

Kilonovae and the origin of the R-process elements

Lanthanide atomic structure and Non-LTE spectral modelling



Jon Grumer

Theoretical Astrophysics
Uppsala University

The [CompAS](#)
collaboration



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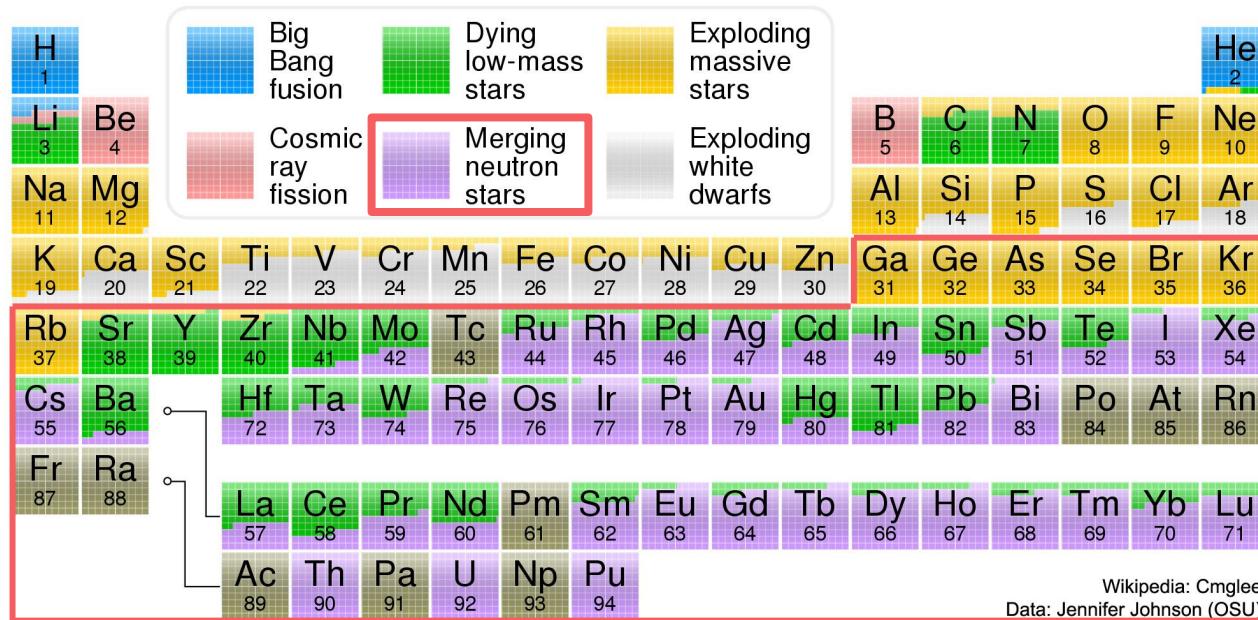
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Kilonovae and the origin of the ~~R-process~~ n-capture elements



Kilonovae and the origin of the ~~R-process~~ n-capture elements



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[Publications in Google Scholar](#)



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The international
collaboration on atomic
structure

Alan Hibbert
Professor
Queens University
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[Publications in Google Scholar](#)



Atomic structure and processes

Spectral SNe modelling (Stockholm)

Anders Jerkstrand

Astronomy department,
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Michel Godefroid
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[Publications in Google Scholar](#)



Tomas Brage
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and many more
post-docs, phd's

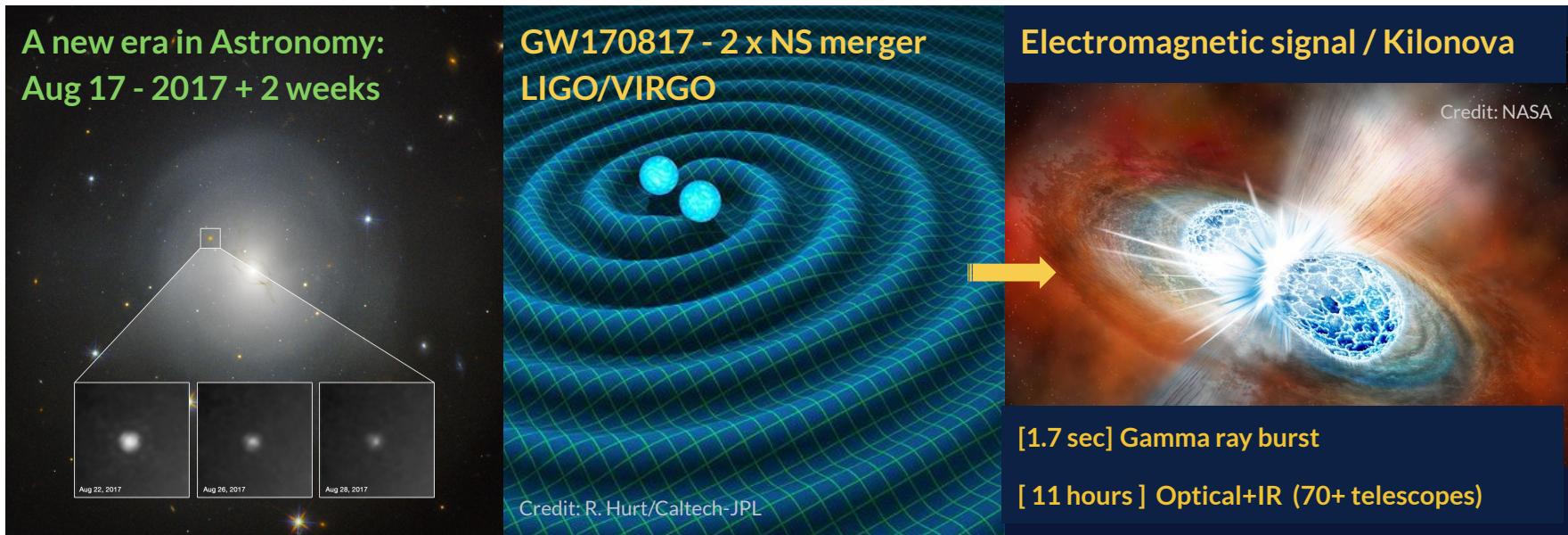


Sofie Liljegren

Astronomy department,
Stockholm University

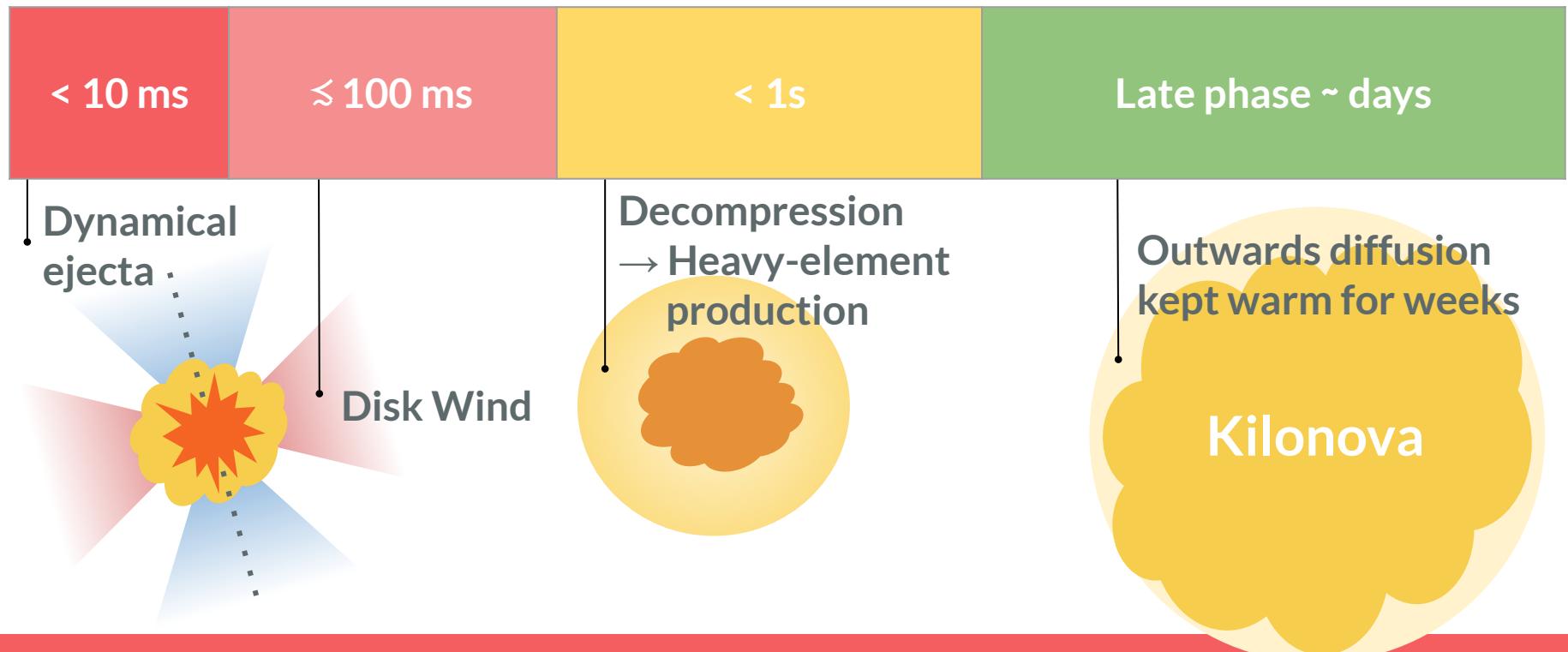


Kilonovae and the origin of the n-capture elements - 2 x neutron stars

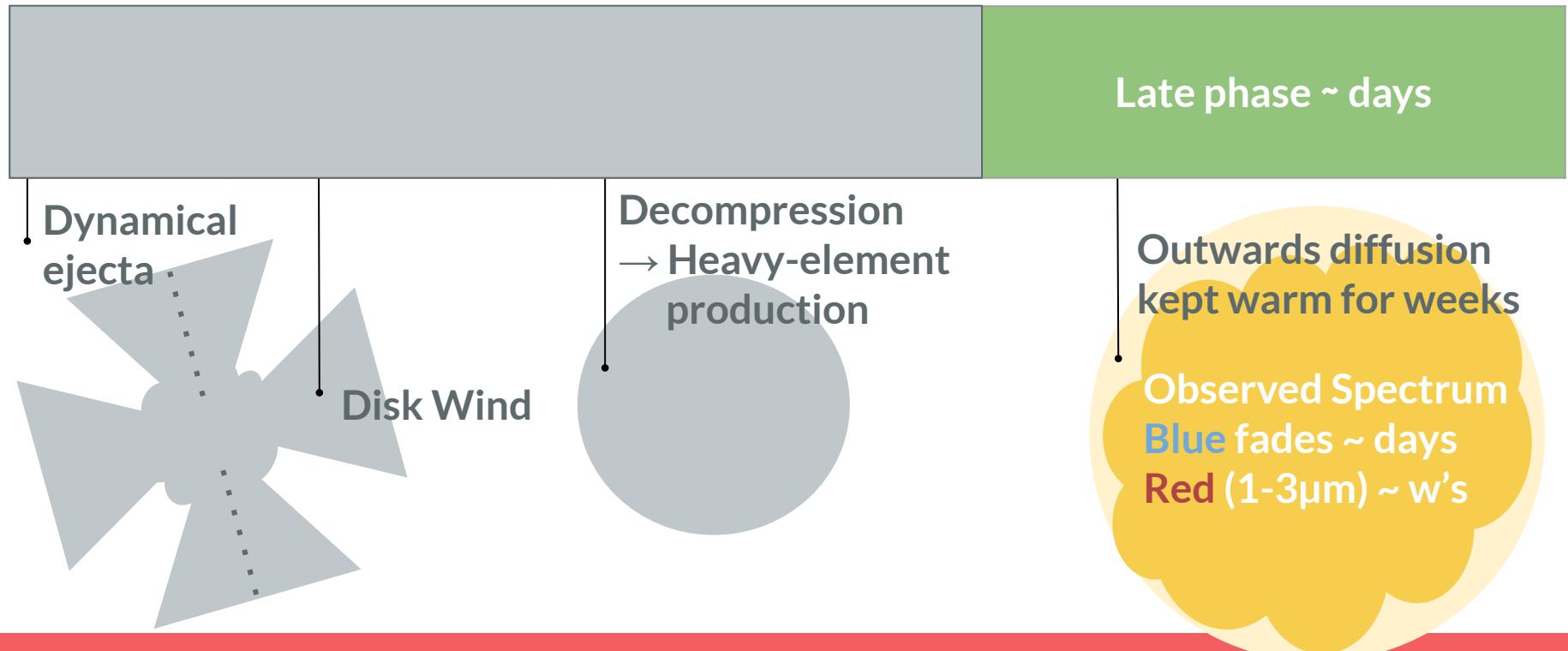


Suggested Kilonova reviews: Tanaka 2016, Metzger 2017, Cowan, Sneden & Lawler ++ 2019

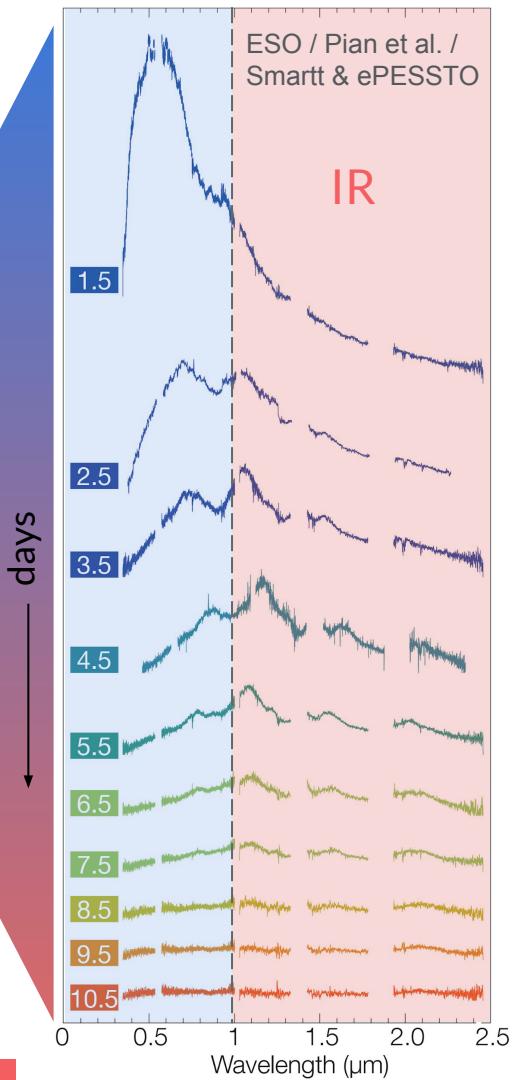
Merger → R-process → Radioactive decay



Merger → R-process → Radioactive decay



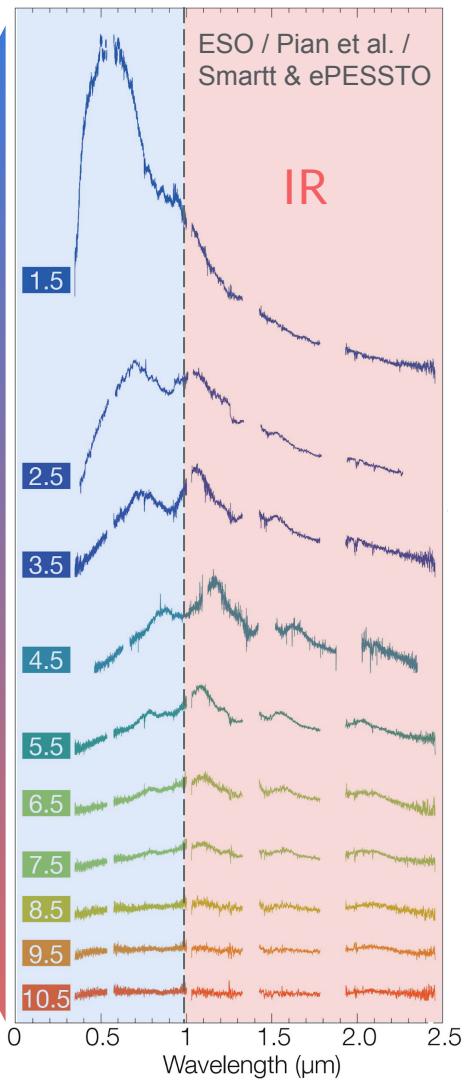
Observed Spectrum
Blue fades ~ days
Red (1-3 μ m) ~ w's



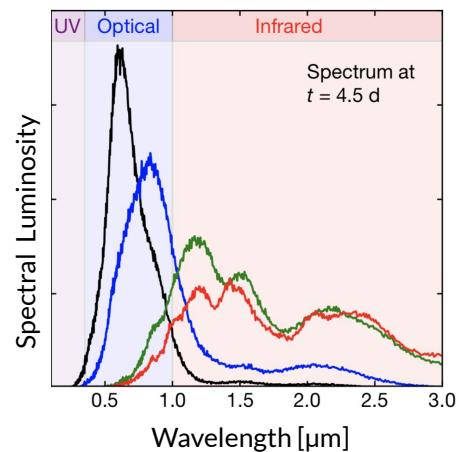
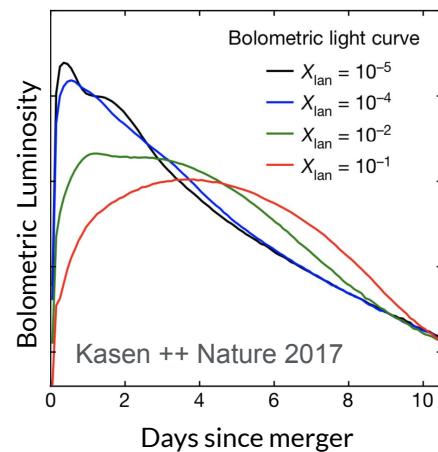
Observations showed a **strong reddening** as the object faded over two weeks

Observed Spectrum
Blue fades ~ days
Red (1-3 μ m) ~ w's

days

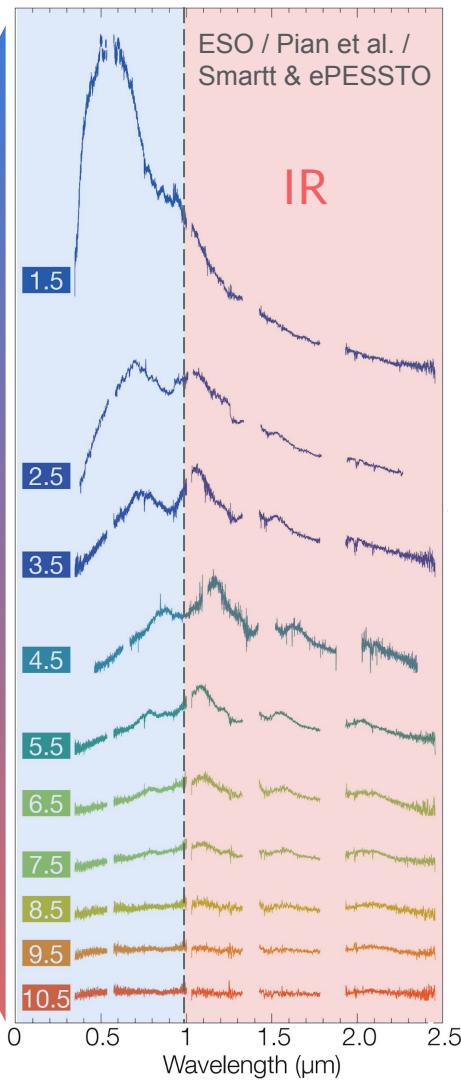


Observations showed a **strong reddening** as the object faded over two weeks



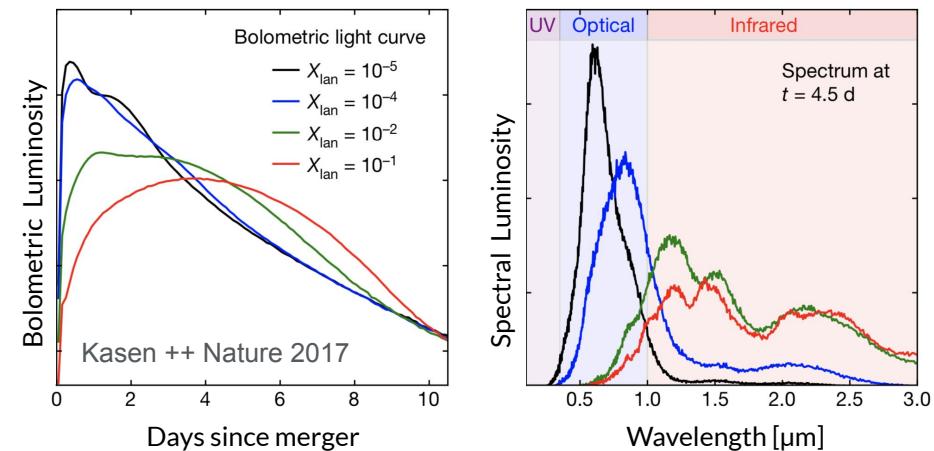
Observed Spectrum
Blue fades ~ days
Red (1-3 μ m) ~ w's

days



Observations showed a **strong reddening** as the object faded over two weeks → **Lanthanides?**

La	Ce	Pr	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu
57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71



Black
 10^{-5}

Lanthanide mass fraction

Red
 10^{-1}

General long term KN goals

- **Fundamental KNe parameters** (ejecta mass, explosion energy, densities, velocities, temperatures)
- ~~First identification of r-process elements in KNe~~ (if possible? NS-BH merger for lower velocities?)
- **Progenitor/NS-NS properties** (from KNe parameters)

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“Short term” for atomistic people...

- **Atomic structure models and processes** have to be fully adopted for $4f^n$ systems
- Combine with **experimental data** (FTS experiments, IR → e.g NIST, Imperial, Lund, Lawler)
- Interface with databases (**NIST**, **VALD/VAMDC**)
- Create first generation of KNe **opacity tables** for various applications
- **Model KNe spectra** - test **Non-LTE effects** - **SUMO** (Jerkstrand, Stockholm/Max Planck)
- Push atomic data and models towards **spectroscopic accuracy..**

Lanthanides/rare earths | earlier work

As Chris mentioned yd - a lot have been done, motivated by the lighting industry
- but, in generally **limited to the optical, and we need n-IR!**

Significant works on rare-earth elements:

- A lot of exp. work done on neutrals and singly ionized species in the optical decade long rare-earth FTS study of **Jim Lawler** ++ in Wisconsin
- The **D.R.E.A.M database** (Biémont, Palmeri and Quinet)
- More recently, **large-scale accurate calculation projects** - mainly by Gaigalas++ (Vilnius)
- ++ many more (e.g. Los Alamos/Fontes++, Japan/Tanaka&Kato++, UC Berkley/Kasen++)

Lanthanides/rare earths | properties

- $Z = 57 \rightarrow 71$ with open f-shell configurations

La 57	Ce 58	Pr 59	Nd 60	Pm 61	Sm 62	Eu 63	Gd 64	Tb 65	Dy 66	Ho 67	Er 68	Tm 69	Yb 70	Lu 71
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- 4f orbital collapse:
- → 4f, 5d, 6s and 6p have similar binding energies
- → overlapping configurations
- → high levels densities even at a few eV

TABLE 20-1. LOW CONFIGURATIONS OF NEUTRAL AND SINGLY IONIZED LANTHANIDE ATOMS^a

$4f^w 6s^2$	$4f^w 6s 6p$
$4f^{w-1} 5d 6s^2$	$4f^{w-1} 5d 6s 6p$
$4f^w 5d 6s$	$4f^w 5d 6p$
$4f^{w-1} 5d^2 6s$	$4f^{w-1} 5d^2 6p$
$4f^{w+1} 6s$	$4f^{w+1} 6p$
$4f^{w+1} 5d$	

[Cowan Ch. 20]

Open f-shell atomic models | requirements

Goal: an consistent well-defined **overall picture**
but also **individual spectral lines**

1. **Scalability** - order of 10k levels (at once?) and many millions of lines.
2. **Efficient electron correlation** - must be able to handle half-filled f-shells
3. **Relativistic** - high-Z elements
4. **Spectral modelling requires specifically:**
 - a. **High-lying states**
 - b. **Non-LTE** data - rad. and collisional excitation and ionization processes

Employed theoretical methods:

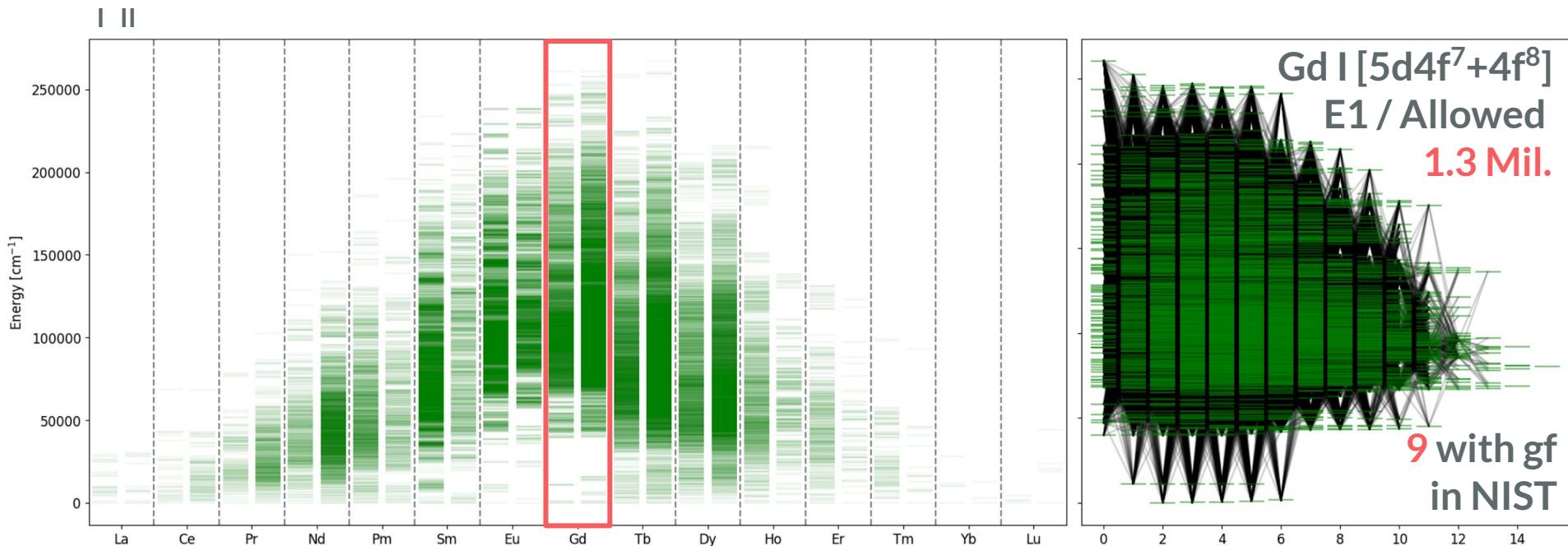
- MCDHF **GRASP2018** [github.com/compas/grasp]
C. F. Fischer++ CPC 2019

Accurate structure and radiative properties, (very) non-black box
- CI+RMBPT **FAC** [github.com/flexible-atomic-code/fac]
M. F. Gu Can J Phys 2008

More black-box, but scales better and can be used to determine
Non-LTE data (PI/RR, CE, CI)
- + the non-LTE radiative transfer code **SUMO** by Jerkstrand++

Preliminary results | levels

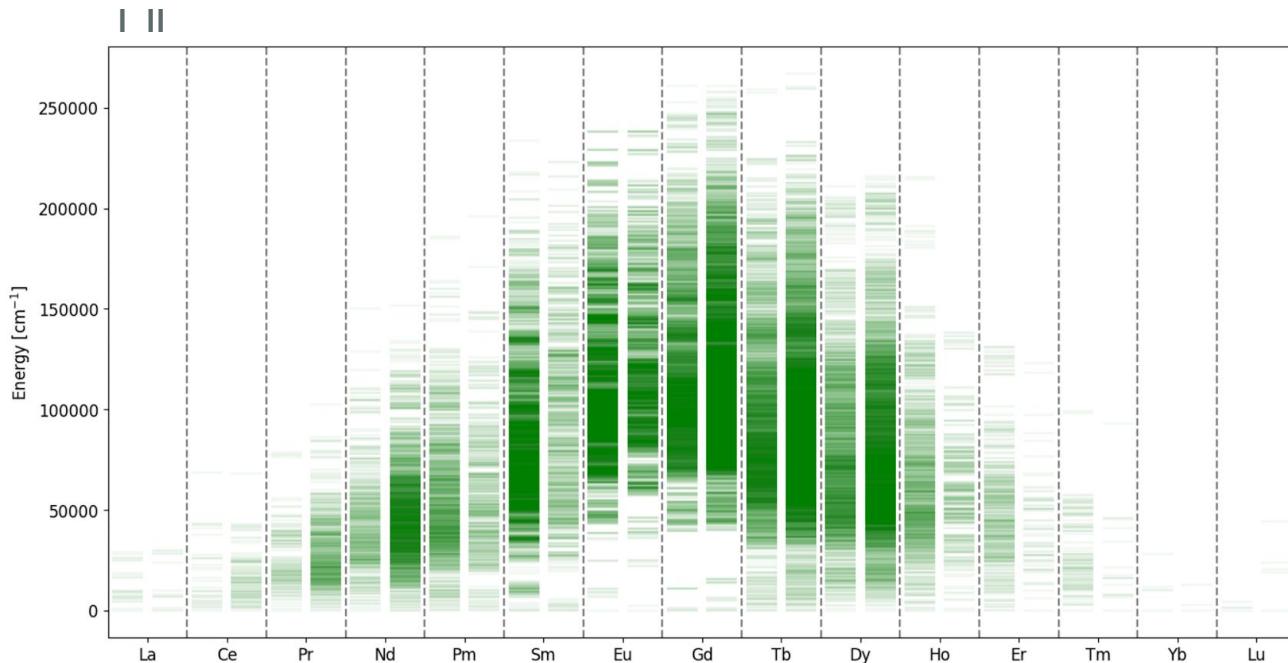
Goal: Atomic data of reasonable quality for all neutrals to triply ionized species (Fe to U)



Preliminary MCDHF/GRASP calculations (see e.g. Gaigalas ApJS 240:29 (2019) for Nd II-IV)

Preliminary results | levels

Goal: Atomic data of reasonable quality for all neutrals to triply ionized species (Fe to U)



- The small radii of the 4f electrons lead to strong interactions, and $4f^w$ will thus cover unusually large energy ranges of around 12 ev / 100k cm^{-3}

$4f^w 6s^2$	$4f^w 6s6p$
$4f^{w-1} 5d6s^2$	$4f^{w-1} 5d6s6p$
$4f^w 5d6s$	$4f^w 5d6p$
$4f^{w-1} 5d^26s$	$4f^{w-1} 5d^26p$
$4f^{w+1} 6s$	$4f^{w+1} 6p$
$4f^{w+1} 5d$	

Preliminary MCDHF/GRASP calculations (see e.g. Gaigalas ApJS 240:29 (2019) for Nd II-IV)

Preliminary results | levels

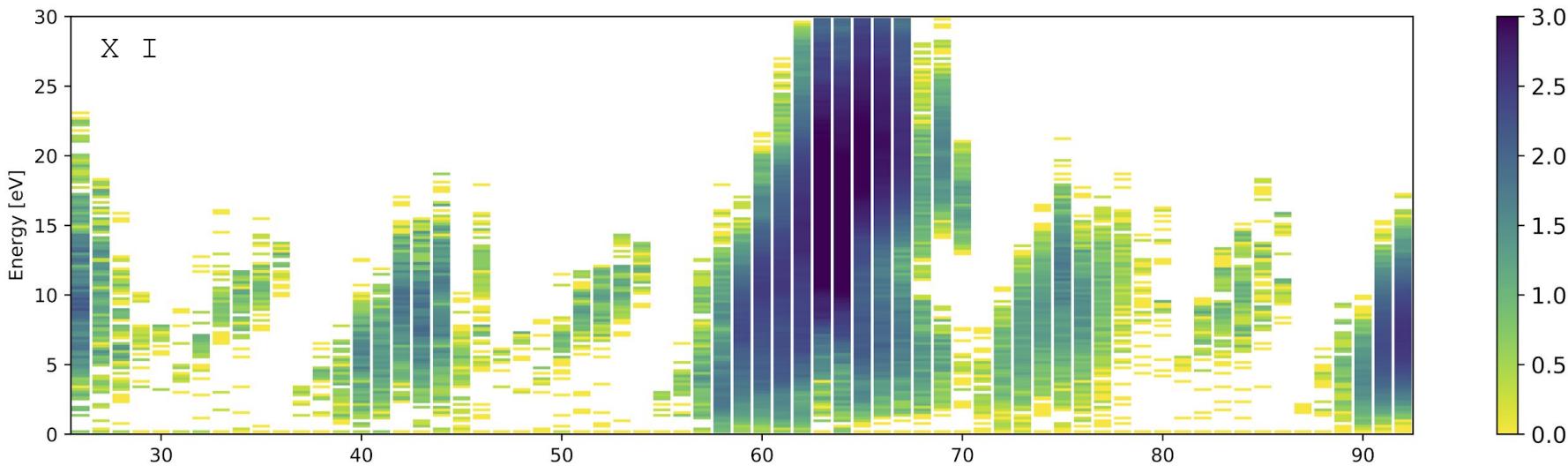
Goal: Atomic data of reasonable quality for all neutrals to triply ionized species (Fe to U)

GRASP is accurate, but tedious to adopt » run simpler model to get KNe machinery going.

Preliminary results | levels

Goal: Atomic data of reasonable quality for all neutrals to triply ionized species (Fe to U)

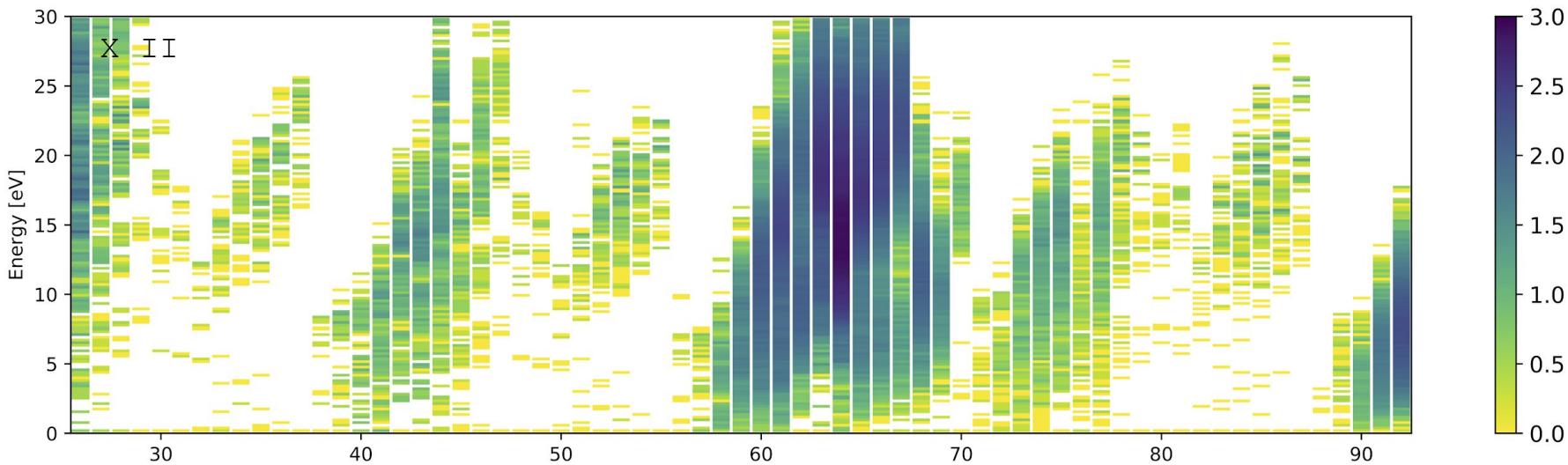
For starters, instead: DF-Slater + RCI +QED on “all” bound states (FAC):
- Level densities (0.2 ev bin size) for neutral atoms



Preliminary results | levels

Goal: Atomic data of reasonable quality for all neutrals to triply ionized species (Fe to U)

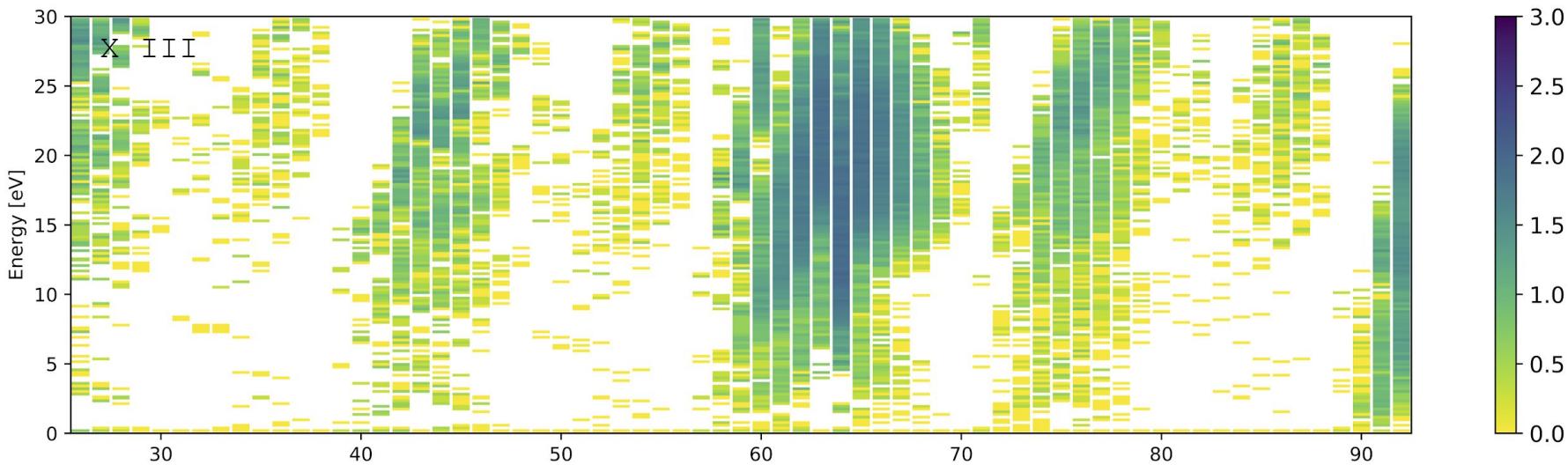
For starters, instead: DF-Slater + RCI +QED on “all” bound states (FAC):
- Level densities (0.2 ev bin size) for singly ionized ions



Preliminary results | levels

Goal: Atomic data of reasonable quality for all neutrals to triply ionized species (Fe to U)

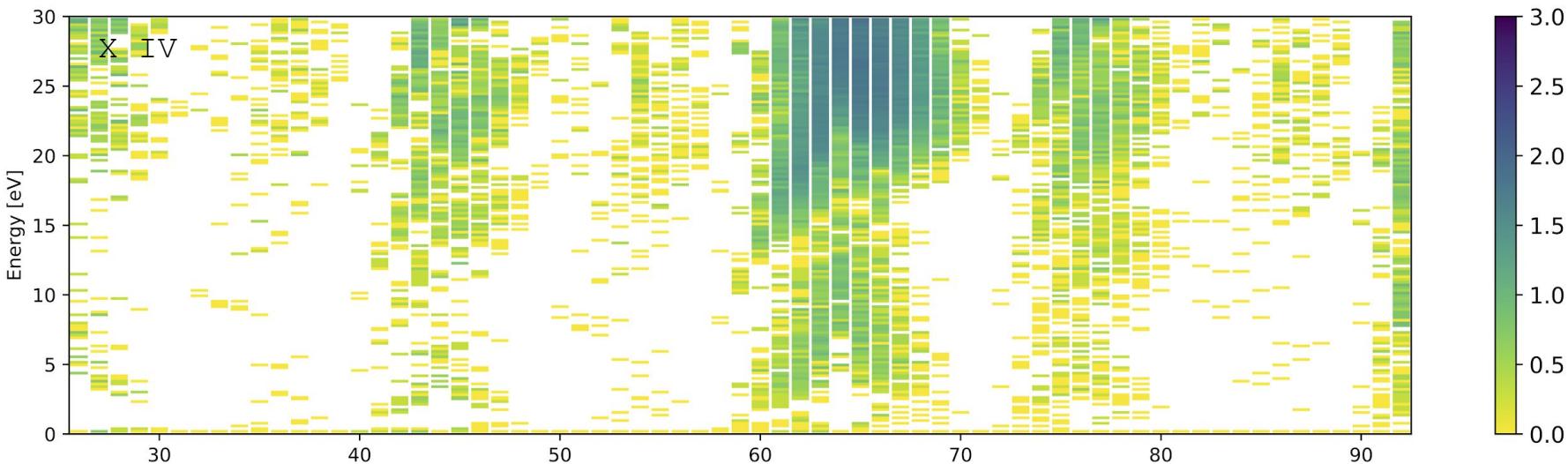
For starters, instead: DF-Slater + RCI +QED on “all” bound states (FAC):
- Level densities (0.2 ev bin size) for **doubly ionized ions**



Preliminary results | levels

Goal: Atomic data of reasonable quality for all neutrals to triply ionized species (Fe to U)

For starters, instead: DF-Slater + RCI +QED on “all” bound states (FAC):
- Level densities (0.2 ev bin size) for triply ionized ions

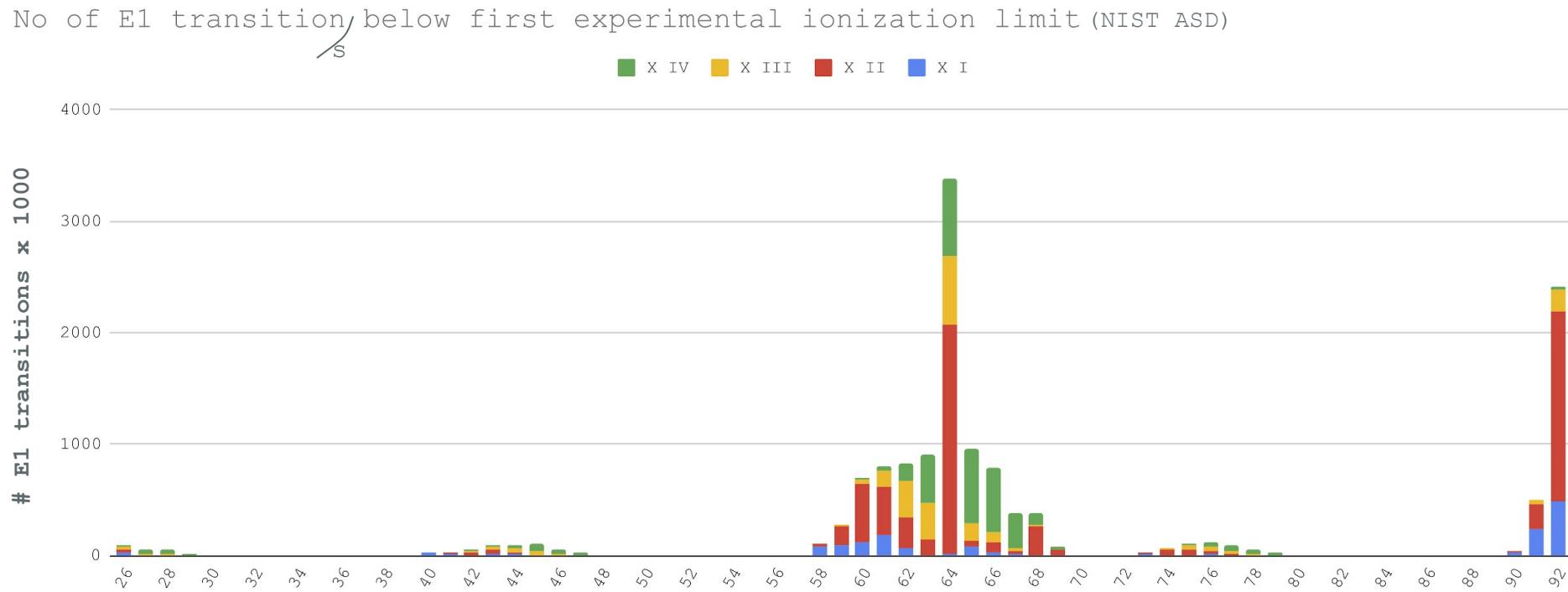


The level densities agree relatively well with Tanaka++ 2019 arXiv:1906.08914 (HULLAC)

Preliminary results | lines

Goal: Atomic data of reasonable quality for all neutrals to triply ionized species (Fe to U)

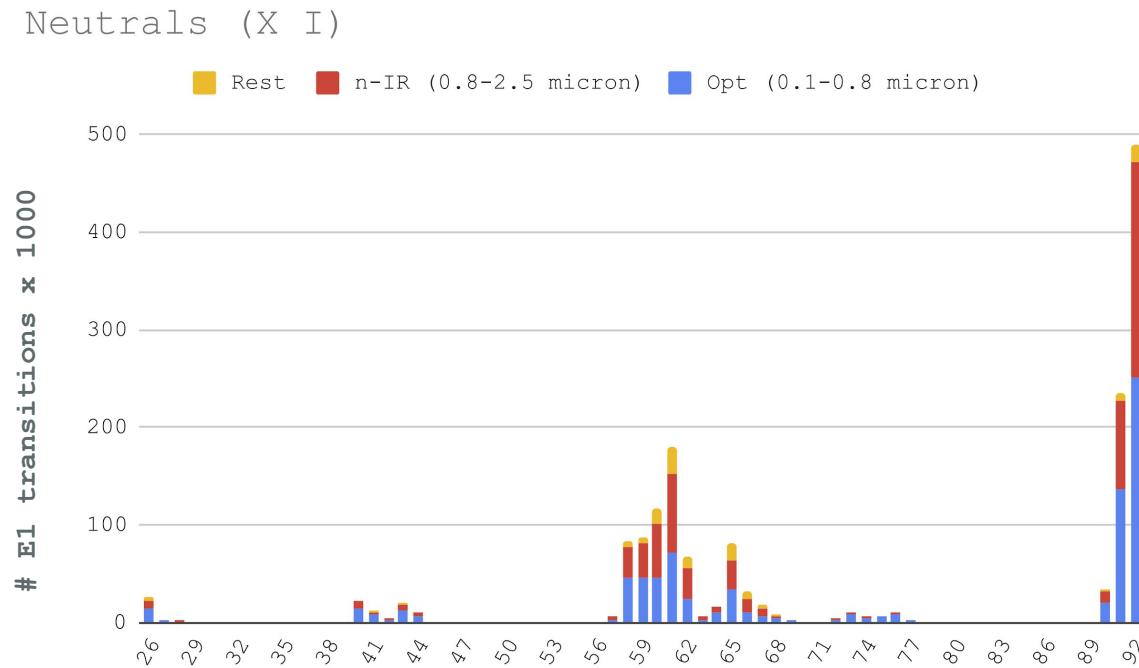
For starters, instead: DF-Slater + RCI +QED on “all” bound states (FAC):



Preliminary results | lines

Goal: Atomic data of reasonable quality for all neutrals to triply ionized species (Fe to U)

For starters, instead: DF-Slater + RCI +QED on “all” bound states (FAC):



Preliminary results | expansion opacities

Eg. as input to light curve models...

Expansion opacity: $\kappa_{\text{exp}}(\lambda) = \frac{1}{ct\rho} \sum_l \frac{\lambda_l}{\Delta\lambda} (1 - e^{-\tau_l})$

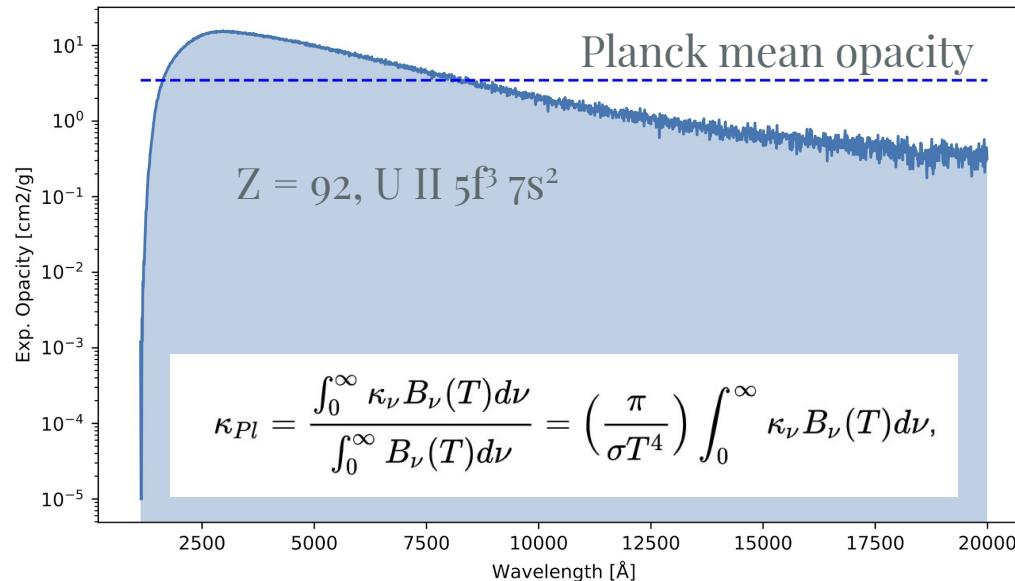
In the bound-bound

Sobolev approximation: $\tau_l = \frac{\pi e^2}{m_e c} f_{lnt} \lambda_l$

Preliminary results | expansion opacities

Goal: Atomic data of reasonable quality for all neutrals to triply ionized species (Fe to U)

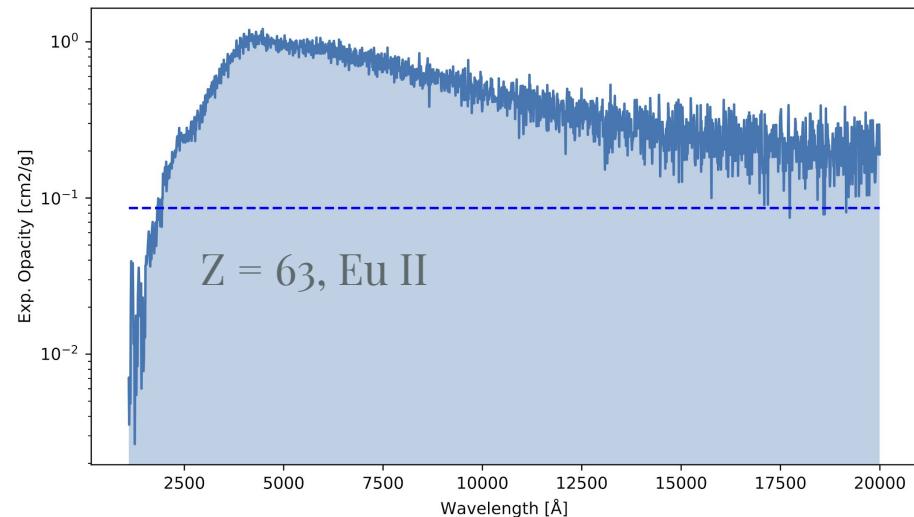
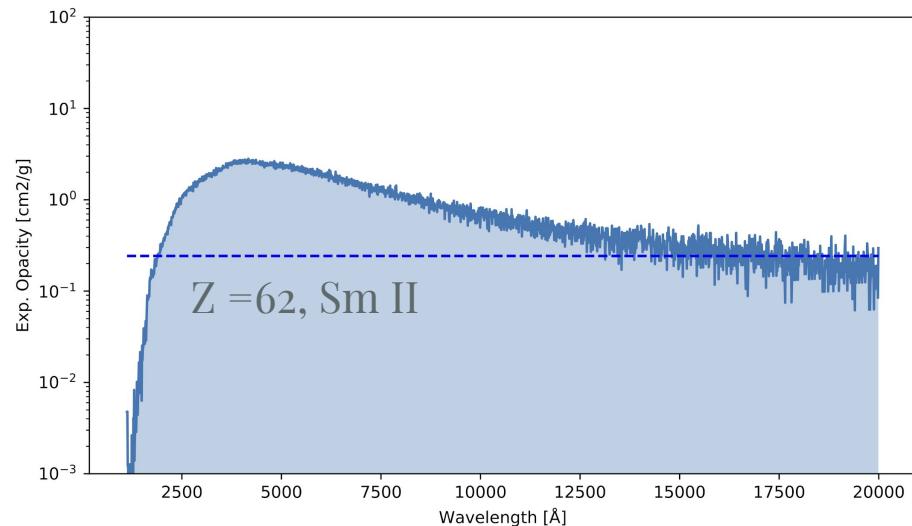
Sobolev expansion opacities @ $t = 1$ day | $T = 5000\text{K}$ | $\rho = 1\text{E}10^{-13}\text{ g/cm}^3$



Preliminary results | expansion opacities

Goal: Atomic data of reasonable quality for all neutrals to triply ionized species (Fe to U)

Sobolev expansion opacities @ $t = 1$ day | $T = 5000\text{K}$ | $\rho = 1\text{E}10^{-13}\text{ g/cm}^3$





SUMO (Jerkstrand++, Stockholm Uni./MaxPlanck Garching)

A Monte-Carlo non-LTE spectral model for supernovae from atomic data

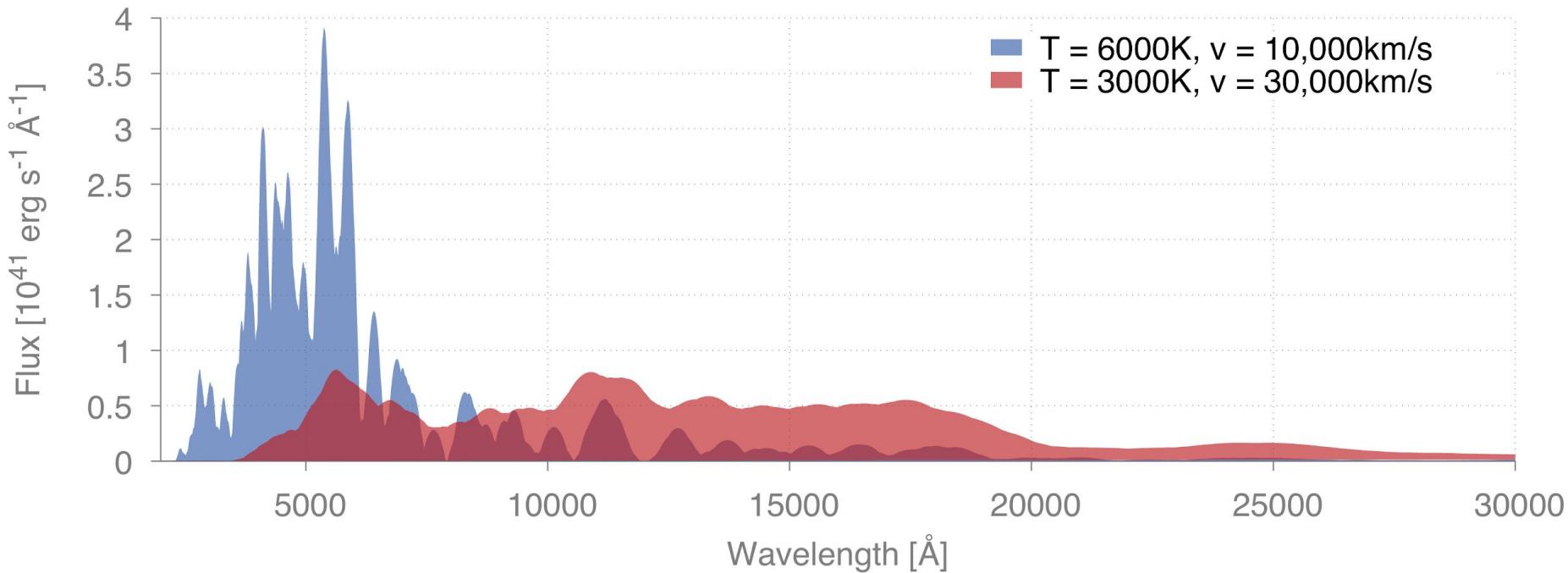
Self-consistent loop: Fueled by radioactive decay (g-rays, compton heating)

- Compton electron distribution (Spencer-Fano)
- Radiative Transfer
 - Monte-Carlo, multi-shell, Sobolev approx
 - Support for most relevant radiative and collisional processes
- NLTE statistical equilibrium (current SNe model, X I - X III up to Ni)



KNe Models: Preliminary results

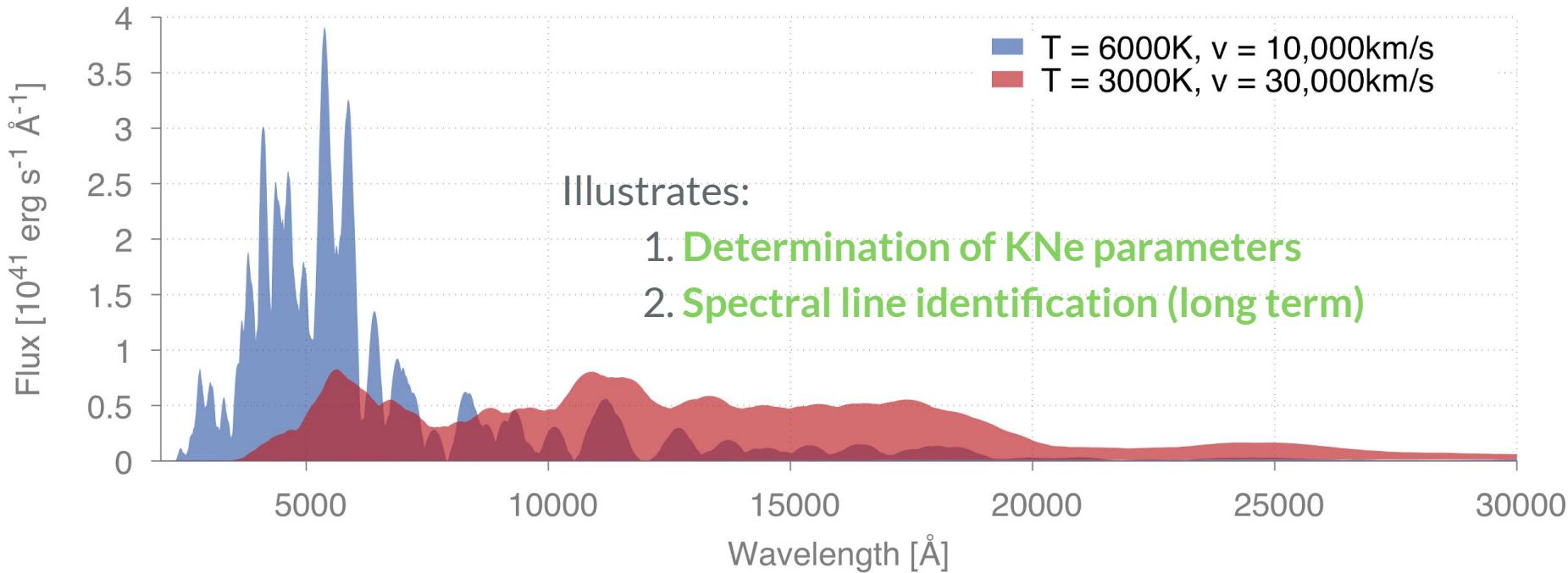
GRASP + SUMO (Jerkstrand): Ce I KNe NLTE spectra



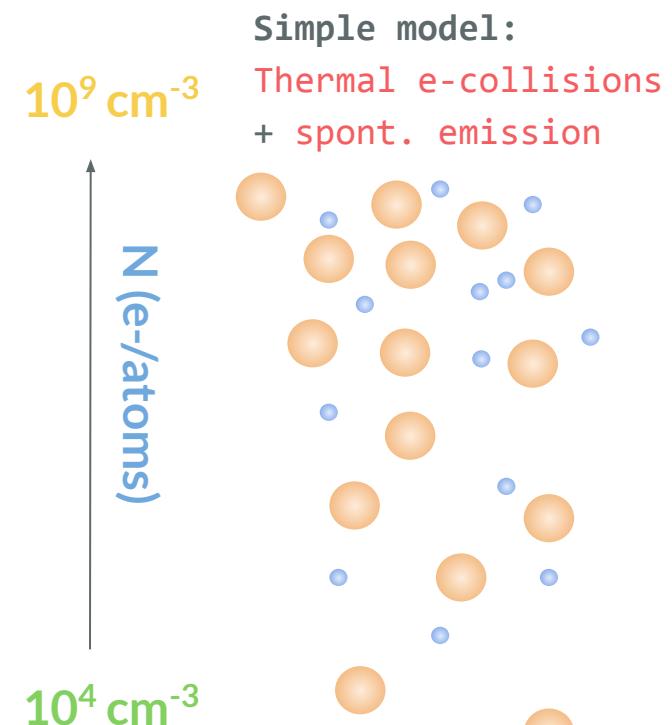
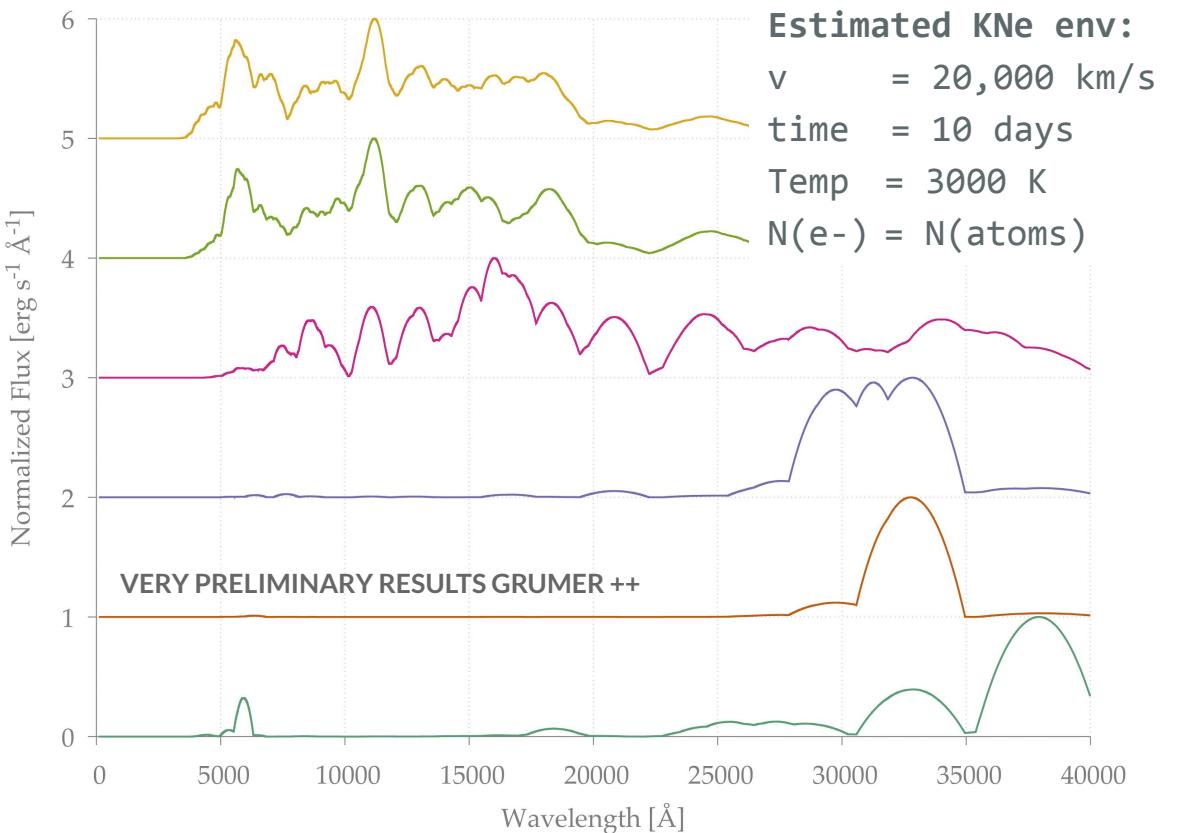


KNe Models: Preliminary results

GRASP + SUMO (Jerkstrand): Ce I KNe NLTE spectra



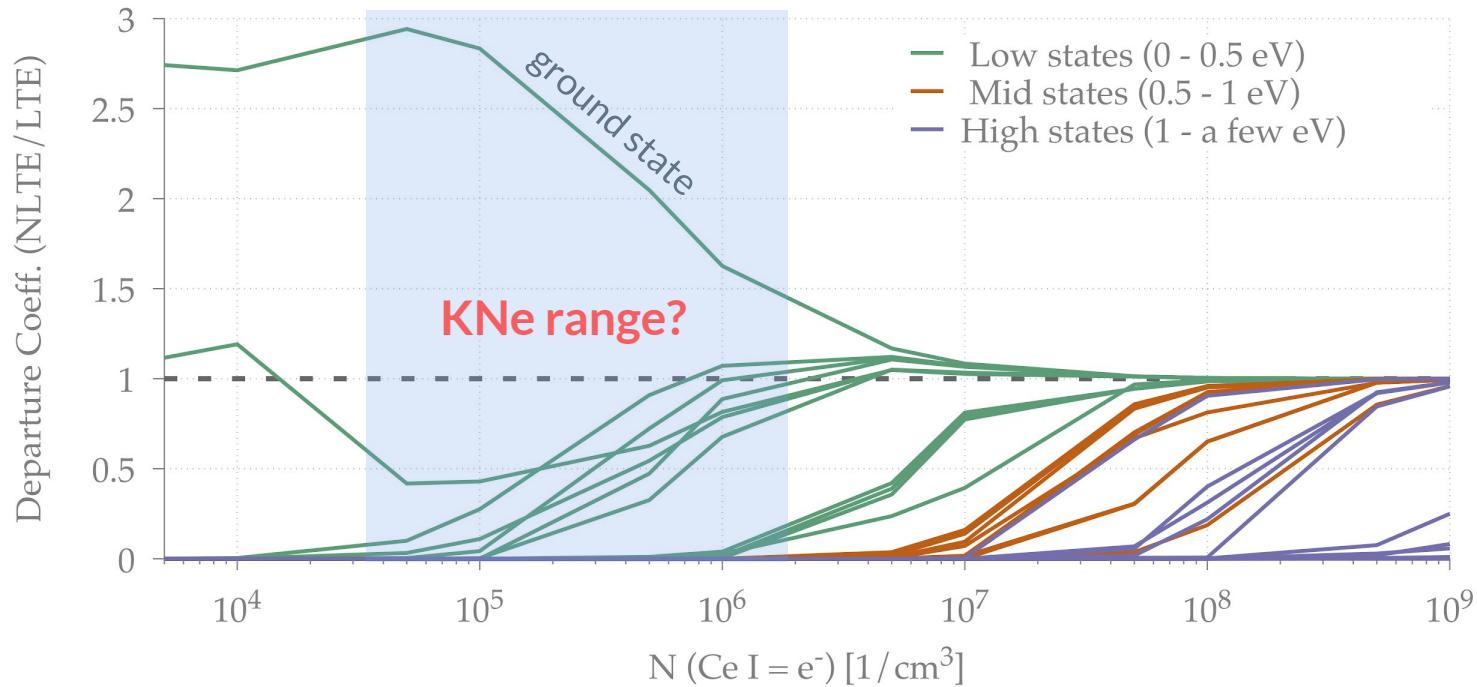
KNe Models: Preliminary results NLTE/density



KNe Models: Preliminary results

Ce I NLTE vs LTE: departure coefficients

Simple model:
Thermal e-collisions
+ spont. emission





Outlook

- Working on a “complete” grid of neutrals to triply ionized neutron capture elements
Energy levels + radiative transition rates + NLTE processes - prel. model done
- From this:
 - Finish grid of expansion opacities as function of temperature, density and expansion time and make available to e.g. light curve modellers (+static op. for e.g. Stellar evol. models)
 - Finish atomic NLTE data - also PI/RR + CE
 - Find a way to get all this data into SUMO and work towards NLTE spectral modelling
 - (+1D->3D modelling, and connect with hydro-models)
 - Improve atomic data - exp + theory

repeat