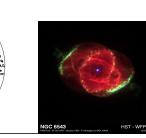


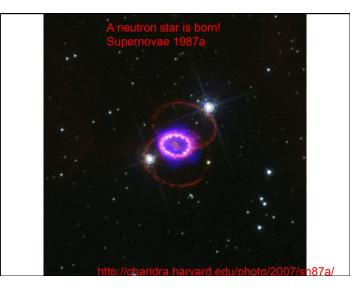


The elements that make up everything that we see around us were made by nuclear reactions and decays. These processes also produce the energy that makes the stars shine, including the nearest star, our sun. We depend on this energy for our very







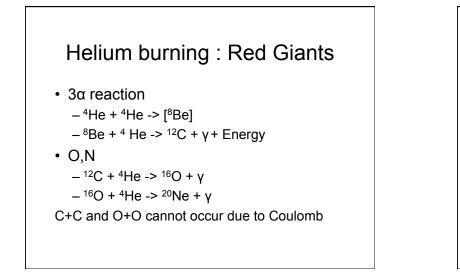


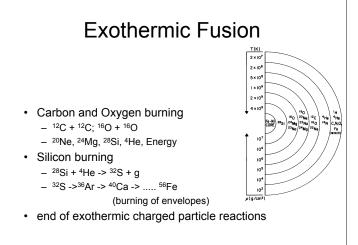
Stellar nucleosynthesis

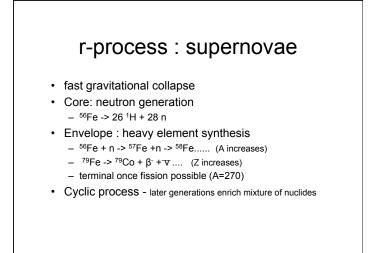
- · expansion and cooling from big bang
- local inhomogeneities in expansion -> galaxy formation
- within these regions condensation can occur
- subsequent heating provides environment for star formation

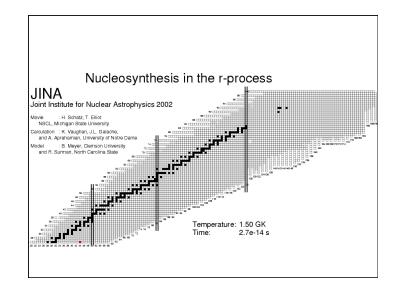
Element formation in stars like our sun

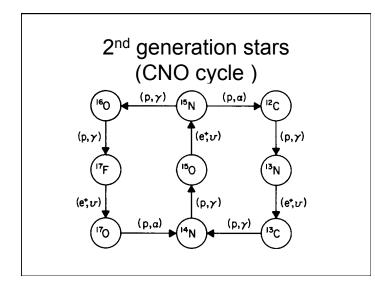
- Proton gas
 - gravitation attraction
 - electrostatic repulsion
- Hydrogen burning
 - ¹H + ¹H -> ²H + β^+ + ν
 - ²H + ¹H -> ³He
 - ³He + ³He -> ⁴He + 2 ¹H
- Quasi-Equilibration
 (Coulomb prevent He from burning)





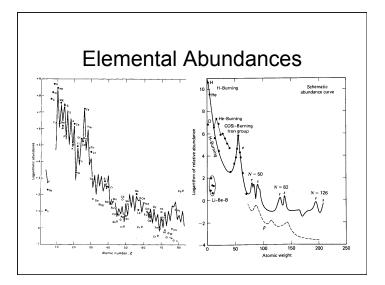






2nd generation Red Giants (s-process)

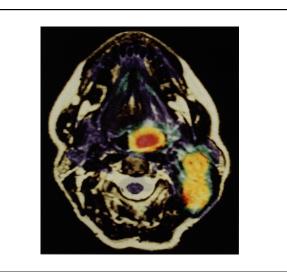
- slow neutron generation
 - ¹⁷O + ⁴He ->²⁰Ne + n
 - $-\,{}^{\scriptscriptstyle 13}C(\alpha,n)$, ${}^{\scriptscriptstyle 21}Ne(\alpha,n)$
- Beta decay occurs at 1st unstable nucleus - not the n drip line
- Termination at ²⁰⁹Bi

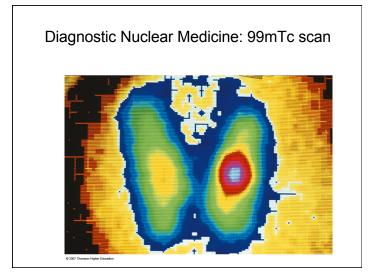


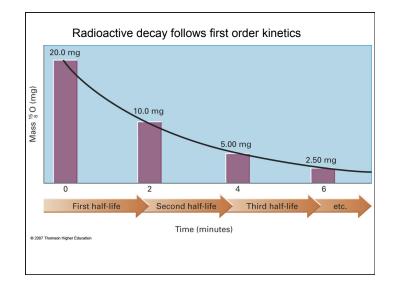
Diagnostic Nuclear Medicine: Positron Emission Tomography

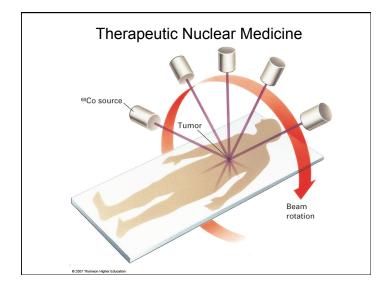
"PET works by measuring gamma rays emitted by radioactive tracers attached to substances such as blood or glucose as they move through the target organ" *Science, vol 249*

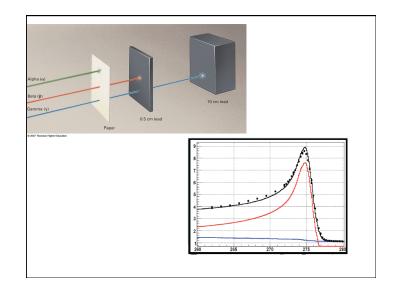
- inject/ingest molecule with beta⁺ unstable nucleus into the body
- ◆ molecule travels through biological pathways
- positron (β^+) is emitted
- ◆ positron meets electron => annhilation
- ◆ 511KeV gamma rays produced (180°)
- detect gammas to pinpoint where molecule was in body

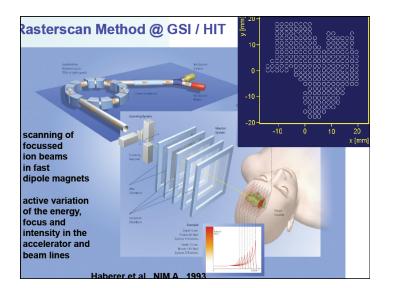


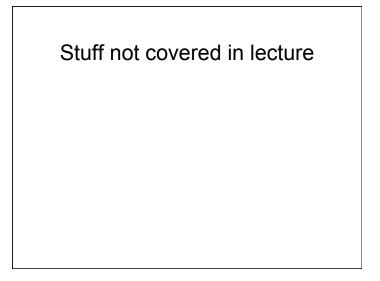






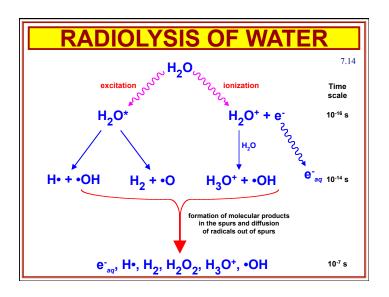








- Produce free radicals.
- Break chemical bonds.
- Produce new chemical bonds and cross-linkage between macromolecules.
- Damage molecules that regulate vital cell processes (e.g. DNA, RNA, proteins).



Natural Background Radiation

- Natural Radioactivity in the Body - tritium (H-3), carbon-14 (C-14), and potassium-40 (K-40)
- Cosmic Radiation
 - extremely energetic particles, primarily protons, which originate in the sun and other stars
- Radioactivity in the Earth - uranium and thorium and their decay products

Radiation Doses to the U.S. **Population**

Average annual whole body dose (millirem/year) Natural: Cosmic 29 20 Torrostrial

renestrai	
Radon	
Internal (K-40, C-14, etc.)	
Manmade: Diagnostic x-ray	39
Nuclear Medicine	14
Consumer Products	11
All others (fallout, air travel, occupational, etc.) 2	
Average annual total	360
Tobacco (if you smoke, add ~280 millirem)	

Average doses from some common activities

Activity

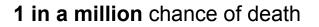
Typical Dose

Smoking Dental x-ray Chest x-ray Drinking water Cross country round trip by air Coal Burning power plant 0.165 millirem/year

280 millirem/year 10 millirem per x-ray 8 millirem per x-ray 5 millirem/year 5 millirem per trip

Putting Risk into Perspective

Health Risk	Estimated Life	Expectancy Lost
Smoking 20 cigar	ettes a day	6 years
Overweight by 15	5% 2 <u>y</u>	/ears
Alcohol (US avera	age)	1 year
all accidents		207 days
All natural hazard	s	7 days
Occupational dos	e of 300 mrem/yea	r 15 days



- Smoking 1.4 cigarettes in a lifetime (lung cancer)
- Eating 40 tablespoons of peanut butter (aflatoxin)
- Spending two days in New York City (air pollution)
- Driving 40 miles in a car (accident)
- Flying 2500 miles in a jet (accident)
- Canoeing for 6 minutes (drowning)
- Receiving a dose of 10 mrem of radiation (cancer)