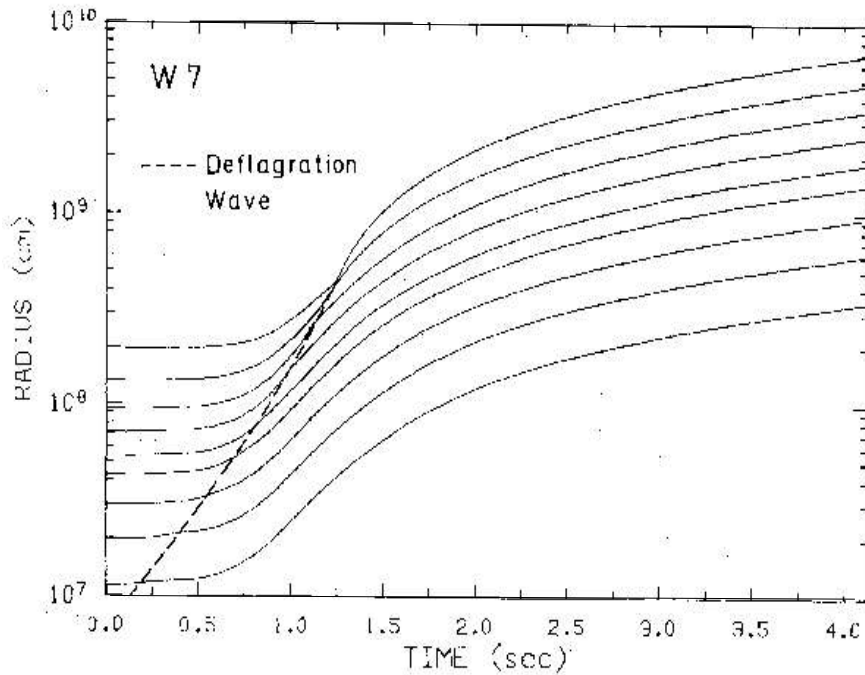
$$l = \alpha H_p \quad \alpha = 0.7$$

controlling heat transport. The parameter choice 0.7 is responsible for the name W7 (W for white dwarf model). This parameter choice, used together with Lagrangian, implicit hydro code (Sugimoto, Nomoto & Eriguchi 1982), an alpha-network and parametrized QSE-network for energy generation in hydro code (full network for postprocessing) gives a good fit to the lightcurve of 1972e (Graham 1986), about  $0.6 M_{\text{sol}}$  of  $^{56}\text{Ni}$  and agreement with spectra of intermediate mass elements of 1981b by Branch (1985).

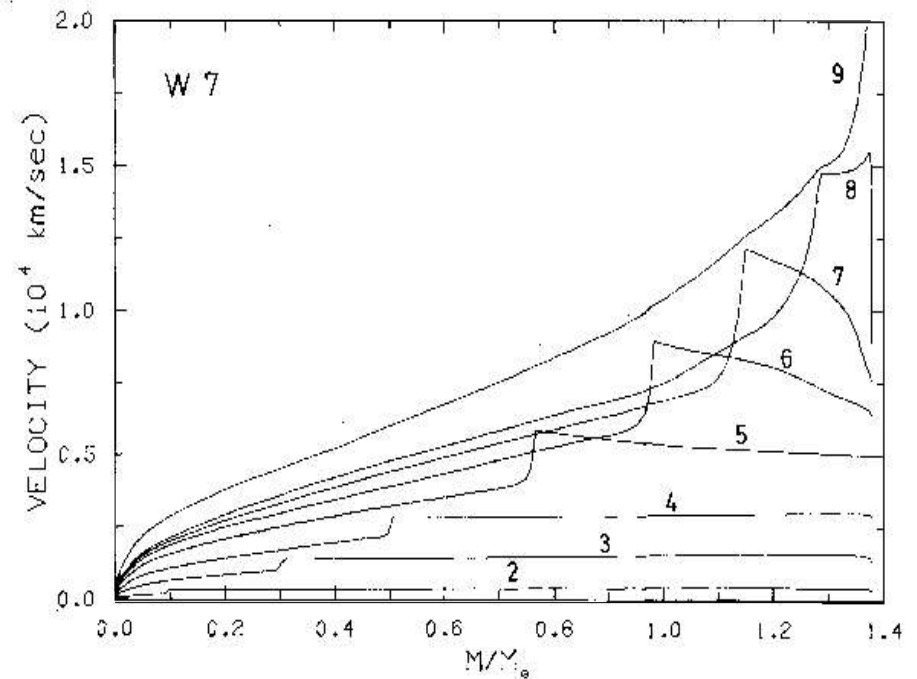


# Deflagration Phase of W7

Nomoto, Thielemann, Yokoi 1984



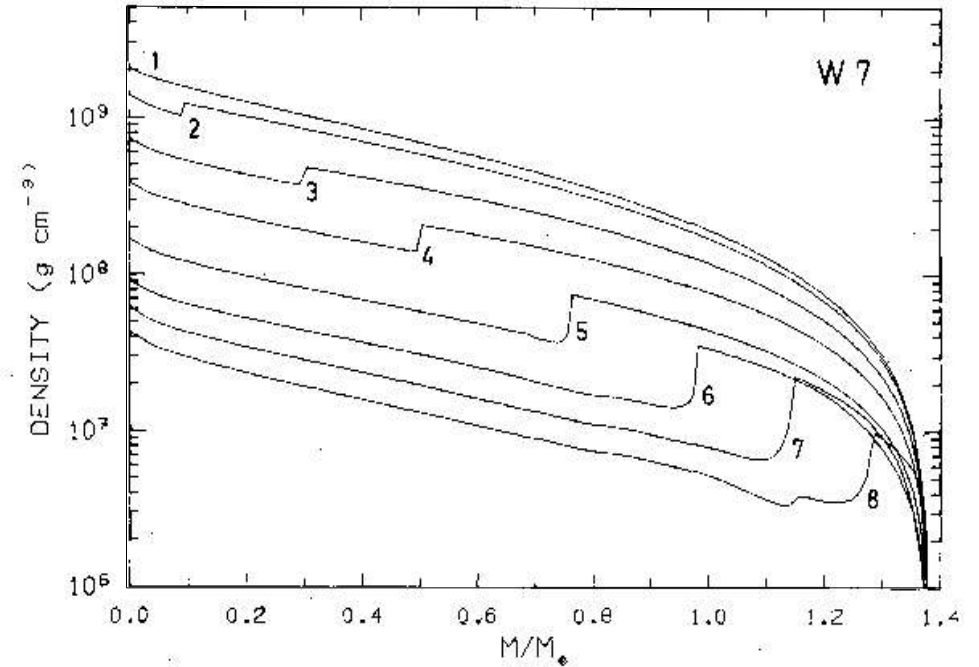
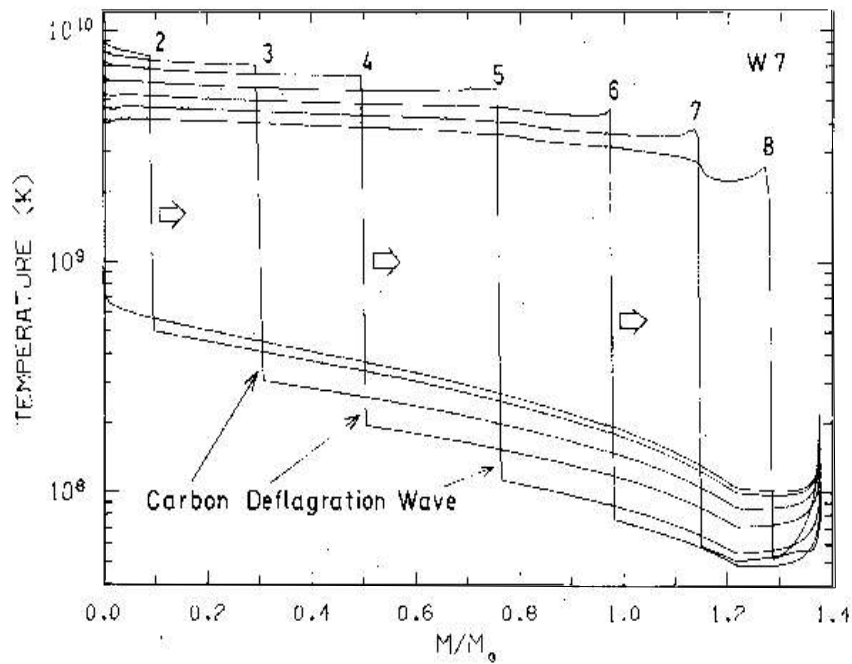
mass zones



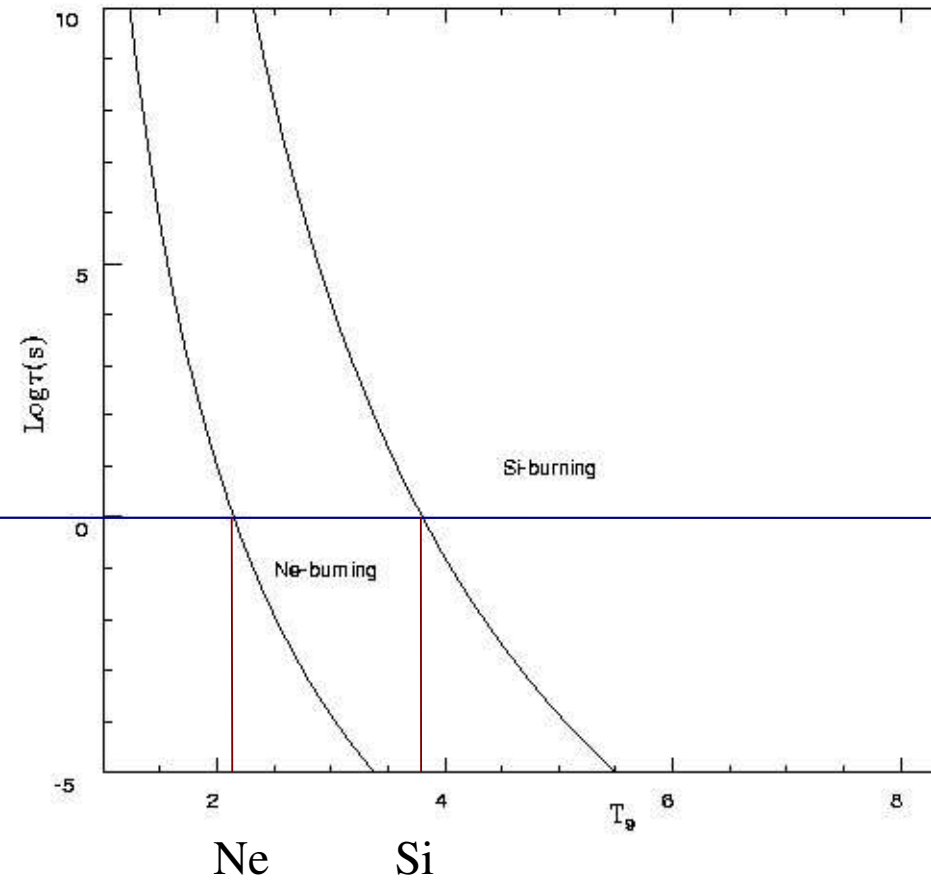
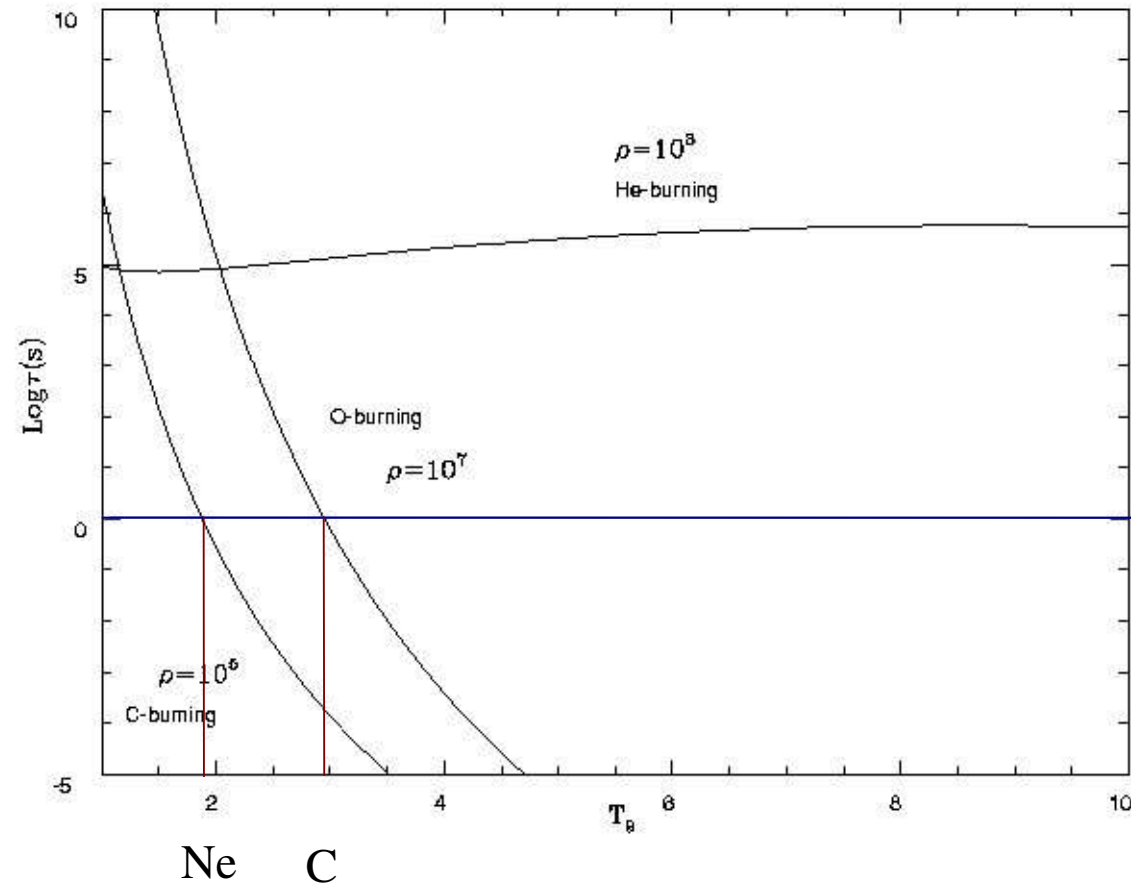
snapshots in time

# Temperature and Density

snapshots in time



# Explosive Burning

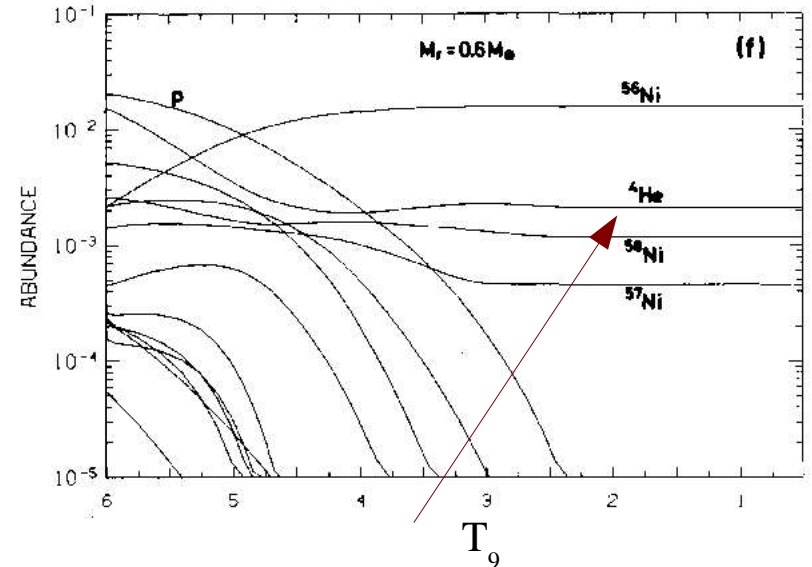
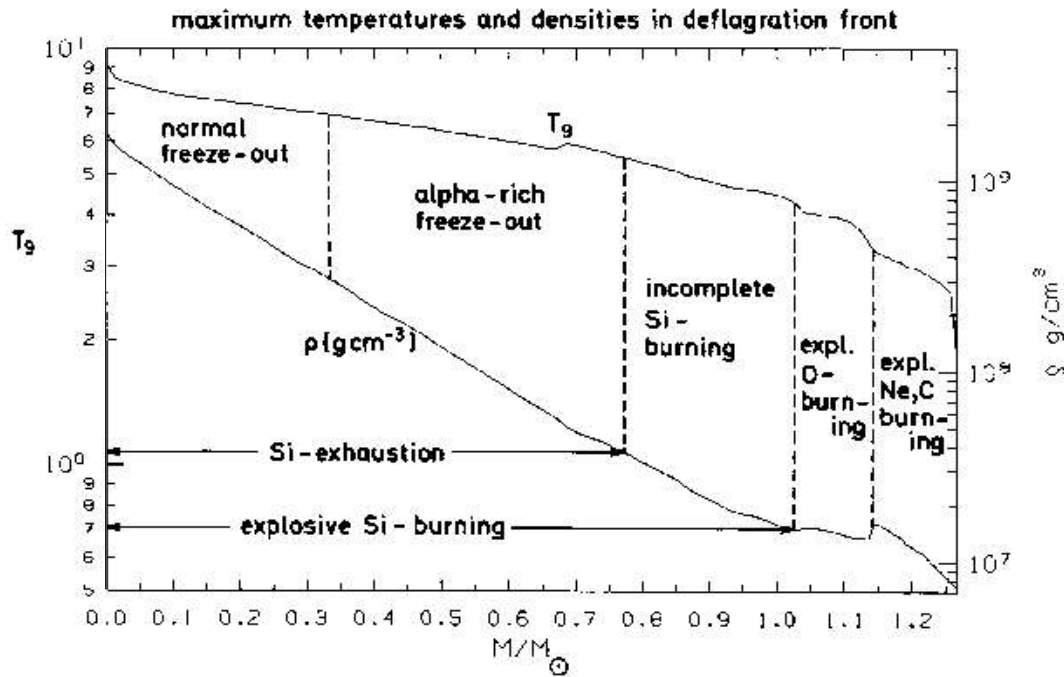


typical explosive burning process timescale order of seconds: fusion reactions (He, C, O) density dependent (He quadratic, C,O linear) photodisintegrations (Ne, Si) not density dependent

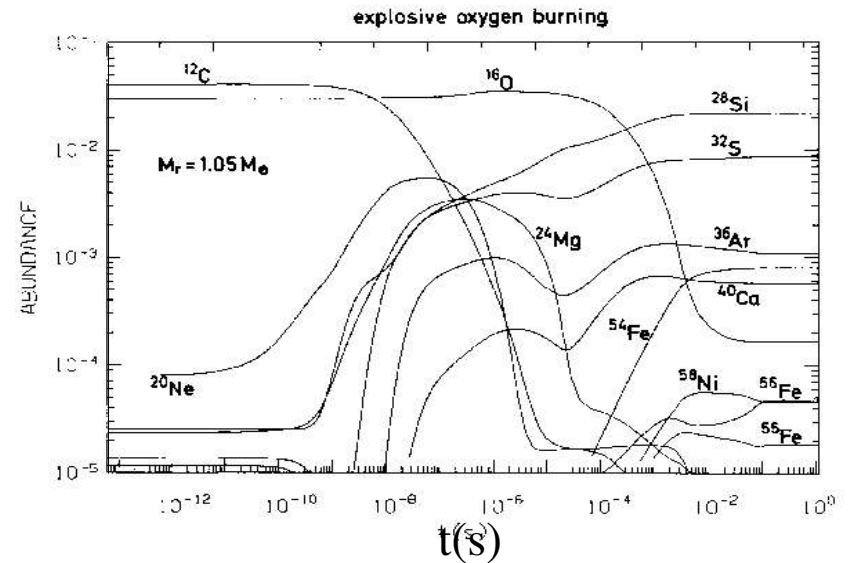
# Explosive Burning

detailed analysis

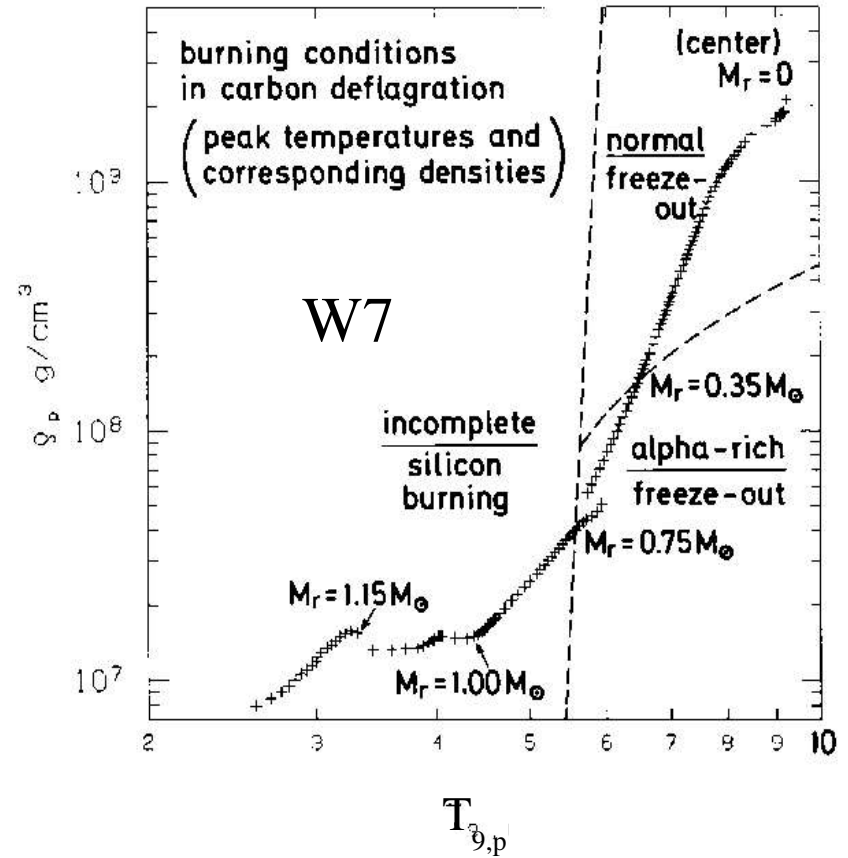
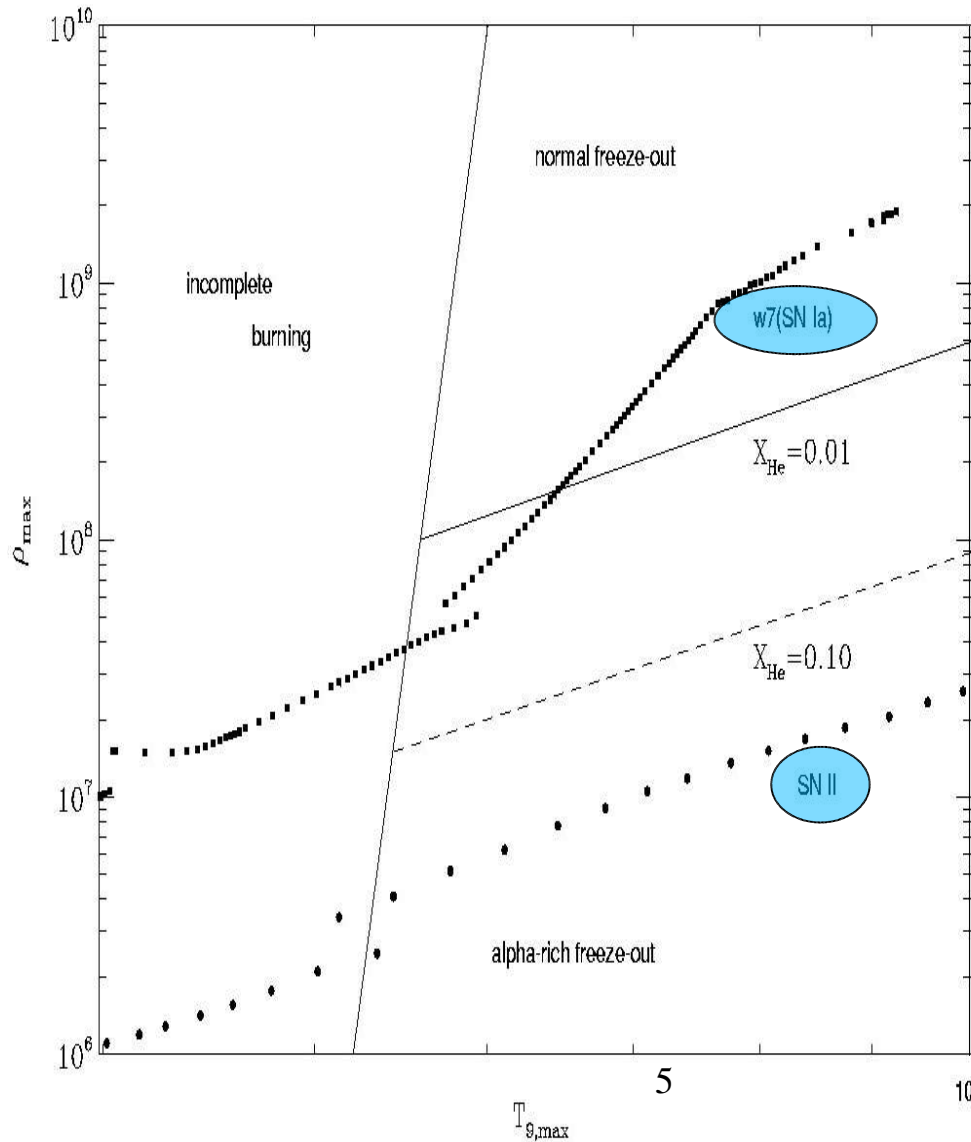
Thielemann, Nomoto & Yokoi 1986 with reaction rate updates of Thielemann, Arnould & Truran 1986



complete expl. Si-burning  
with alpha-rich freeze-out



# Explosive Si-Burning



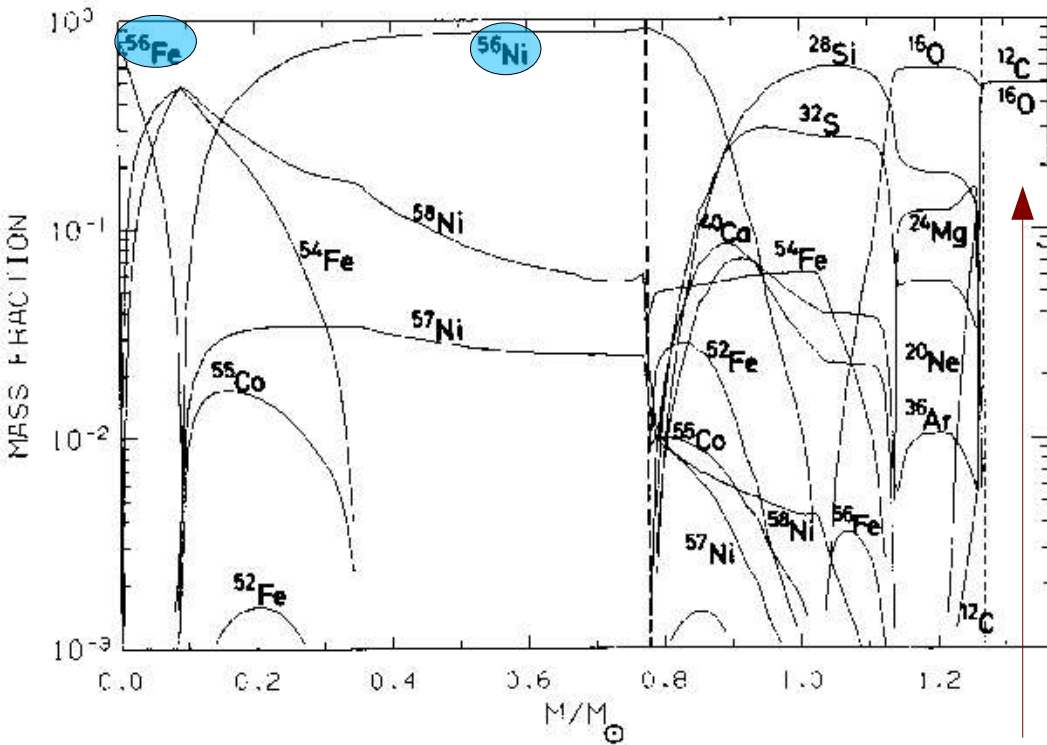
Explosive Burning above a critical temperature destroys (photodisintegrates) all nuclei and (re-)builds them up during the expansion. Dependent on density, the full NSE is maintained and leads to only Fe-group nuclei (normal freeze-out) or the reactions linking  $^4\text{He}$  to C and beyond freeze out earlier (alpha-rich freeze-out).



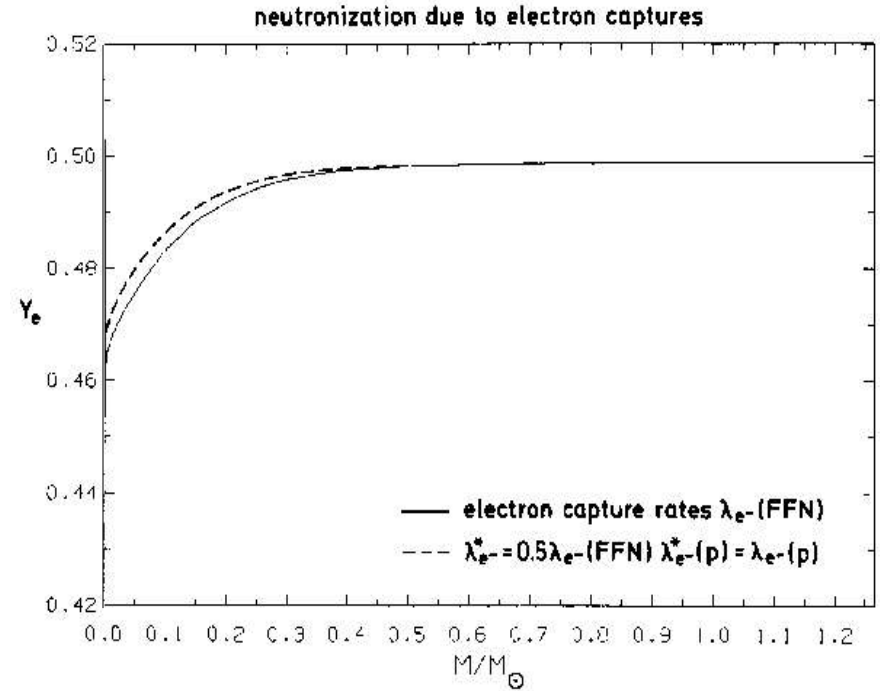
# Nucleosynthesis in W7

electron capture in central high density/temperature regions

electron capture on protons well known, for nuclei from Fuller, Fowler & Newman 1982-1984



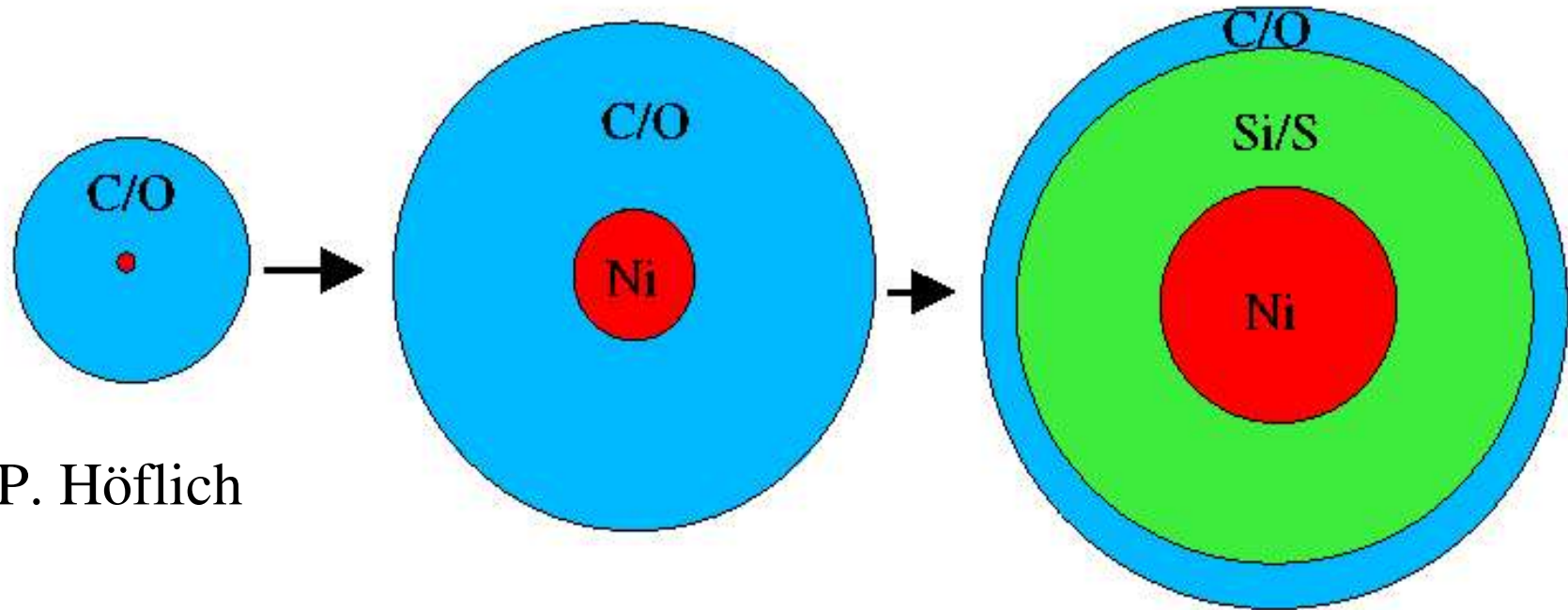
unburned



# Back of the Envelope SN Ia

**Initial WD**

Observational Constraints:  $0.2-1M_{\text{sol}}$  “Ni” from lightcurves (dependent on  $H_0$ , Wheeler 1982), and intermediate mass elements (from spectra, Branch 1982, 1984)



P. Höflich

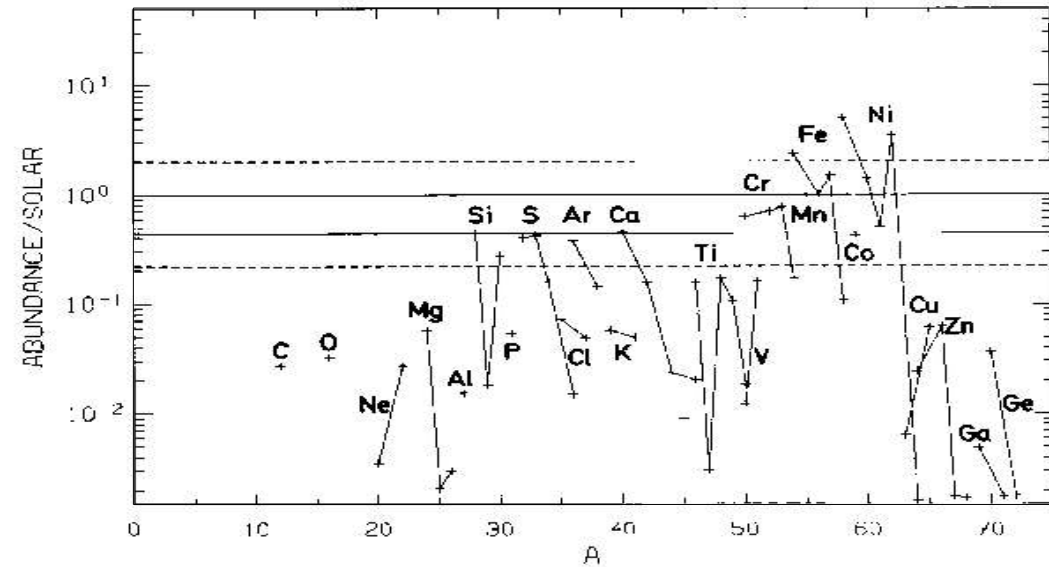
$M_{ch} \approx 1.4M_{\odot}$  of  $^{12}\text{C}/^{16}\text{O}=1$  WD  $\rightarrow 1.398776 M_{\odot} \text{ } ^{56}\text{Ni}$

$\rightarrow 2.19 \times 10^{51}$  erg -  $E_{grav} \approx (5 - 6) \times 10^{50}$  erg

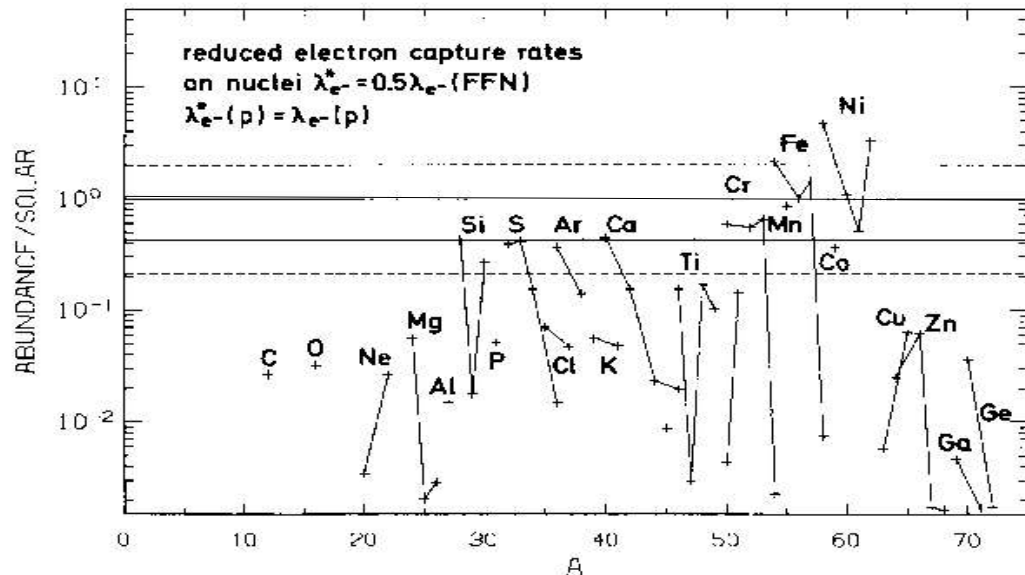
reduction due to intermediate elements like Mg, Si, S, Ca

$\rightarrow 1.3 \times 10^{51}$  erg

# Comparison with solar abundances



Fe-group to intermediate mass elements  
factor 2-3, still some problems with Fe-  
group composition



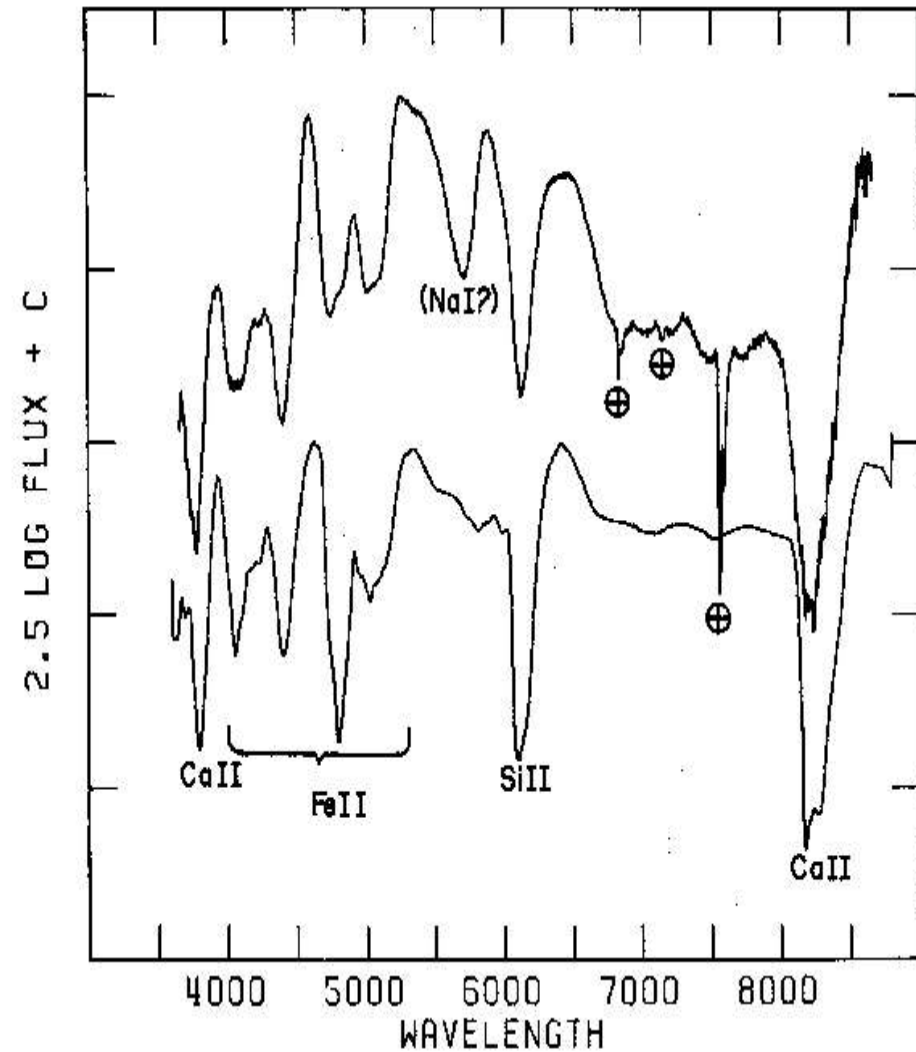
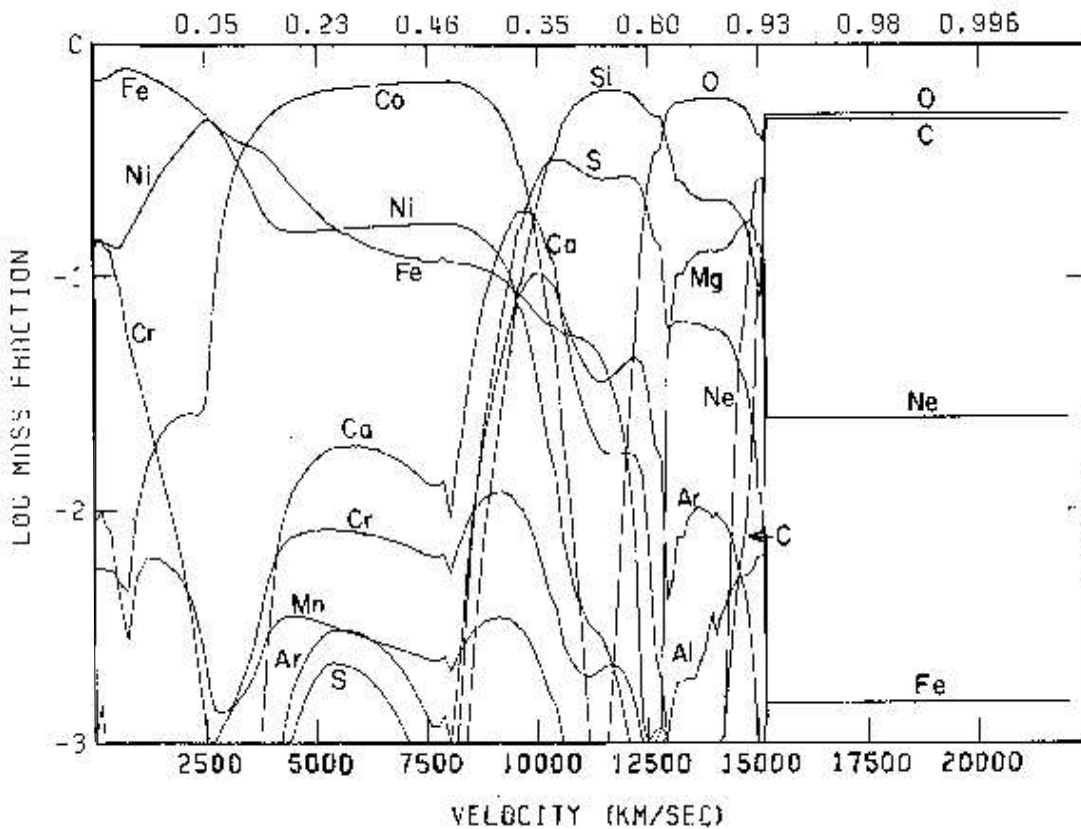
first presentation of results in Erice 1983

# Comparison with spectra of 1981b

Branch, Doggett, Nomoto, Thielemann 1985

composition and velocities 15 days  
after explosion

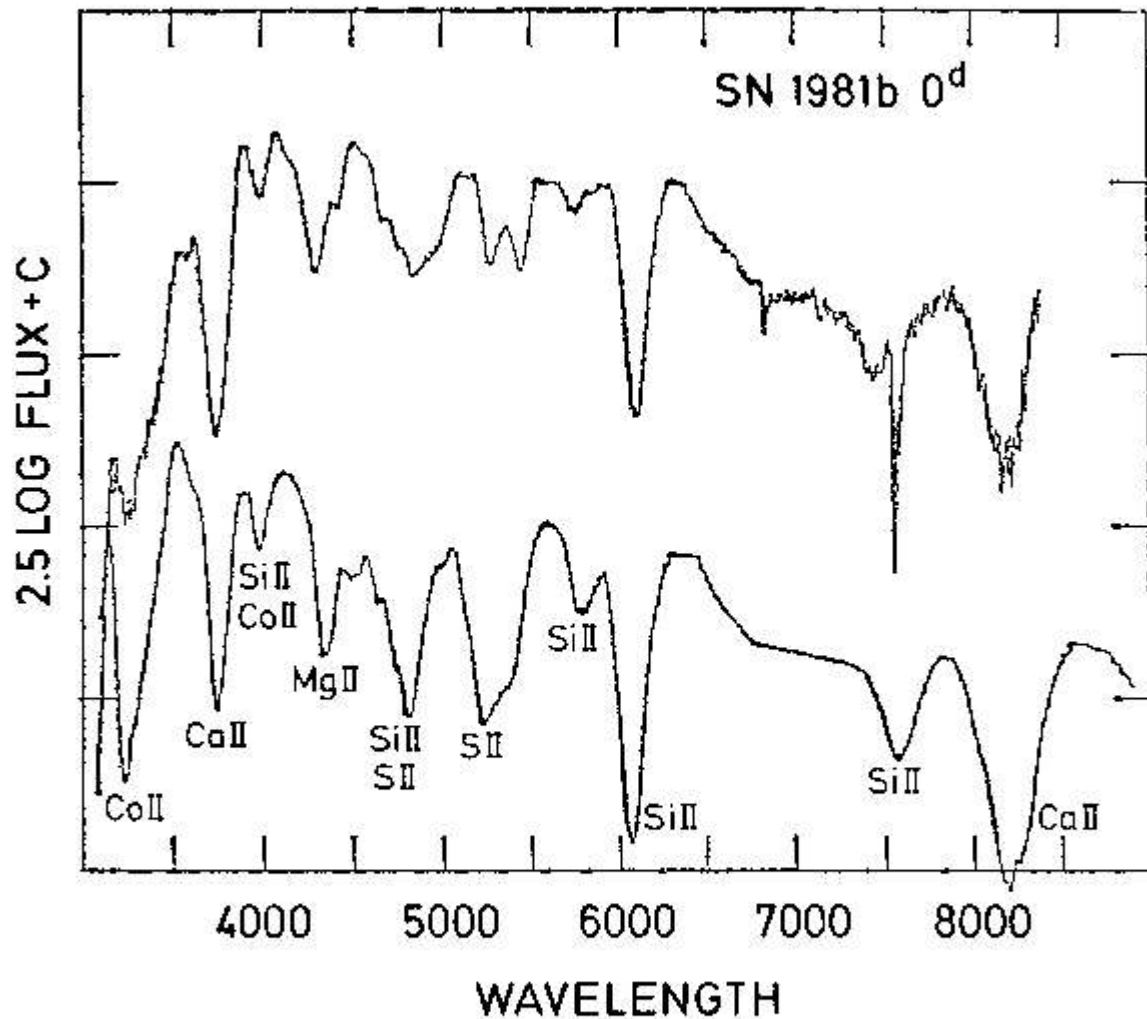
spectra 17 days after maximum light





# Comparison with Spectra of 1981b

Nomoto, Thielemann, Yokoi & Branch 1986



science and fun in Oklahoma



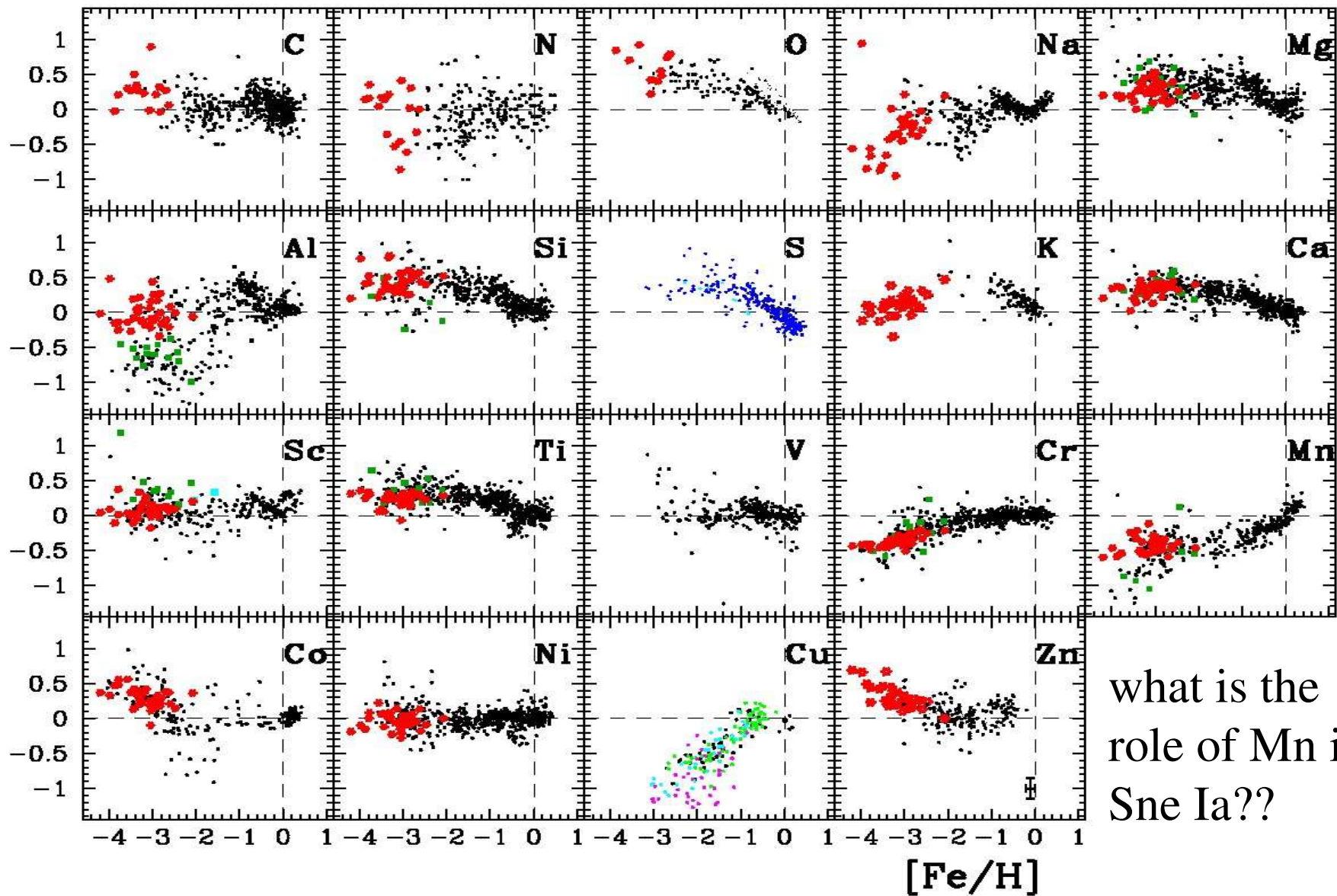
# “Historical” Burning Processes (B<sup>2</sup>FH)

- H-Burning
- He-Burning
- alpha-Process
- e-Process
- s-Process
- r-Process
- p-Process
- x-Process

# Present Understanding

- H-Burning
- He-Burning
- expl. C, Ne, O-Burning, incomplete Si-Burning
- explosive Si-Burning
  - about 70% normal freeze-out with  $Y_e=0.42-47$ , about 30% alpha-rich freeze-out with  $Y_e=0.5$
- s-Process (core and shell He-burning, neutrons from alpha-induced reactions on  $^{22}\text{Ne}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$ )
- r-Process (see below)
- p-Process (see below)
- x-Process (light elements D, Li, Be, B [big bang, cosmic ray spallation and neutrino nucleosynthesis])

# Galactic Chemical Evolution and the Role of SNe Ia



what is the  
role of Mn in  
Sne Ia??

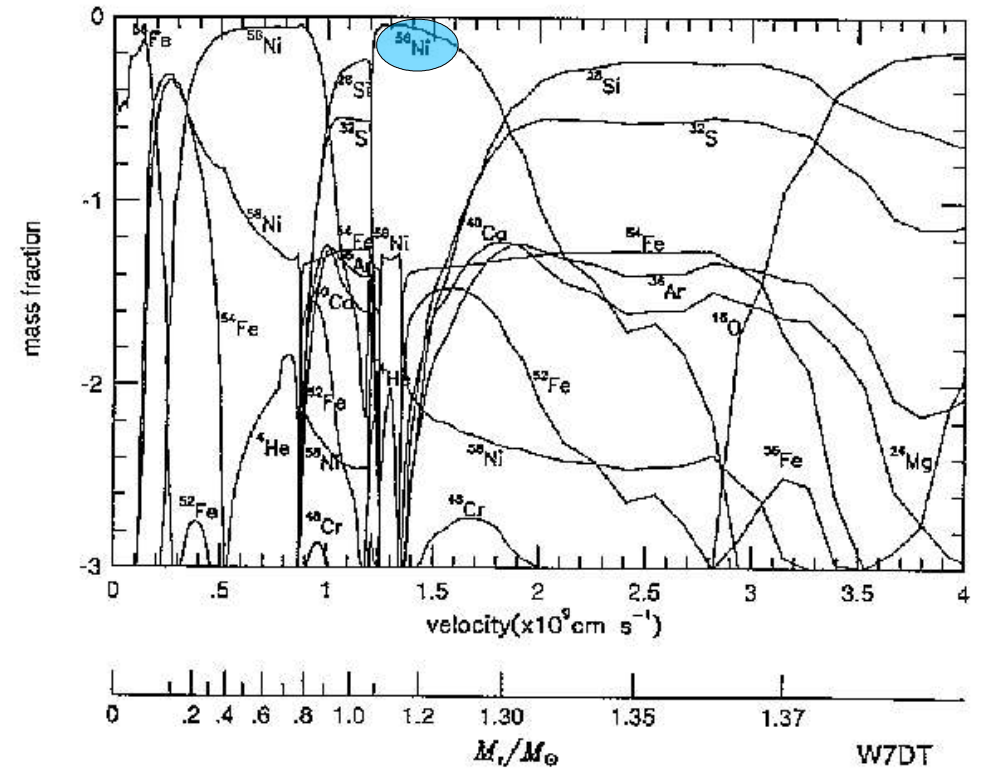
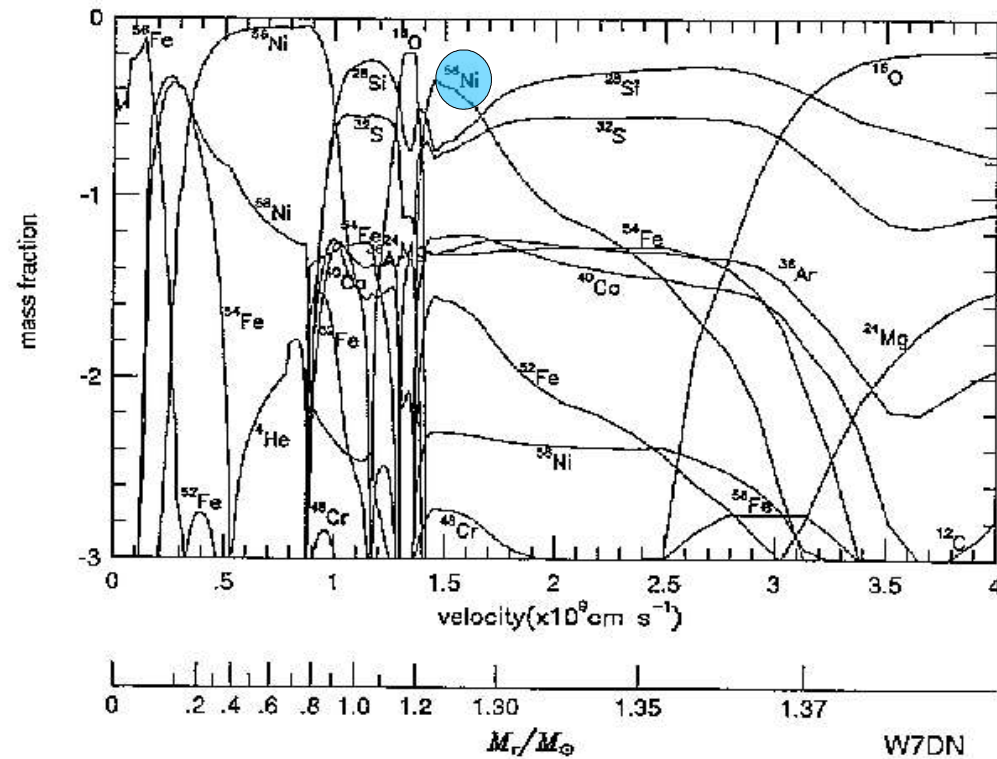
# Further Progress and Delayed/Late Detonations

- **variations in Ia observations:** Phillips et al. 1990
- **binary evolution approaches:** Iben & Tutukov 1984, Webbink 1984; Nomoto & Iben 1985, Saio & Nomoto 1985, Nomoto & Kondo 1991, supersoft sources van den Heuvel et al. 1992
- **He-detonation:** Woosley & Weaver 1986
- **Laminar burning front speed in 1D:** Timmes & Woosley 1992
- **URCA process during ignition:** Iben 1982, Barkat & Wheeler 1990
- **Delayed Detonations** (detonations at low density do leave intermediate mass elements!): Khokhlov 1991ab, Höflich, Khokhlov & Müller 1991, Woosley & Weaver 1991, Khokhlov, Müller, Höflich 1992, Shigeyama, Nomoto, Yamaoka, Thielemann 1992 (detonations in low mass WDs), late detonations Yamaoka, Nomoto, Shigeyama, Thielemann 1992 (W7DN, W7DT, W8DT)



# Late Detonations

to explain 1991T and 1990N (Yamaoka, Nomoto, Shigeyama & Thielemann 1992)



# Rapid Progress/Activity on all Fronts

**observational:** basic understanding Fillipenko 1997 and many others, polarisation ..., cosmology: CFA, STScI, Berkeley, ESO...

**progenitor models:** Yungelson, SSSs, Hachisu, Starrfield...

**burning front progress:**

**Santa Cruz:** flame propagation, instabilities, fractal dimension, ignition points...

**Garching:** multi-D hydro and burning, spectra and lightcurves

**Chicago:** large scale modeling

**Texas:** Modeling, synthetic spectra

**Barcelona:** 3D Modeling with SPH



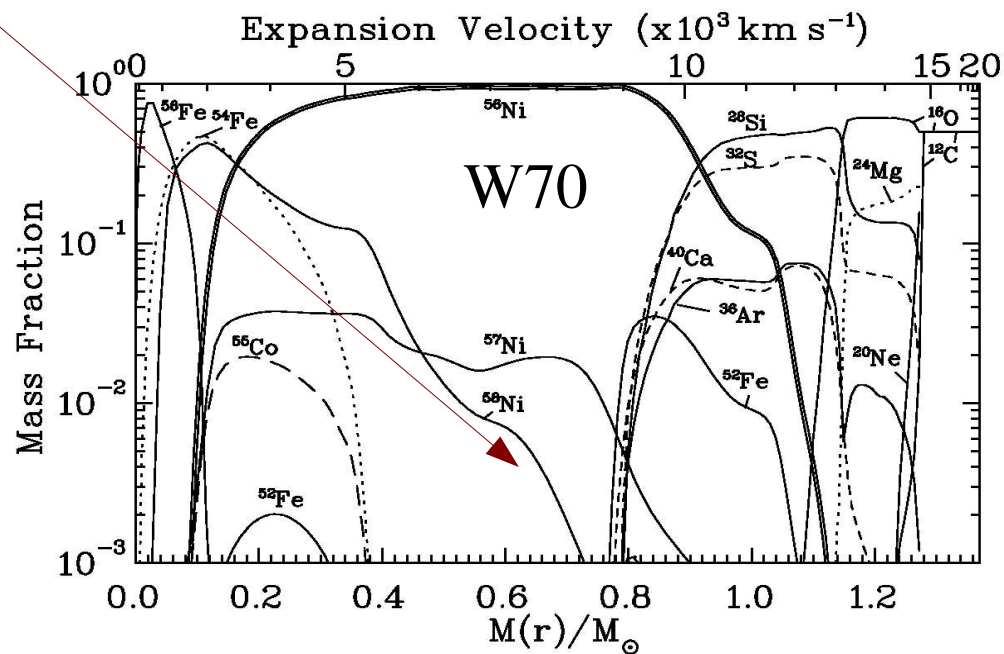
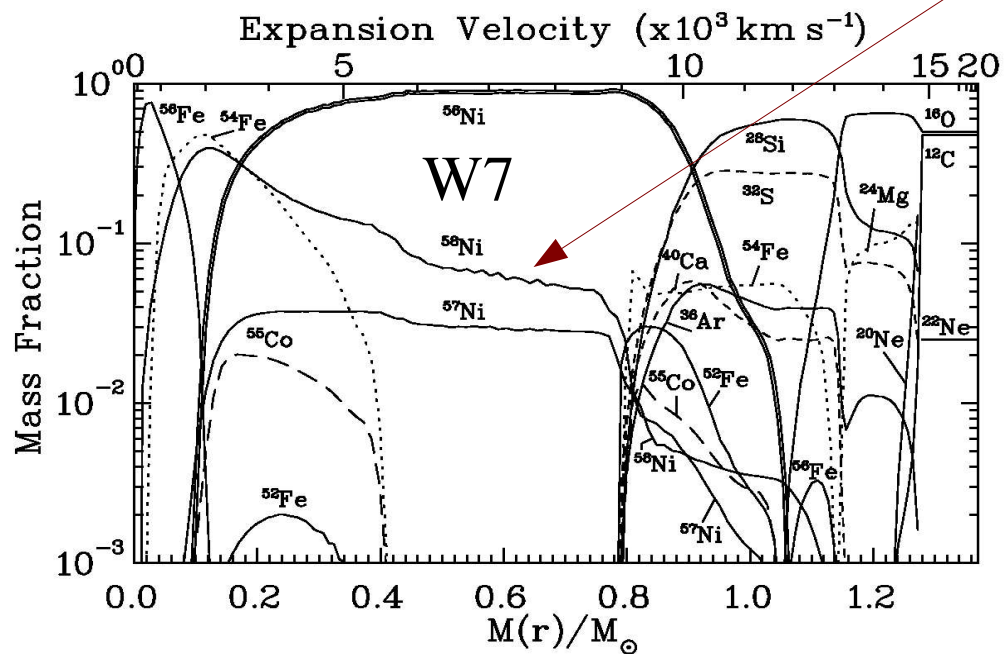
continue 1D spherically symmetric studies for nucleosynthesis and comparison with observations

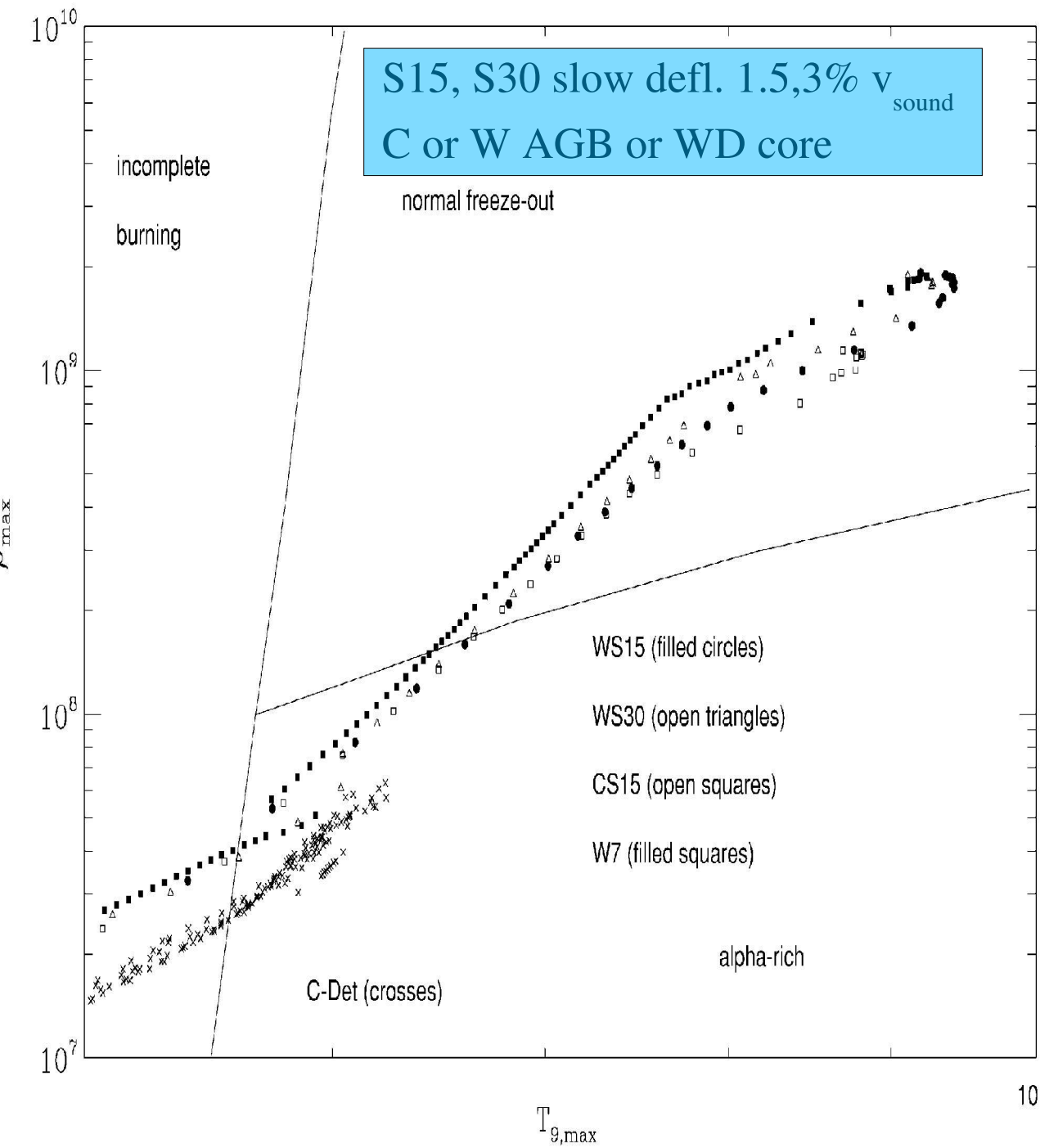


# Metallicity Effects



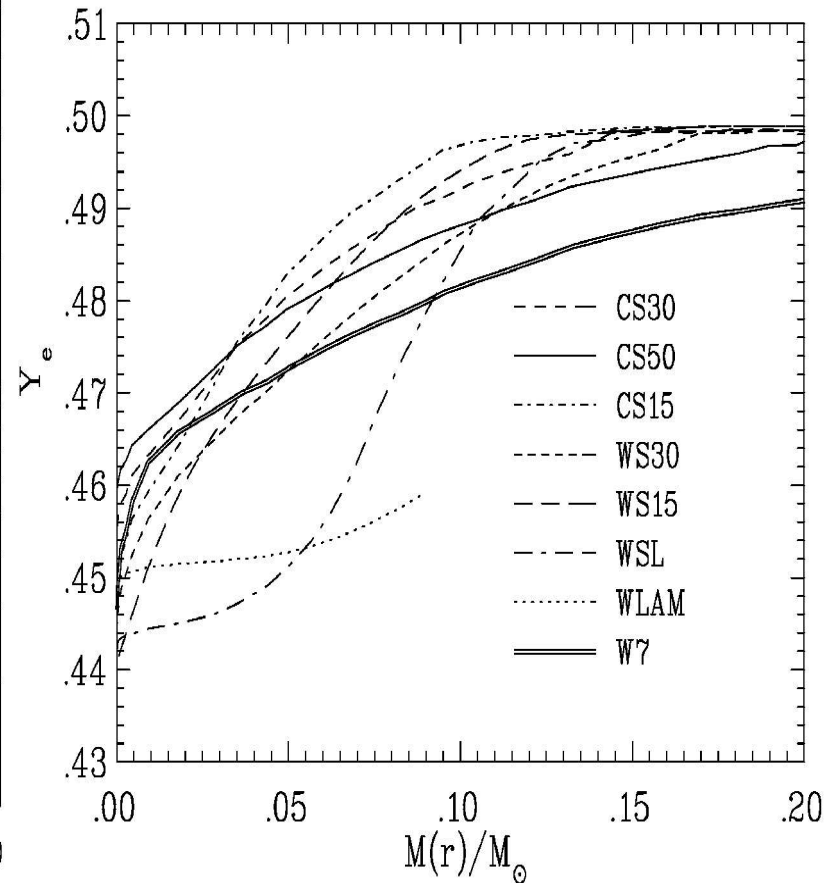
Iwamoto, Brachwitz et al. (1999);  $Y_e$  in outer zones made by initial  $^{22}\text{Ne}$





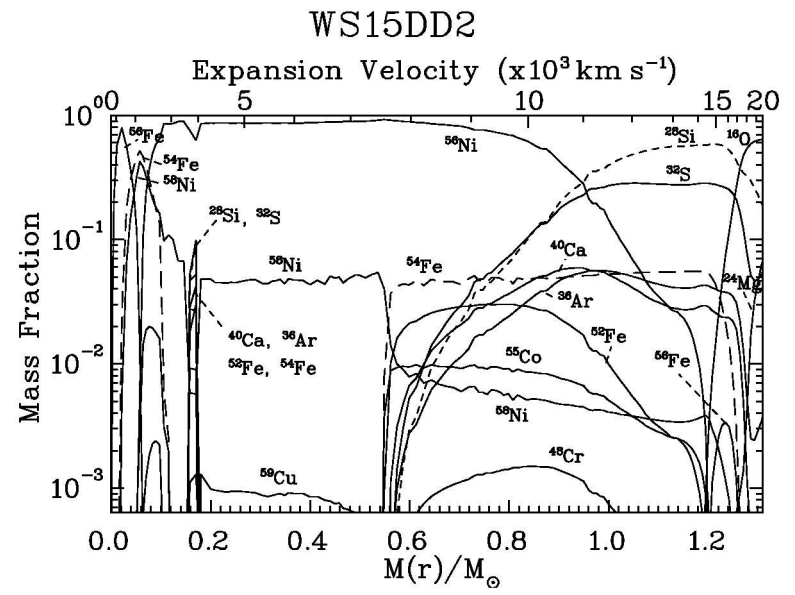
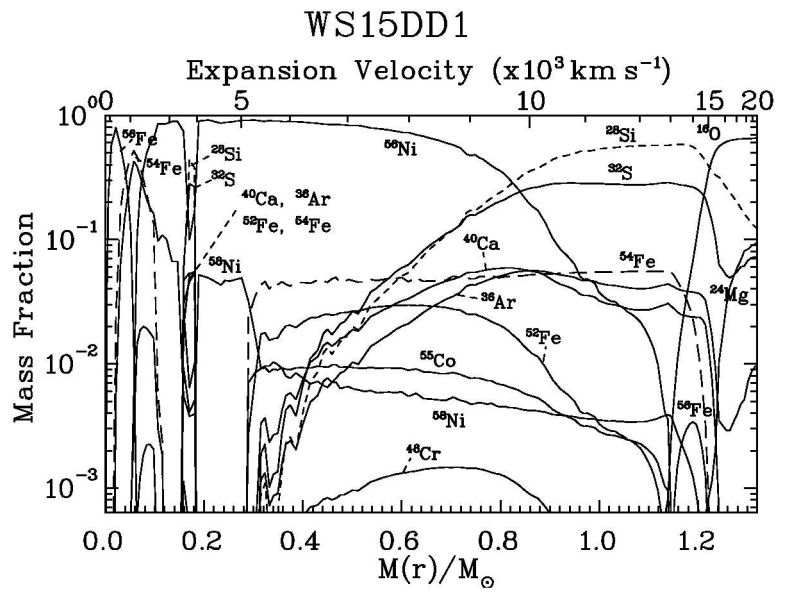
# Deflagration Speeds, Ignition Densities

Iwamoto, Brachwitz et al. 1999

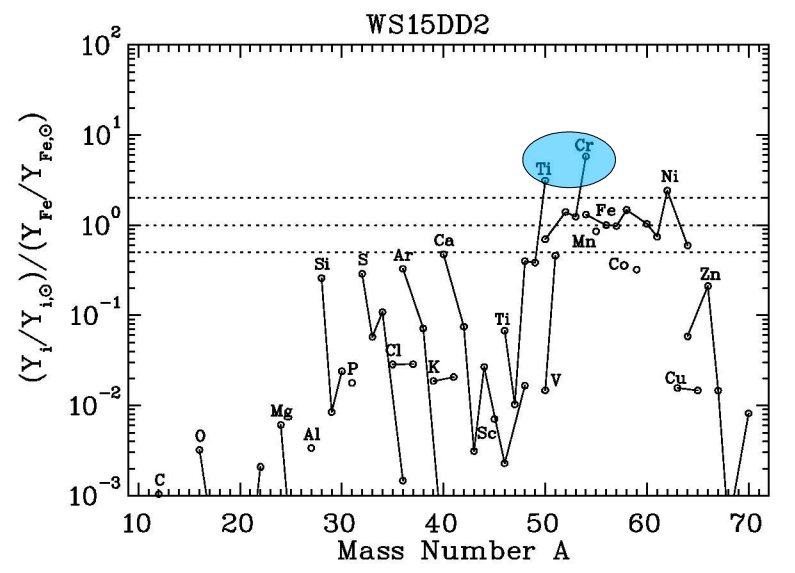
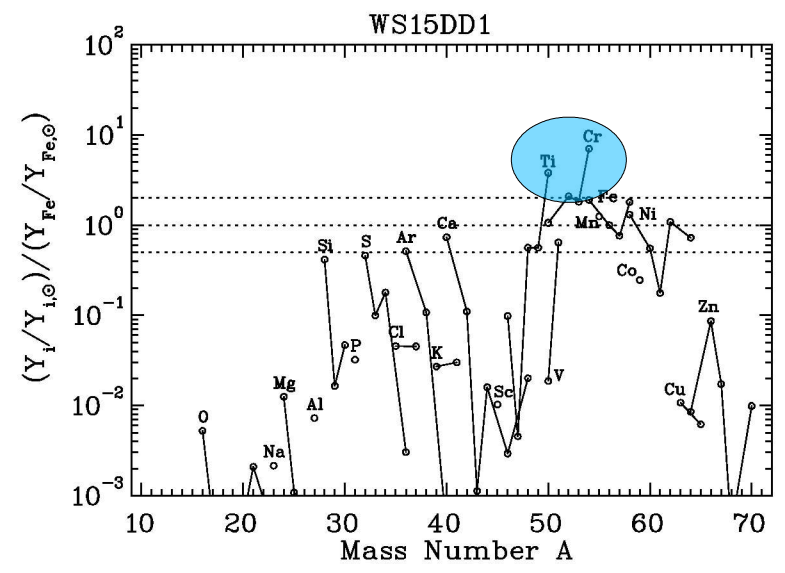


# Delayed Detonations

Iwamoto, Brachwitz et al. 1999; delayed detonations change Fe-group to intermediate mass ratio, but not central neutron-rich composition!!



Conclusion: We need ignition densities below  $2 \times 10^9 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ?



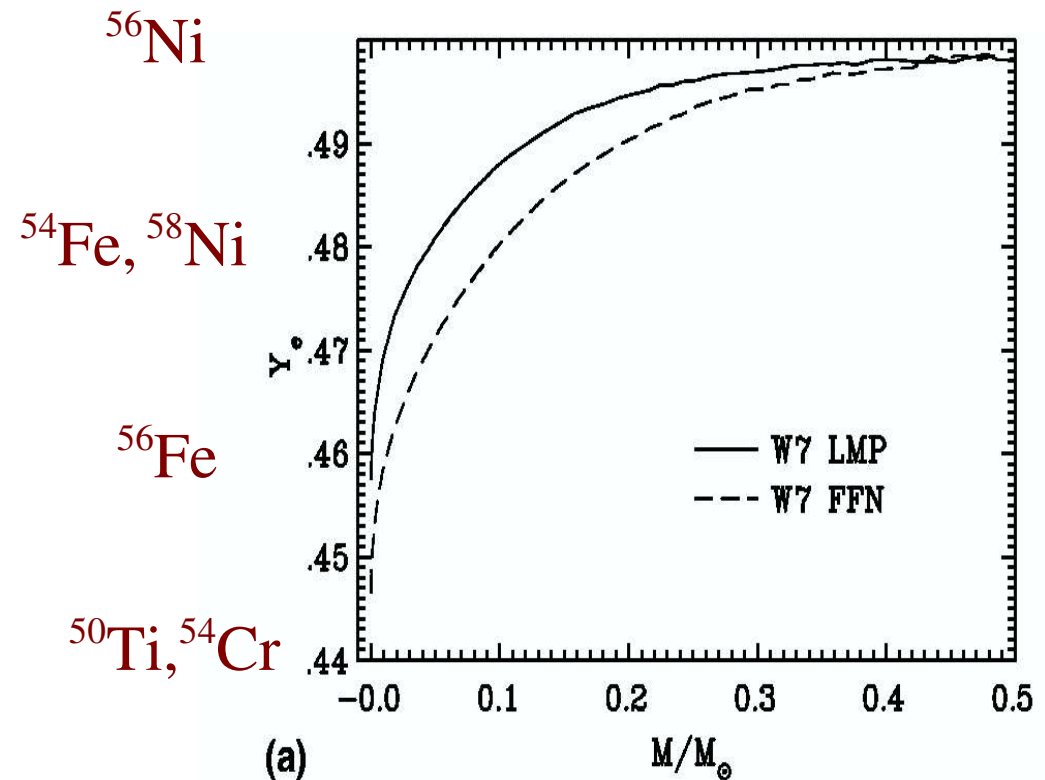
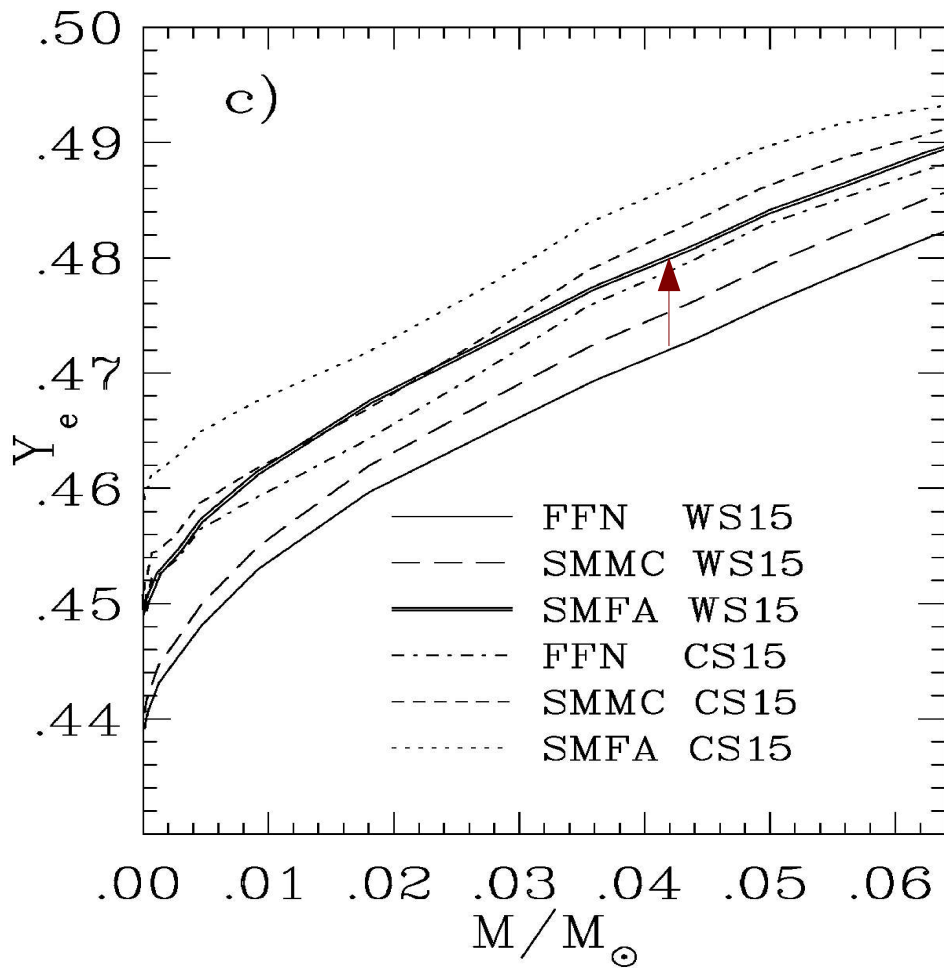
$^{50}\text{Ti}$   
and  
 $^{54}\text{Cr}$

# Role of large shell model calculations for e-capture on Fe-group nuclei

Neutronization via electron capture (high Fermi energies at central densities)

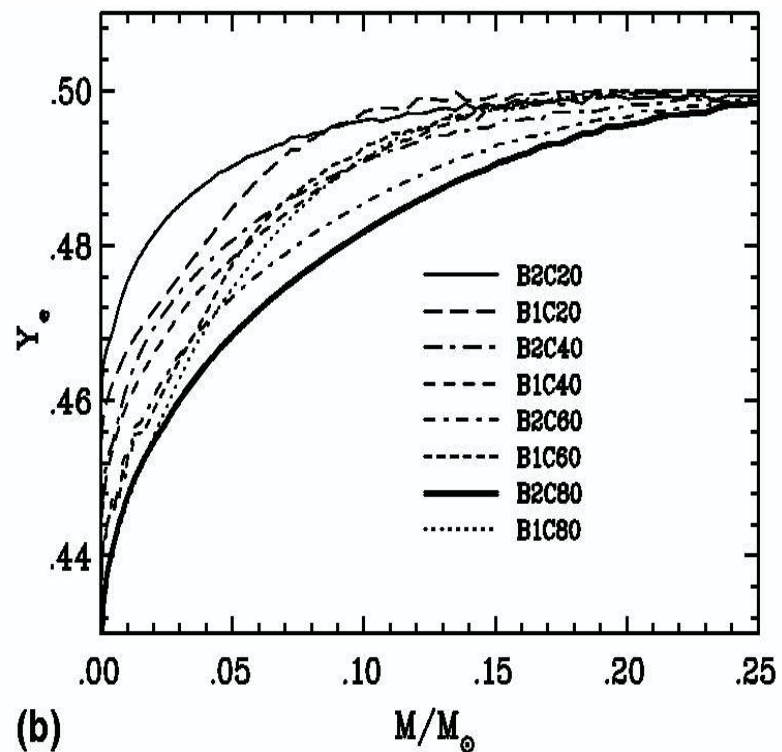
Langanke & Martinez-Pinedo 2000  
-> SNe Ia calculations

Brachwitz, Dean, Hix, Iwamoto,  
Langanke, Martinez-Pinedo et  
al. 2000



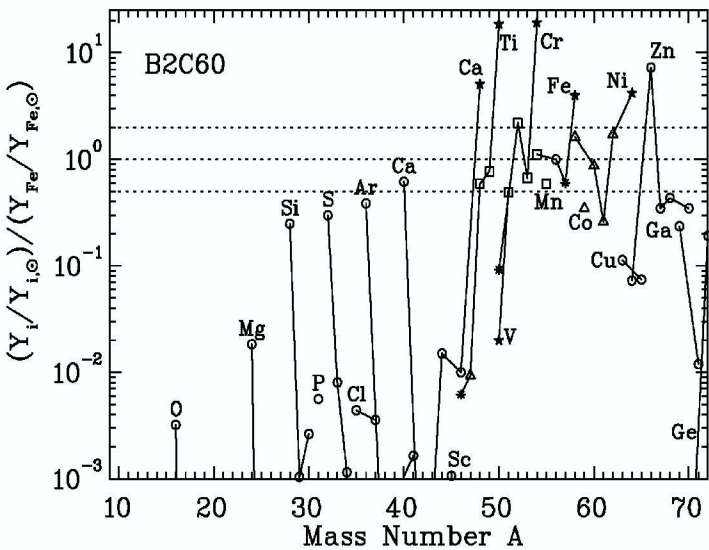
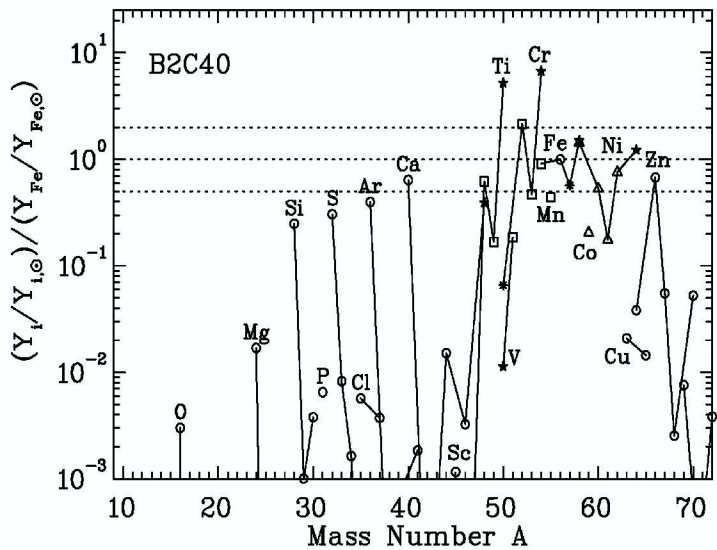
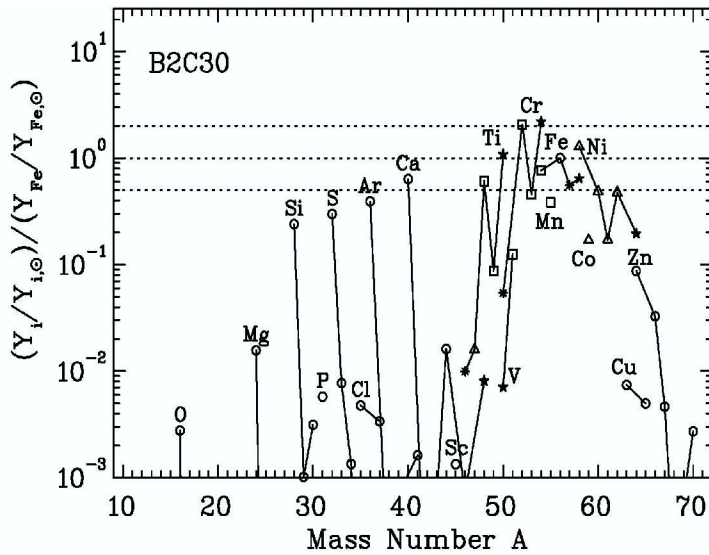
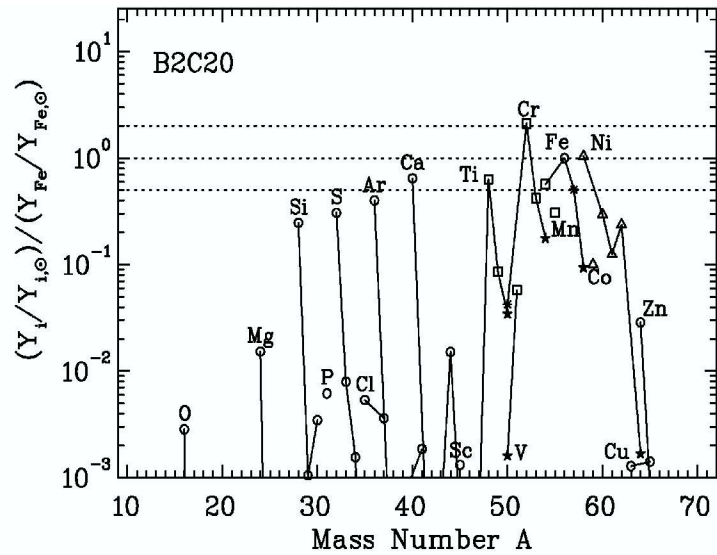


# Test KHM-like delayed detonation models with LMP weak rates and detailed nucleosynthesis



Thielemann, Brachwitz, Höflich, Martinez-Pinedo, Nomoto 2004

# Ignition density determines $Y_e$ and neutron-richness of (60-70% of) Fe-group

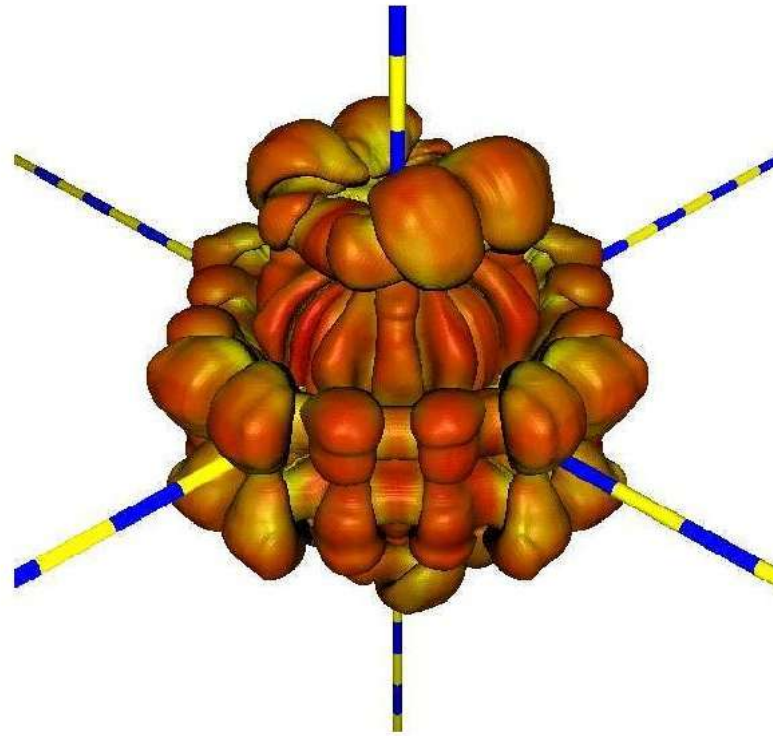


results of explosive C, Ne, O and Si-burning:  
Fe-group to alpha-elements 2/1-3/1

SNe Ia dominate Fe-group, overabundances by more than factor 2 not permitted

→ central density  $< 4 \cdot 10^9 \text{ gcm}^{-3}$

# Where is the Future?



A Waggi is a costume in the Basel Fasnacht (Carneval).

- At first glance (zeroth order) and from the back it looks spherically symmetric (our past approaches, lacking self-consistent burning front propagation).
- Second order: multi-D variations around spherical picture? (randomly chosen ignition points in MPA Garching model)
- Or do we have the effect of a one point ignition (Chicago model)?
- What will be the differences in nucleosynthesis and their manifestation in observations?



# Happy Birthday



# Ken !

From your friends in Basel: The Nuclear and  
Computational Astrophysics Group





## What I learned from Ken:

Besides learning a lot about SNe Ia and II!!

1. Work hard!!!! A plot of 3:30am can make an impression at the next day's conference (so happened with W7 results in Erice 1983).

2. Work through the night before an international flight: a. you get work done, b. you can sleep everywhere without jetlag.

3. If it is too hard to solve a problem from first principles, make a simple parametrized model and compare with constraints from observations. You might learn a lot.

4. Have many friends and students around the world