X-ray Bursts: Thermonuclear Reactions on the Surface of Neutron Star

Kyujin Kwak

Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology APCTP Dense Matter Workshop @Pohang December 9, 2016

Outline

- Introduction to X-ray Bursts
 Observation and Theory
- Numerical Models with Stellar Evolution Code
- Nuclear Physics for XRBs
 - Reaction Network of Rapid Proton Process
 - Experiment with Rare Isotope Beam
- Summary

LMXBs vs HMXBs

Properties	LMXBs	HMXBs
Accreting object	Low B-field NS or BH	High B-field NS or BH
Companion	Low-mass main sequence	High-mass (O or B type) main sequence
	$(L_{opt}/L_x \ll 0.1)$	$(L_{opt}/L_x > 1)$
Stellar population	$Old(> 10^9 \text{ yr})$	$Young(< 10^7 yr)$
Mechanism	Roche-lobe overflow	Stellar wind
Accretion timescale	$10^7 - 10^9 { m yr}$	$10^5 { m yr}$
Variability	X-ray bursts, Transient behavior	Regular X-ray pulsation
X-ray spectra	Soft ($\leq 10 \text{ keV}$)	Hard ($\geq 15 \text{ keV}$)

Table 1: Summary of LMXBs and HMXBs (Rosswog et al. 2011)

Where do we find them and what is the mechanism of X-ray Bursts?

 Low-Mass X-ray Binaries(LMXBs)

Accreting H and/or He from companion stars

Thermonuclear explosion (X-ray)

Can be observable near the neutron star surface





What are the characteristic of Type I X-ray bursts?

- Occurs on the neutron star surface in LMXBs by nuclear ignition (unstable H or He)
- Energy range ~ 10keV (soft X-ray)
- Maximum luminosity ~ 10³⁸erg/s (Eddington limit)
- recurrence time ~ hours to days
- X-ray softening during decay
- regular or irregular bursts recurrence



number of Type I X-ray bursters ~ 84(2007) (of ~160 LMXBs), 2/3 located in the Galactic Bulge 1636-536

Lightcurve of XRBs



Galloway et al. 2008, ApJS APCTP Dense Matter Workshop

X-ray Bursts

• Accretion onto the surface of neutron star: high or low mass X-ray binaries



APCTP Dens From Schatz's Presentation

7

Nuclear Reactions for Type I X-ray Bursts

- Hydrogen burning by CNO-cycle
- 3-alpha reaction
- alpha-p reaction
- p-gamma reaction
- weak interactions
- $e^- + {}^A Z \to {}^A (Z-1) + \nu_e,$

 $^{A}Z \rightarrow ^{A}(Z-1) + e^{+} + \nu_{e},$





CNO-I Cycle

$$3\alpha \rightarrow {}^{12}\text{C} (p, \gamma) {}^{13}\text{N} (p, \gamma) {}^{14}\text{O} (\alpha, p) {}^{17}\text{F}(p, \gamma)$$

$${}^{18}\text{Ne} (\alpha, p) {}^{21}\text{Na} (p, \gamma) {}^{22}\text{Mg} (\alpha, p) {}^{25}\text{Al}...$$

Thermonuclear burning during X-ray burst – STEP 1: one zone model

Schatz et al. 2001 Phys. Rev. Lett. 68 (2001) 3471



From Schatz's Presentation

Waiting Points Nuclei

TABLE 1

PROTON SEPARATION ENERGIES OF ISOTONES NEAR THE LONG-LIVED WAITING POINT NUCLEI ⁶⁴GE, ⁶⁸SE, ⁷²KR, AND ⁷⁶SR

Nucleus	Sp ^a (MeV)	Uncertainty (keV)
⁶⁵ As	-0.43	290
⁶⁶ Se	2.43	180
⁶⁹ Br	-0.73	320
⁷⁰ Kr	2.14	190
⁷³ Rb	-0.55	320
⁷⁴ Sr	1.69	210
⁷⁷ Y	-0.23	Unknown
⁷⁸ Zr	1.28	Unknown

^a Taken from the compilation of Brown et al. 2002, except for the proton separation energies of ⁷⁷Y and ⁷⁸Zr, which were taken from the unpublished calculations of A. Brown 2002 (private communication).

Woosleyeetvalle, v2004, ApJS

Numerical Simulations of XRBs

- 1D model with spherical coordinates
- Modify 1D stellar evolution code
 - Hydro-dynamic/static conditions with nuclear reactions and energy transport via radiation and convection
 - Model parameters: accretion rates and composition of accreted material
 - Envelope of neutron star surface, e.g., crust and pycno-reaction at crust

Equations for Stellar Evolution

Basic equations to calculate stellar structure(Using Lagrangian coordinates)
1.
$$\frac{dP(M)}{dM} = -\frac{GM}{4\pi r^4(M)}$$
 Hydrostatic equilibrium equation
2. $\frac{dL(M)}{dM} = \varepsilon - T \frac{dS}{dt}$ Thermal energy conservation equation
3. $\frac{dT}{dM} = -\frac{3kL}{4acT^3 16\pi^2 r^4}$ Energy transfer equation for radiative equilibrium condition
4. $\frac{dT}{dM} = \frac{\Gamma_2 - 1}{\Gamma_2} \frac{T}{P} \frac{dP}{dM}$ Energy transfer equation for convective condition

To calculate the composition of a star, we need to solve general composition change equation $5 \cdot \left[\frac{\partial N(A,Z)}{\partial t}\right]_{nuclear \ reaction} = r_{generation}(A,Z) - r_{annihilation}(A,Z)$ This equation should include all related isotopes. So it is generally represented by a matrix form.

Numerical Simulations of XRBs



Network of Nuclear Reactions

- Various websites linked from 'nucastrodata.org' (e.g., JINA REACLIB)
- Experiments and Theoretical Calculations
- Which reaction network to use?
- Any opportunity to improve the current reaction rates?
- If so, how does a new reaction rate affect the astrophysical phenomena?

Nuclear Reactions for Type I X-ray Bursts

- Rates are available from experiments, shellmodel calculations, and statistical model (e.g., Hauser-Feshbach calculations such as NON-SMOKER)
- Little experimental information for the proton-rich nuclei
- Shell-model calculations can provide experimentally undetermined p-gamma rates for A=44-63

1D Multi-Zone Model

- Woosley et al., 2004, ApJS
 - Nuclear reaction networks of ~1300 isotopes

Model	Z (Z_{\odot})	Acc. Rate $(10^{-10} M_{\odot} \text{ yr})$	Number of Bursts
zm	0.05	3.5	4
zM	0.05	17.5	15
Zm	1	3.5	7
ZM	1	17.5	12

TABLE 2

SUMMARY OF MODEL PROPERTIES



1st Burst of zM



Composition of 1st Burst of zM



Composition of 1st Burst of zM



Composition of 1st Burst of zM



Effects of Reaction Rates on the Shape of the Light Curve

- Triple alpha
- Two reactions for HCNO break-out

 $^{18}\mathrm{Ne}(\alpha,p)^{21}\mathrm{Na}$

 $^{15}\mathrm{O}(\alpha,\gamma)^{19}\mathrm{Ne}_{\odot}$

HCNO Cycle

 ${}^{12}_{6}C + {}^{1}_{1}H \rightarrow {}^{13}_{7}N + \gamma + 1.95 \text{ MeV}$ $^{13}_{7}N \rightarrow ^{13}_{6}C + e^+ + v_e + 1.20 \text{ MeV} \text{ (half-life of 9.965 minutes}^{[7]}\text{)}$ ${}^{13}_{e}C + {}^{1}_{1}H \rightarrow {}^{14}_{7}N + \gamma + 7.54 \text{ MeV}$ CNO-I ${}^{14}_{7}N + {}^{1}_{1}H \rightarrow {}^{15}_{8}O + \gamma + 7.35 \text{ MeV}$ $^{15}_{8}O \rightarrow ^{15}_{7}N + e^{+} + v_{e} + 1.73 \text{ MeV} \text{ (half-life of 122.24 seconds}^{[7]}\text{)}$ ¹⁵N + $^{1}H \rightarrow ^{12}_{a}C + ^{4}_{2}He + 4.96 \text{ MeV}$ ${}^{12}_{6}C + {}^{1}_{1}H \rightarrow {}^{13}_{7}N + \gamma + 1.95 \text{ MeV}$ ${}^{13}_{7}N + {}^{1}_{1}H \rightarrow {}^{14}_{8}O + \gamma + 4.63 \text{ MeV}$ HCNO-I $\begin{array}{c} 1^{4}_{8}O \\ 1^{4}_{7}N + 1^{1}_{1}H \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} 1^{4}_{7}N + e^{+} \\ 1^{5}_{8}O + \gamma \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} v_{e} + 5.14 \text{ MeV (half-life of 70.641 seconds)} \\ + 7.35 \text{ MeV} \end{array}$ $^{15}_{8}O \rightarrow ^{15}_{7}N + e^{+} + v_{e} + 2.75 \text{ MeV} \text{ (half-life of 122.24 seconds)}$ ${}^{15}_{7}N + {}^{1}_{1}H \rightarrow {}^{12}_{8}C + {}^{4}_{2}He + 4.96 \text{ MeV}$

HCNO-II

CNO-II

Triple Alpha I



Triple Alpha II

Peak Matched



Effect of Number of Isotopes



 $^{18}\mathrm{Ne}(\alpha,p)^{21}\mathrm{Na}$



Peak Matched



 $^{15}\mathrm{O}(\alpha,\gamma)^{19}\mathrm{Ne}_{2}$





Experiments

Example: resonant elastic scattering of ²¹Na+p to obtain the ²²Mg structure, which is related to ¹⁸Ne(α,p)²¹Na and ¹⁸Ne(α,γ)²²Mg (He + 2013, PRC)



Astrophysical Inputs



Structure of ²²Mg



From National Nuclear Data Center

Current Experiments @CRIB/CNS, RIKEN

Experimental Setup



- two dipoles and a Wien filter for beam selection
- a pair of PPACs for beam particle tracking
- large reaction target chamber filled with ~470 Torr of ⁴He gas (thick target)
- two Δ E-E telescopes to identify scattered α particles

Courtesy of Prof. Chae @SKKU APCTP Dense Matter Workshop

R-matrix Calculation with Nuclear Structure



HCNO Cycle

 ${}^{12}_{6}C + {}^{1}_{1}H \rightarrow {}^{13}_{7}N + \gamma + 1.95 \text{ MeV}$ $^{13}_{7}N \rightarrow ^{13}_{6}C + e^+ + v_e + 1.20 \text{ MeV} \text{ (half-life of 9.965 minutes}^{[7]}\text{)}$ ${}^{13}_{e}C + {}^{1}_{1}H \rightarrow {}^{14}_{7}N + \gamma + 7.54 \text{ MeV}$ CNO-I ${}^{14}_{7}N + {}^{1}_{1}H \rightarrow {}^{15}_{8}O + \gamma + 7.35 \text{ MeV}$ $^{15}_{8}O \rightarrow ^{15}_{7}N + e^{+} + v_{e} + 1.73 \text{ MeV} \text{ (half-life of 122.24 seconds}^{[7]}\text{)}$ ¹⁵N + ¹H → ¹²_eC + ⁴₂He + 4.96 MeV ${}^{12}_{6}C + {}^{1}_{1}H \rightarrow {}^{13}_{7}N + \gamma + 1.95 \text{ MeV}$ ${}^{13}_{7}N + {}^{1}_{1}H \rightarrow {}^{14}_{8}O + \gamma + 4.63 \text{ MeV}$ HCNO-I $\begin{array}{c} 1^{4}_{8}O \\ 1^{4}_{7}N + 1^{1}_{1}H \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{c} 1^{4}_{7}N + e^{+} \\ 1^{5}_{8}O + \gamma \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} v_{e} + 5.14 \text{ MeV (half-life of 70.641 seconds)} \\ + 7.35 \text{ MeV} \end{array}$ $^{15}_{8}O \rightarrow ^{15}_{7}N + e^{+} + v_{e} + 2.75 \text{ MeV} \text{ (half-life of 122.24 seconds)}$ ${}^{15}_{7}N + {}^{1}_{1}H \rightarrow {}^{12}_{8}C + {}^{4}_{2}He + 4.96 \text{ MeV}$

HCNO-II

CNO-II

RAON



KOBRA @RAON



Courtesycof Drse Waker Kwwom @ RISP

Experiments @KOBRA/RAON

Expected RIBs at RAON



RAON will provide access to unexplored regions of the nuclear chart

Courtesypofp Densy MktteKworkt@RISP

Collaborative Efforts in Korea

- Effects of two reaction rates, 18Ne(a,p)21Na and 15O(a,g)18Ne, on the light curve of XRB are currently under investigation.
- These two are break-out reactions of hot CNO cycle.
- They are now being measured experimentally by Korean group @SKKU and EWU.
- Experimental simulations are being prepared now by theory group at RISP.

Photospheric Radial Expansion (PRE) XRBs

M-R Relations of NS



Photospheric Radius Expansion

- In bright bursts, the luminosity L can reach the Eddington limit L_{Edd}
 - Pradiation >> Pgravitation
 - Photospheric layers are lifted off
- During PRE the luminosity is nearly constant(near L_{Edd})
- About 20% shows the evidence of PRE bursts (Galloway et al. 2008)



Expansion stage



'touchdown' stage

PRE or non PRE X-ray burst in 4U 1728-34

PRE (burst ID:86)

non-PRE (burst ID:104)



Guver et al, 2012

Method to determine Mass and Radius I



Method to determine Mass and Radius II

Quantities	EXO 1756–248	4U 1608–522	4U 1820–30	4U 1746–37	EXO 0748-676
D	6.3 ± 0.6	5.8 ± 2.0	8.2 ± 0.7	11.05 ± 0.85	7.1± 1.2
Α	1.17 ± 0.13	3.246 ± 0.024	0.9198 ± 0.0186	0.109 ± 0.044	1.14 ± 0.10
$F_{\mathrm{TD},\infty}$	6.25 ± 0.2	15.41 ± 0.65	5.39 ± 0.12	0.269 ± 0.057	2.25 ± 0.23

D (kpc): distance A (km² kpc⁻²): normalised surface area F_{TD} (10⁻⁸ erg cm⁻² s⁻¹): touchdown flux

- Previous Gaussian distribution of F_{TD}, A, and D (observation) uniform distribution of f_c and x (theoritical)
 f_c(=T_{bb}/T_{eff}): 1.3 -1.4,
 x: 0.0 0.7
- Our work x dependence (0.1, 0.3, 0.7)

M-R probability distribution I uniform distribution



- mass increases and radius decreases as x increases
- mass (M/M⊙) : 1.24 1.57
 radius (km) : 8.29 10.38

1D Radiation Hydrodynamic Simulations with SNEC

Summary

- XRB is a good example of nuclear astrophysics that requires all of observation, theory, and experiment.
- Both theoretical and experimental efforts from nuclear physics are essential.
- RAON and other rare isotope accelerators play an important role in understanding XRBs.
- Close collaboration across many interdisciplinary fields is also essential.

Physics Dept. @UNIST since 2014

Plasma Physics Beam Physics

- Fusion and astrophysical plasmas
- Beam physics
- Advanced accelerators

Soft Matter Physics Biological Physics

- Soft matter Physics
- Complex systems
- Biological physics

Condensed Matter Physics Quantum Physics

- Condensed matter physics
- Quantum materials & devices
- Quantum optics & information



고에너지 천체물리 연구센터

Center for High Energy Astrophysics (CHEA)

□ 센터소개

고에너지 천체물리학은 열적(thermal)·비열적(nonthermal) 고에너지 입자들이 방출하는 전파, X-선, 감마선 등 전자기파와 중성미자, 중력파 등의 관측에 기반을 두어, 이와 관련된 천문학 현상의 물리 기작을 연구하는 분야이다. 본 센터에는 이론·시뮬레이션을 중심으로 하는 천체물리를 천문 관측 및 실험 천체물리(laboratory astrophysics)와 결합하여, 은하단(clusters of galaxies)과 밀집천체 (compact objects)에서 고에너지 천체물리 현상에 대한 연구를 수행한다. 이를 통해 고에너지 천체 물리 연구의 국내 거점을 마련하고, 세계 선도 연구 그룹으로 발전할 기반을 구축하는 한편, 이 분야 에서 세계적 수준의 미래 핵심 인력을 양성한다.

□ 센터목표



면: 물신 파먹기 물권 (UNIST) 연구책임자: 류동수