





# Stark broadening of B I spectral lines

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### The origin of elements Arno Penzias Nobel Lecture, 8 December 1978





### International Year of Periodic Table of Mendeleev 150 years celebration

### **Stable Mass Gaps in the Periodic Table**



Galaxies and Cosmology by S. George Djorgovski

- The light elements are of great interest for two sets of reasons: cosmological and related to stellar structure.
- The light element trio LiBeB at the centre of the astrophysical puzzles in the whole nuclear realm, they are exceptional since they are both, simple and rare (the abundance of the elements versus the mass number draws a globally decreasing curve).
- Light element nucleosynthesis is an important chapter of nuclear astrophysics:
  - LiBeB are not generated in the normal course of stellar nucleosynthesis (except <sup>7</sup>Li, in the galactic disk). The standard BBN ineffective in generating <sup>7</sup>Li, <sup>9</sup>Be, <sup>10</sup>B, <sup>11</sup>B
     low abundance.
    - > In fact, destroyed in stellar interiors.

#### > Formation agents:

- ➤ Galactic Cosmic rays interacting with interstellar CNO nuclei
- $\succ$  <sup>7</sup>Li neutrino spallation in helium shells of core collapse supernovae
- > <sup>11</sup>B neutrino spallation in carbon shells of core collapse supernovae

uncertain mechanism, depending strongly on the neutrino energy distribution

- Optical and UV measurements of Be and B abundances in halo stars (KECK telescope and Hubble space telescope)
- ⇒ strong constrains on the origin and evolution of light isotopes:
  - Quasilinear correlation between Be and B versus Fe. (A dominant GCR origin predict a quadratic relationship.)
  - > The local isotopic ratio, measured in meteorites:  $^{11}B/^{10}B = 4$
  - (the model gives  ${}^{11}B / {}^{10}B \approx 2,5$ ; neutrino spallation can increase the ratio but it does not produce  ${}^{9}Be$ )

#### Importance of light element abundance for the giant-branch evolution.

- Both Li and Be abundances are greatly reduced in the giants from their initial mainsequence values.
- HST measurements of B abundance have permitted a test of the basic predictions of stellar evolution theory: the growth of the convection zone as a star evolves up the giant branch.
- The real interstellar B abundance / stellar B abundance remains uncertain? (HST measurements of B abundance for young Orion solartype member BD-05°1317: lower B abundance, not similar to that of the solar system
- how the boron abundance of young stars has decreased by a factor of 4 - 5
  - Boron alone is observable in hot stars: measurements of present-day B abundance is will improve our understanding of the Galactic chemical evolution of boron.

- Boron abundance the clue to unravelling the nonstandard processes that affect young hot stars.
- Cool stars, metal-poor stars
- Diffuse interstellar clouds
- The light elements sensitive probes of stellar models, the stable isotopes of all three consist of nuclei with small binding energies that are destroyed easily by (p,  $\alpha$ ) reactions at modest temperatures.

Abundance determination – provide data on the astrophysical processes that can produce and destroy these rare elements.

The simplistic vision of origin and evolution of LiBeB complex array of possibilities due to the wealth of observational discoveries.



Conclusion from the literature:

- > The theory of the origin and evolution of light nuclei has to be reassessed.
- > Observation:
  - Measurements of <sup>6</sup>Li, <sup>7</sup>Li, <sup>9</sup>Be, <sup>10</sup>B, <sup>11</sup>B, O, Fe abundances in stars of both populations (pop I and pop II) for a better understanding of the relative contribution of the various mechanisms.
  - Future X-ray and gamma-ray line observations ? existence of low-energy nuclei, able to generate LiBeB in a primary mode, if yes – determine their energy spectrum?

### Astrophysical plasma research





White dwarf stars in the Milky Way Galaxy

# Faint white dwarf star in globular cluster ngc 6397

### Astrophysical plasma research

Interpretation of the spectra of white dwarfs allows understanding the evolution of these very old stars

Cosmochronometry - studying stellar evolution to determine the age and history of stellar populations.

## STARK broadening theory

Sahal-Bréchot theory based on the semi-classical perturbation formalism

Calculation of Stark parameters using:

- atomic data from TOPbase catalogue

- calculated oscillator strengths using Bates & Damgaart method and experimental values of energy levels from the reference of Kramida at all.



Stark broadening width B I 2s<sup>2</sup>2p – 2s<sup>2</sup>3s from different type of perturbers: electrons – blue; protons – red; ionized helium ions – grey. Electron-impact width calculated by Griem (in yellow) and measured by Djeniže (black square) Stark width are added. Electron density is 10<sup>16</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup>.



Stark broadening shift for multiplet B I 2p - 3s (2498.2 Å) versus temperature from different type of perturbers: electrons – blue; protons – red; ionized helium ions – grey. Electron-impact shift calculated by Griem (in yellow) is added. Electron density is 10<sup>16</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup>.



Electron-impact width for multiplets of B I 2p - ns series versus temperature: 3s – blue; 4s – red; 5s – grey; 6s – yellow. Electron density is 10<sup>16</sup> cm<sup>-3</sup>.



Electron-impact shift for multiplets of B I 2p - ns series versus temperature: 3s - blue; 4s - red; 5s - grey; 6s - yellow. Electron density is  $10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ .

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### Thank You

