





# Nuclear Mass with Machine Learning and application to the astrophysical r-process

Speaker: Mengke Li (Clemson University)

03/18/2023

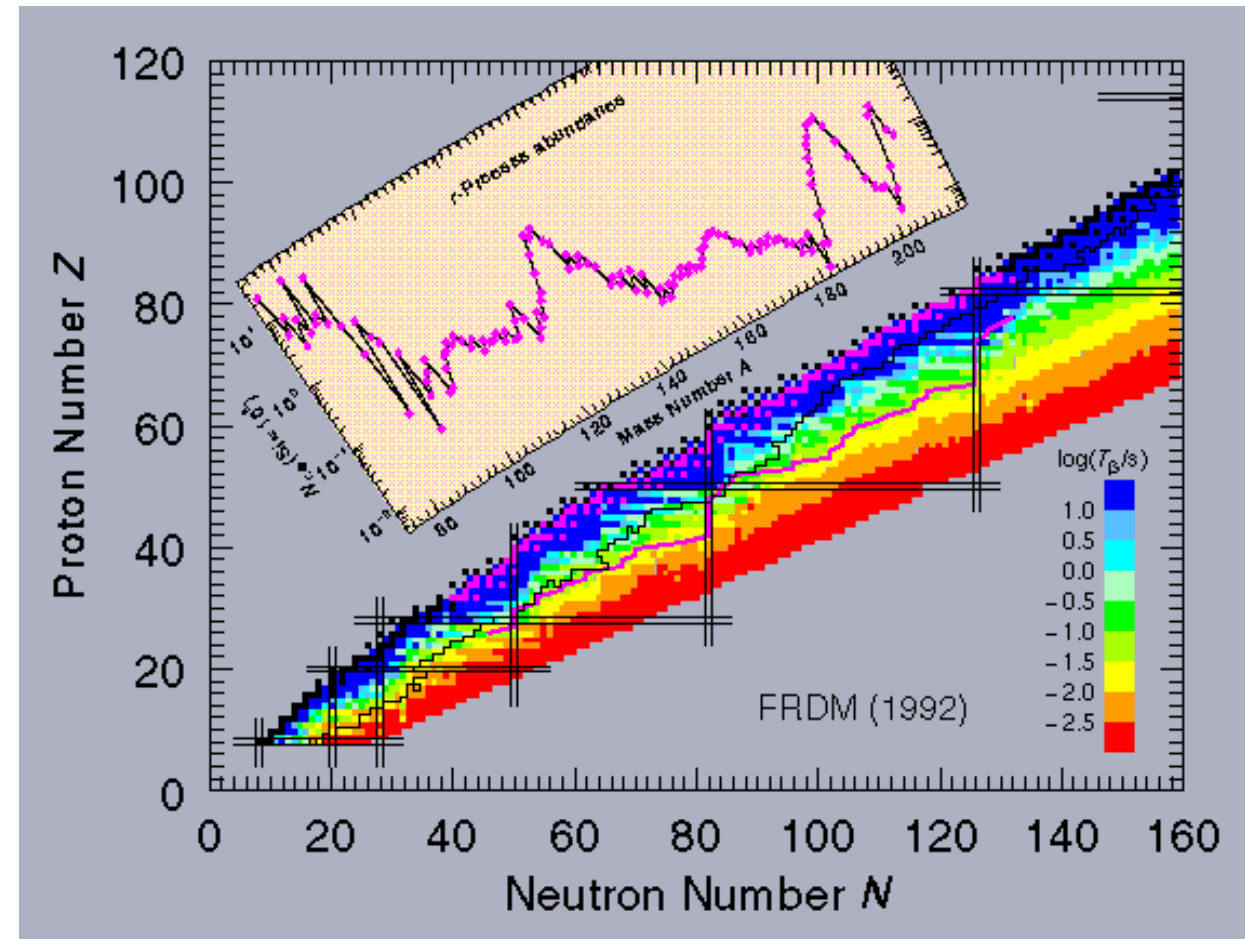
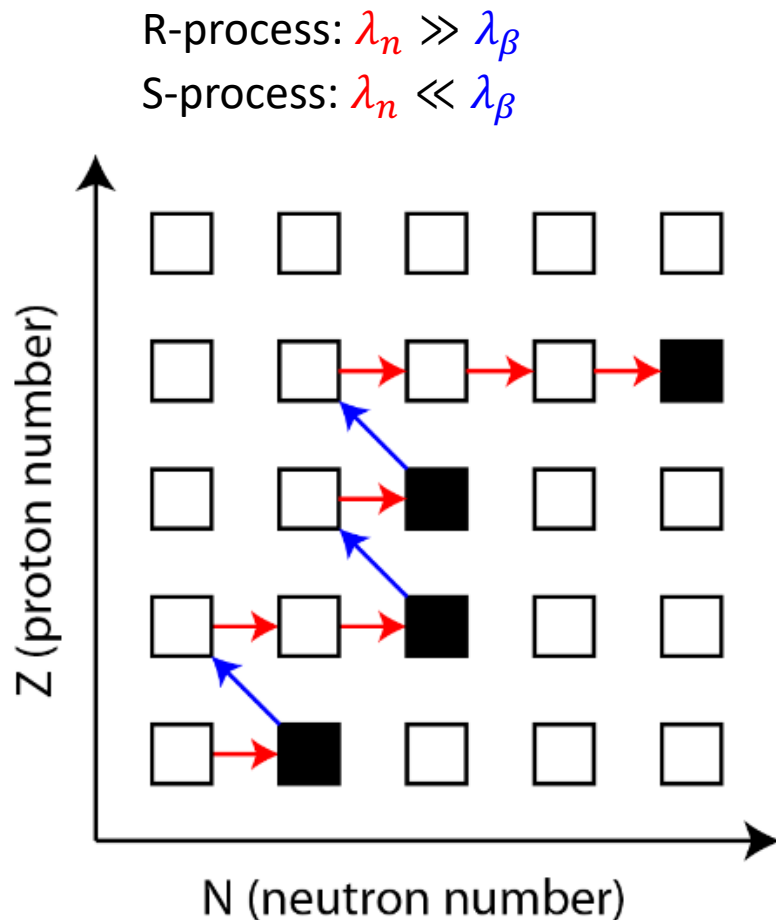
# Motivation

## GW170817

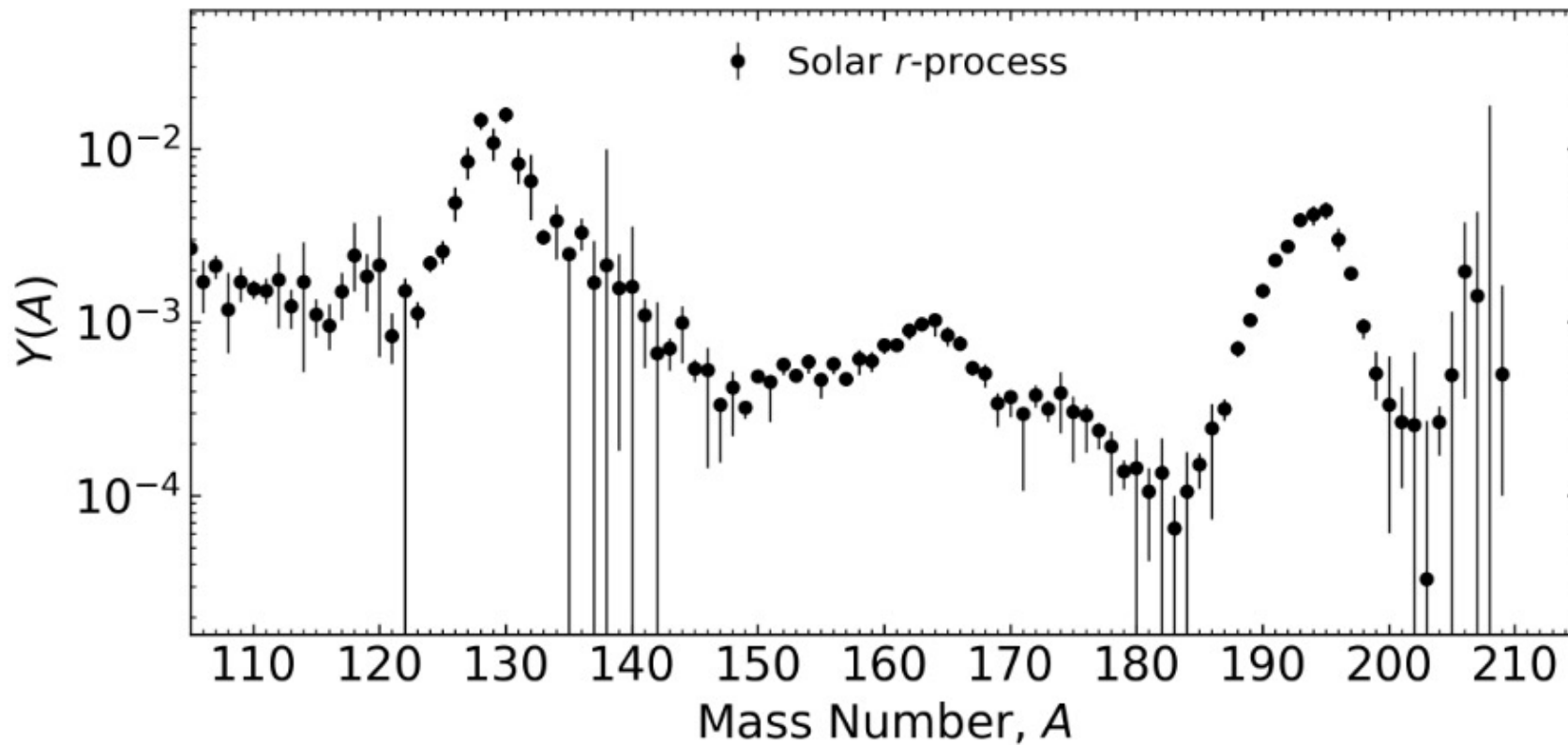
-  First detection of the gravitational wave from binary neutron star merger(NSM).
-  Confirms that NSM can produce heavy nuclei (heavier than Fe)
-  How this event produces heavy nuclei?
-  What's the abundance of those heavy nuclei?

# R-Process

R-process: **Rapid** neutron capture process → **heavy** nuclei



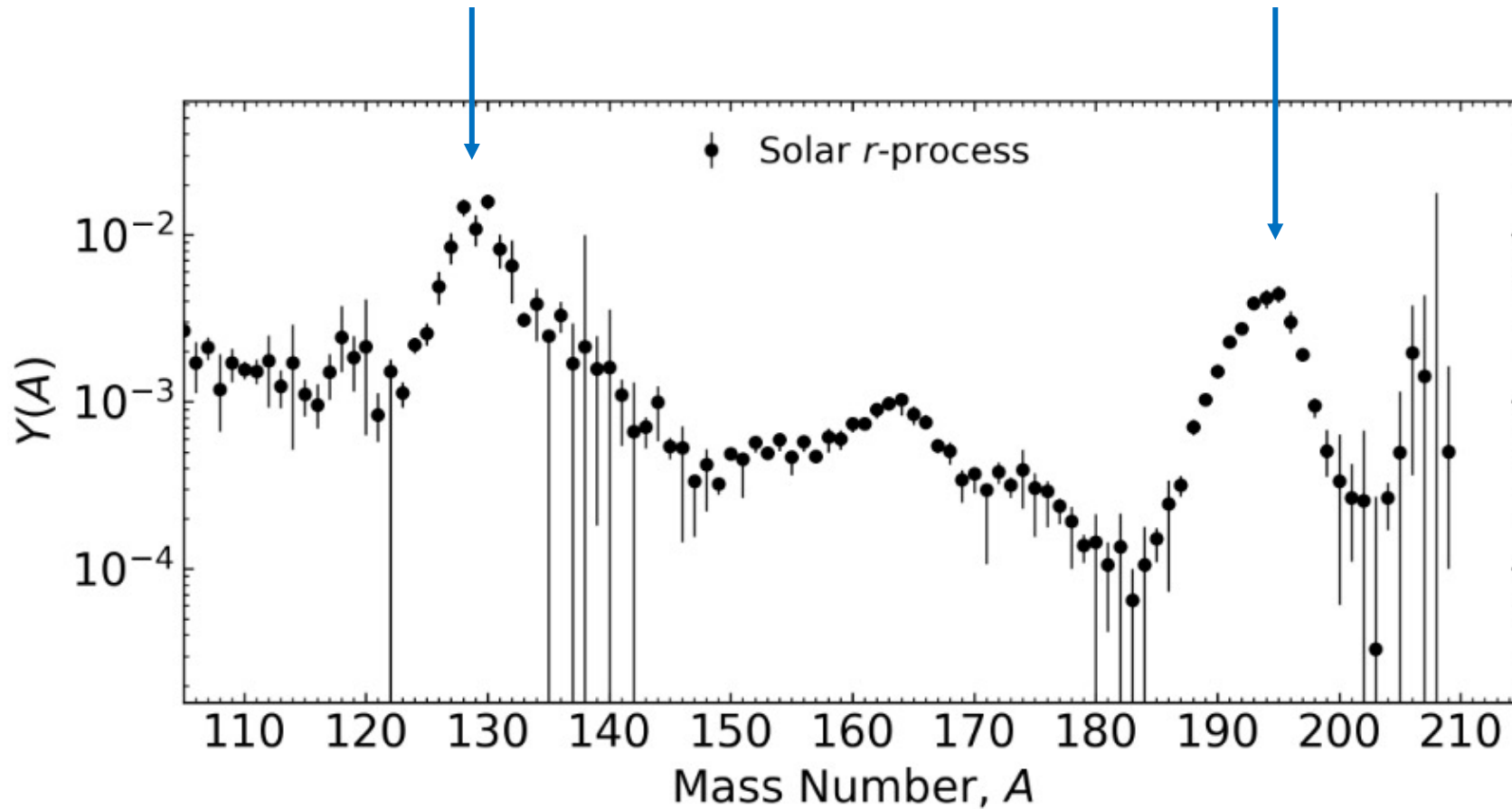
# R-Process



Observational information is from [meteorites](#) and [photospheric observations](#)

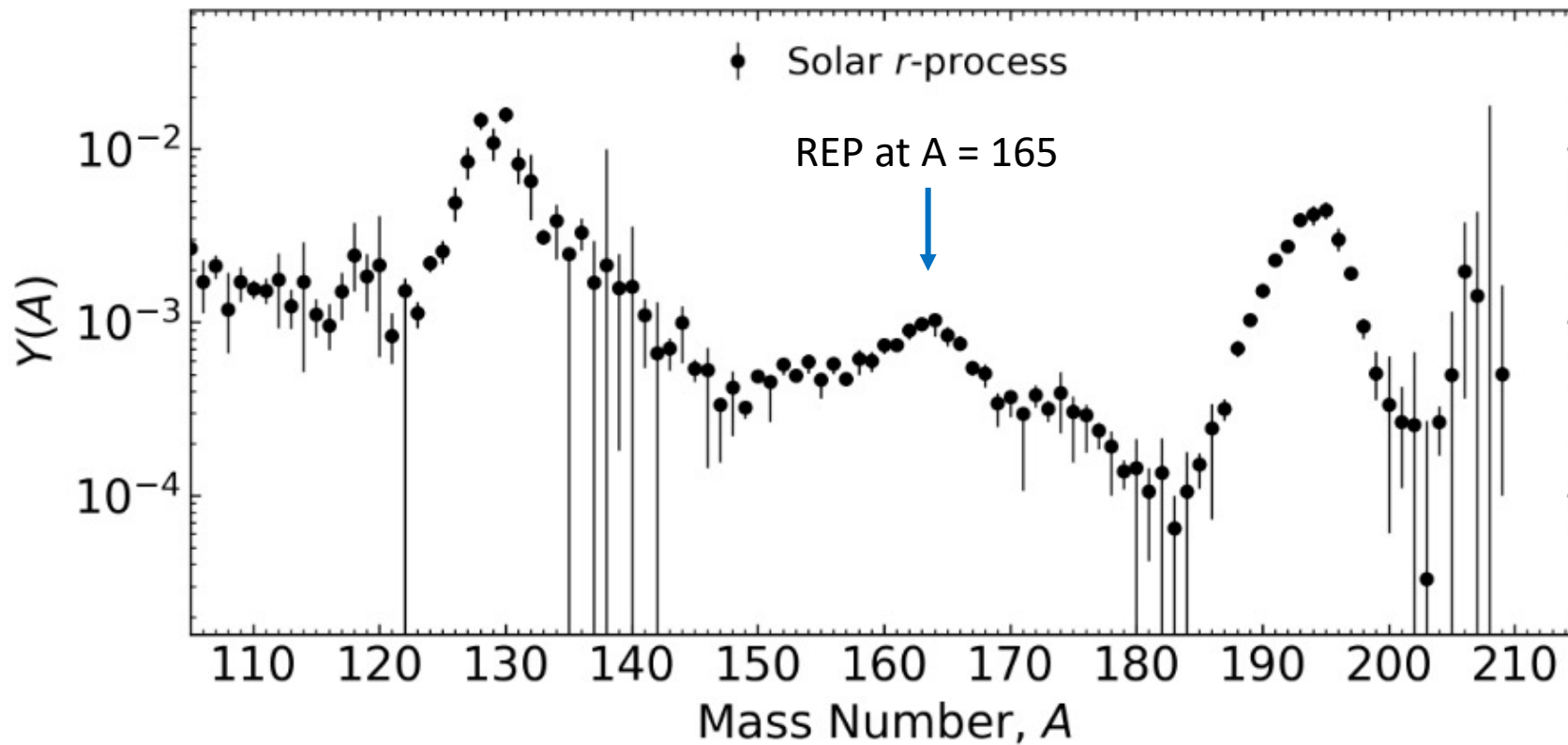
# R-Process

Second and Third Peaks at  $A = 130$  and  $195$



Observational information is from [meteorites](#) and [photospheric observations](#)

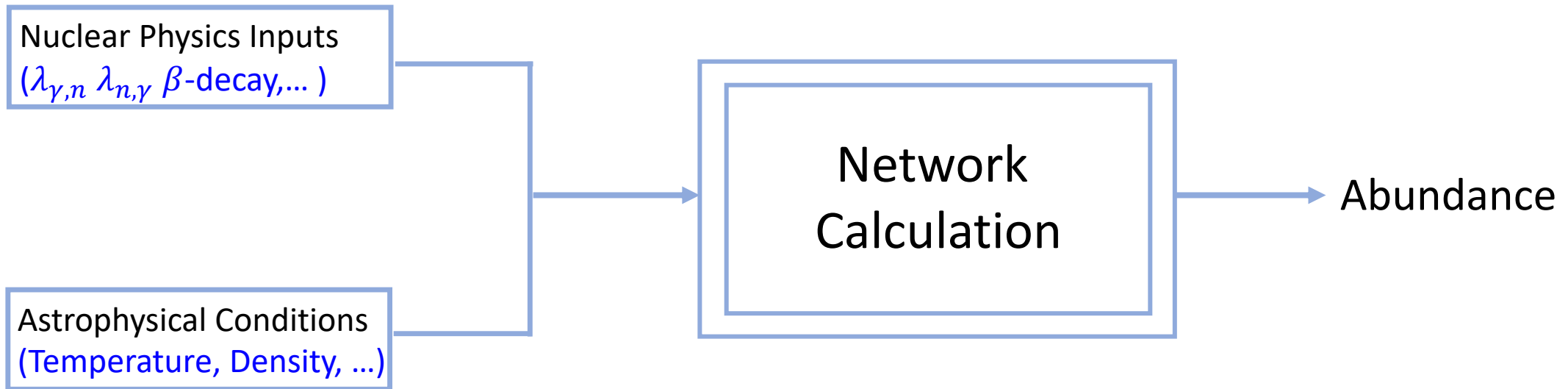
# R-Process



Observational information is from [meteorites](#) and [photospheric observations](#)

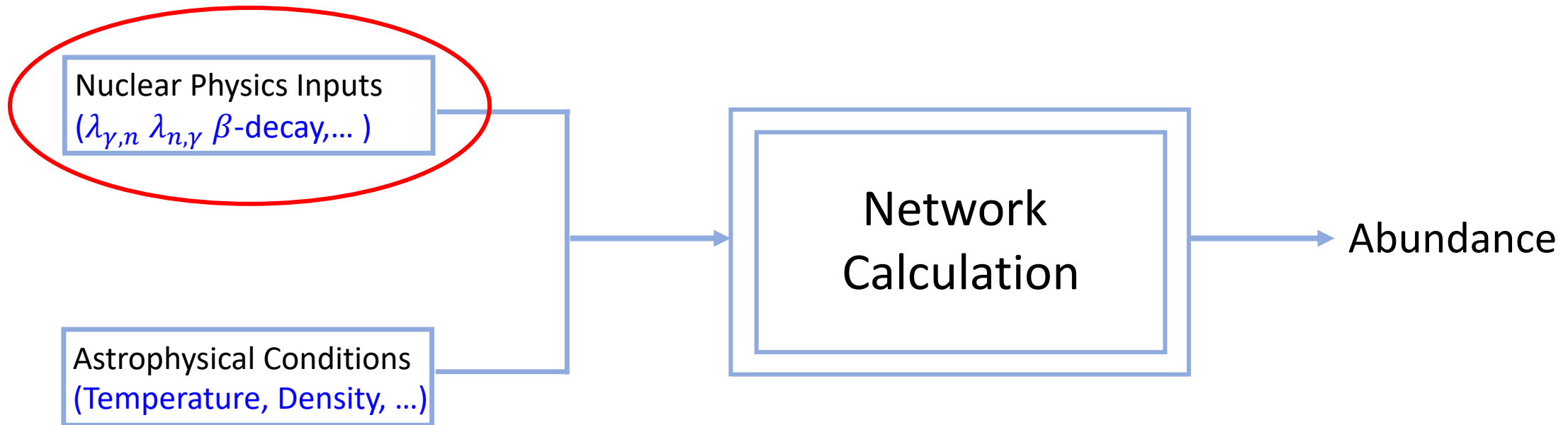
# R-Process

Combines nuclear physics inputs and astrophysical conditions



# R-Process

Combines nuclear physics inputs and astrophysical conditions





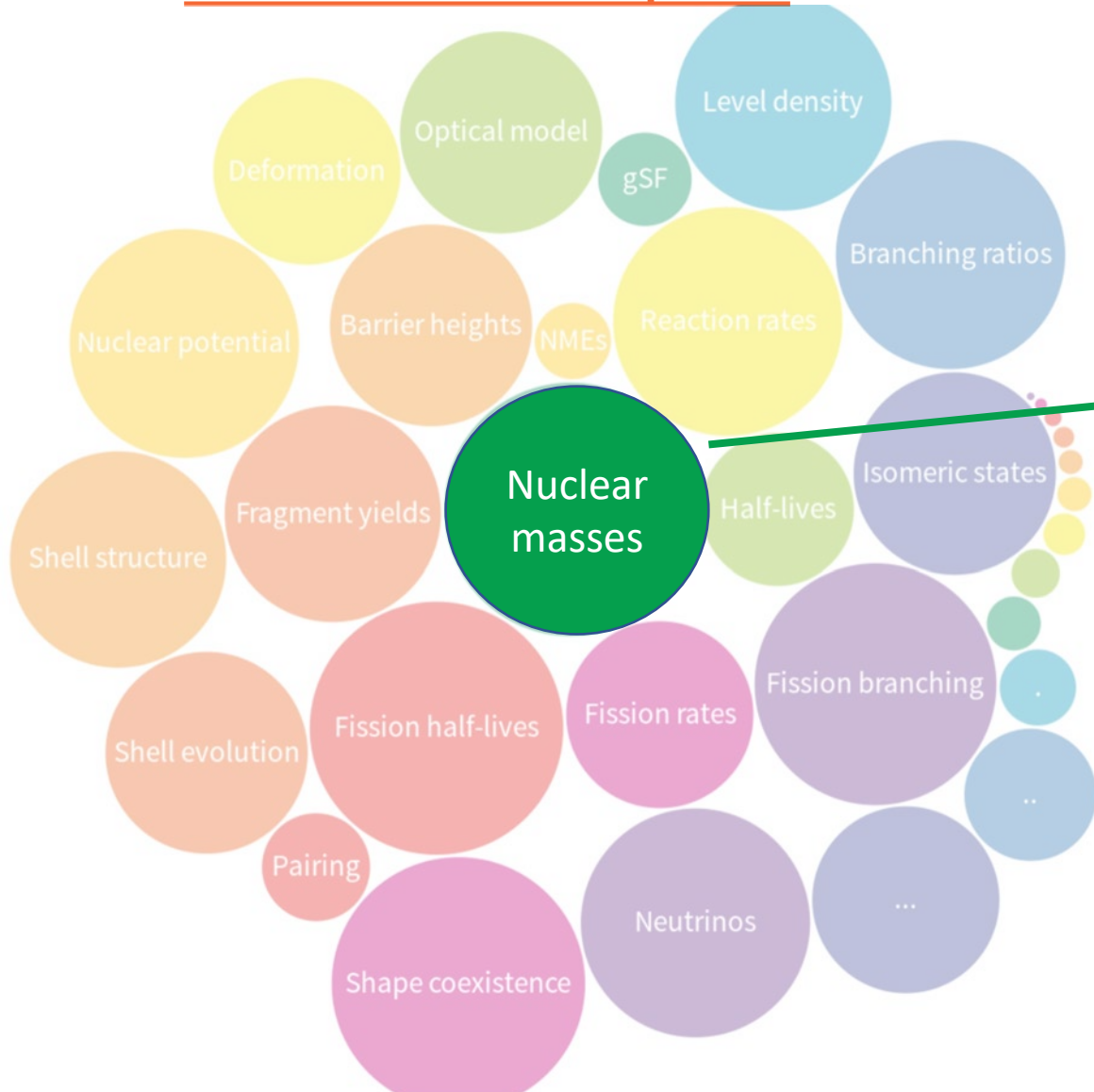
# Nuclear Input



# Nuclear Input

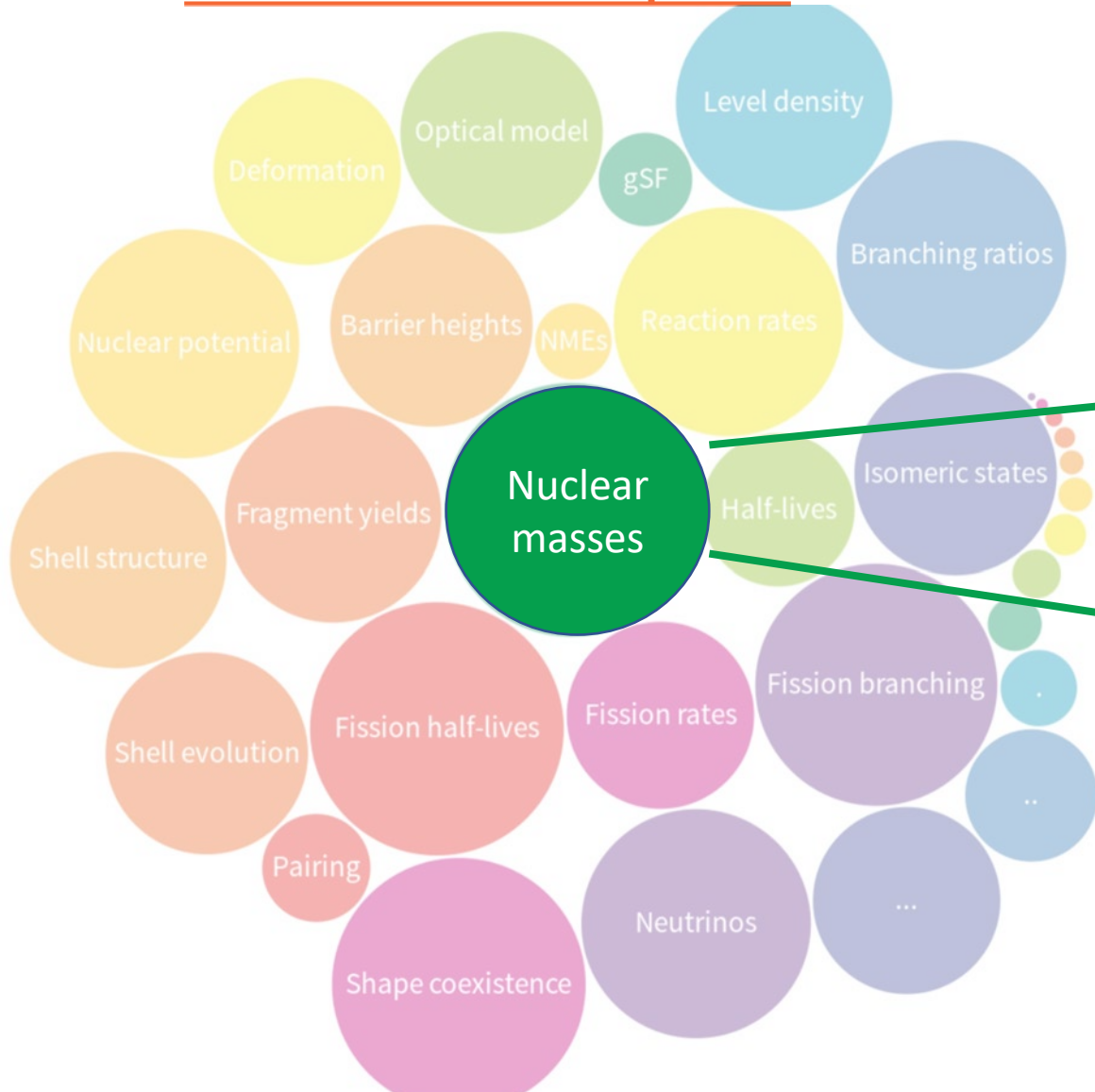


# Nuclear Input



➤ A critical input for structure and reaction theory calculations

# Nuclear Input



➤ A critical input for structure and reaction theory calculations

➤ Affect nearly all reactions in r-process

- Photodissociation
- Neutron capture
- Fission
- $\beta$ -decay
- ... ..

# Nuclear Input

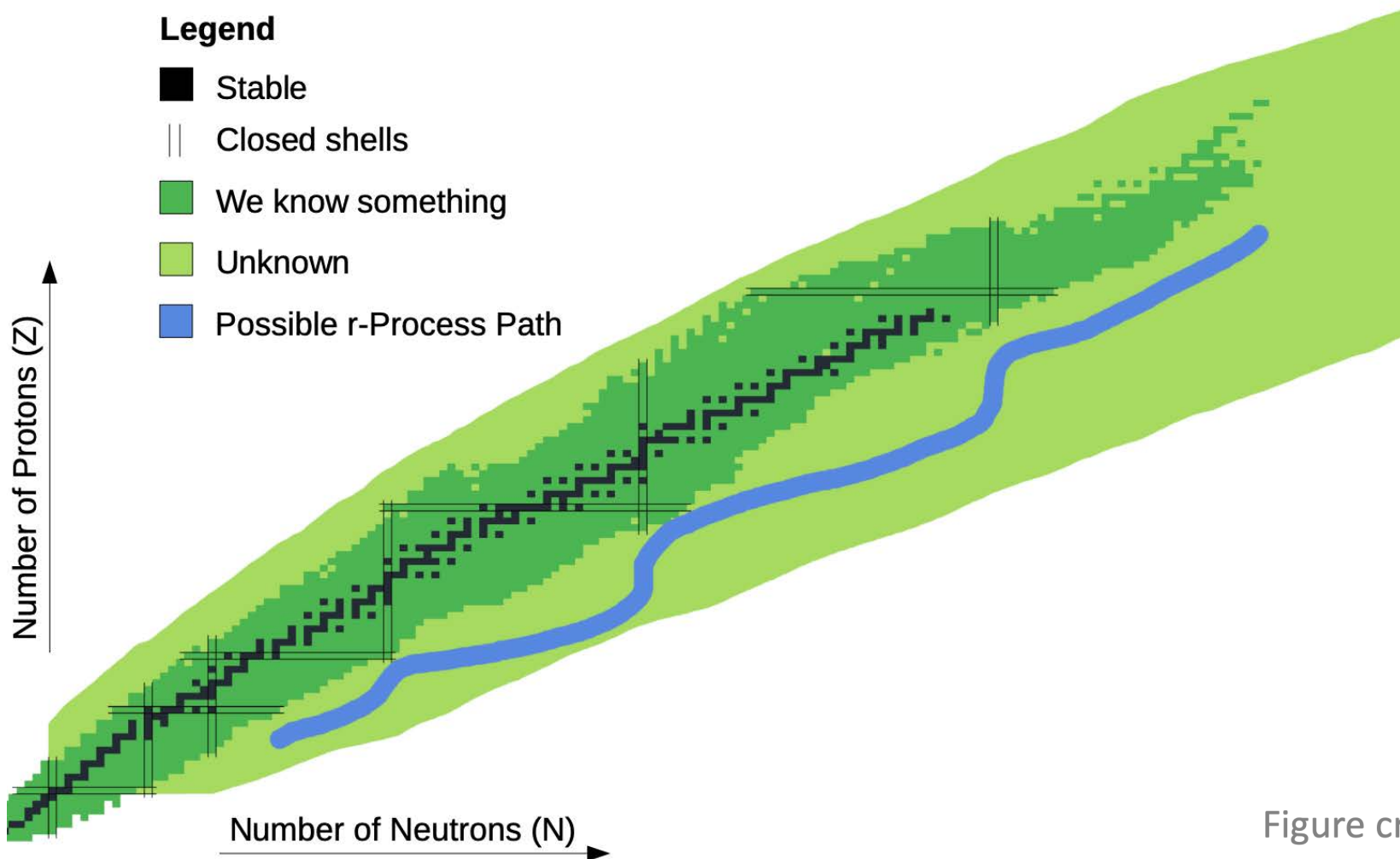
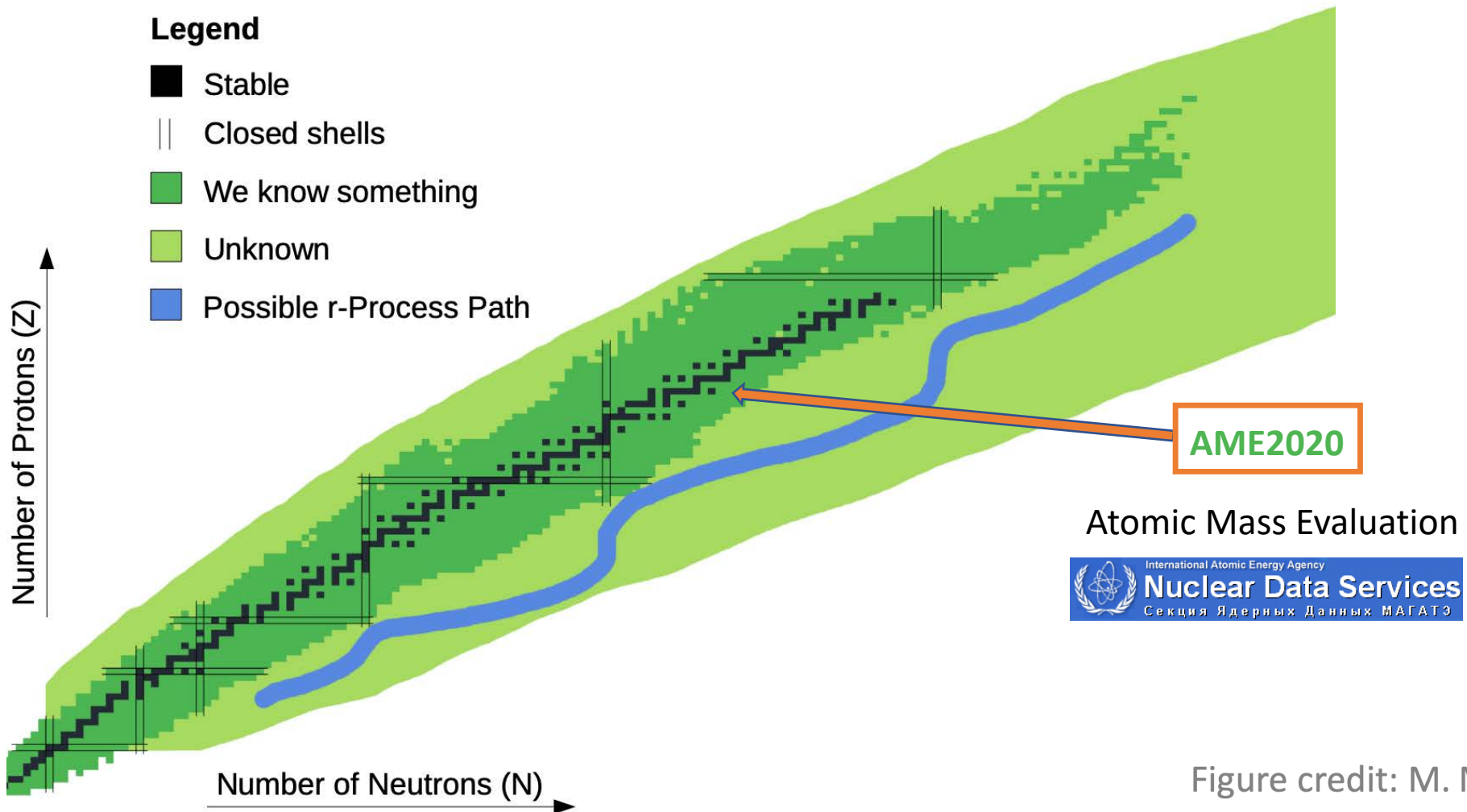
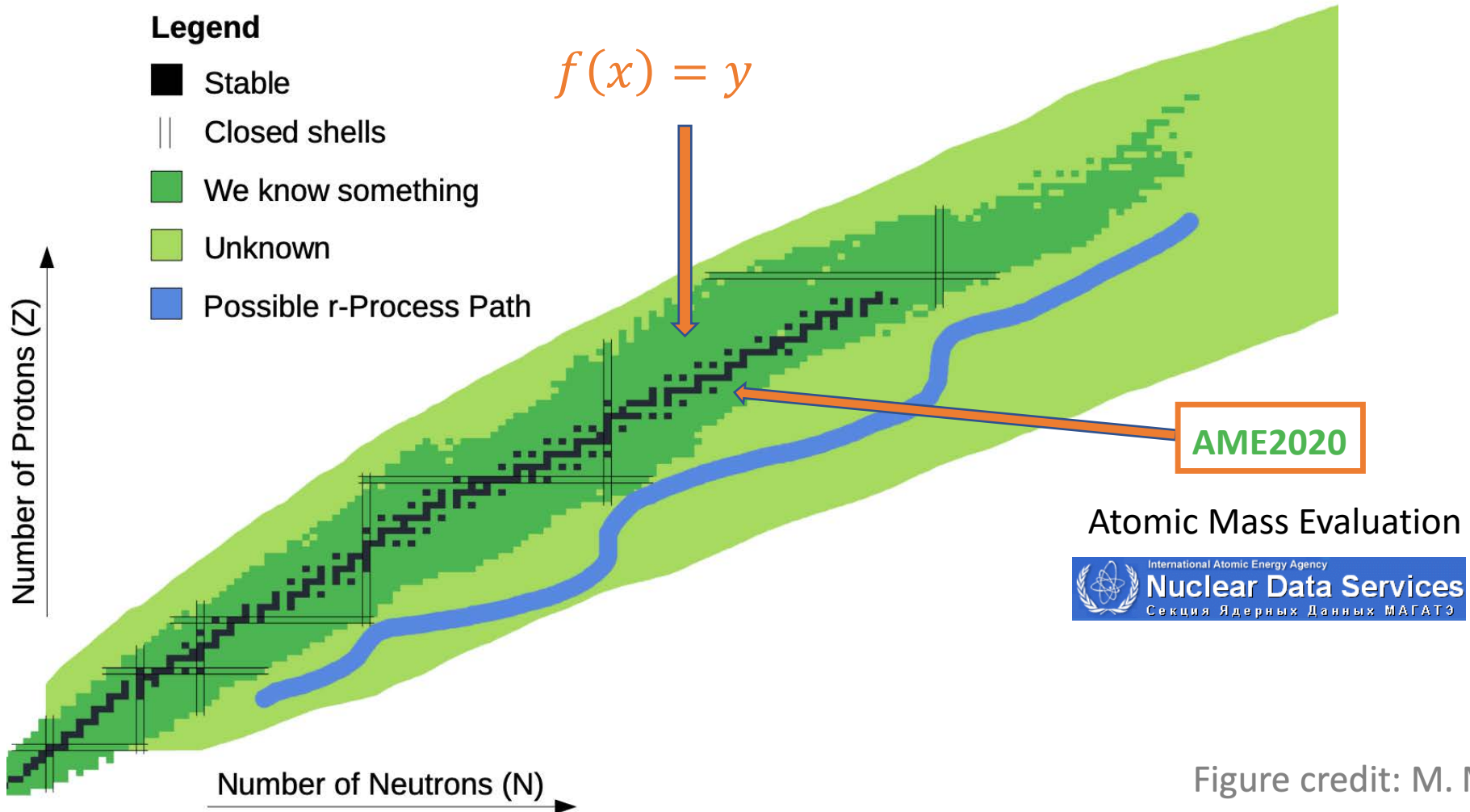


Figure credit: M. Mumpower

# Nuclear Input



# Nuclear Input



# Nuclear Input

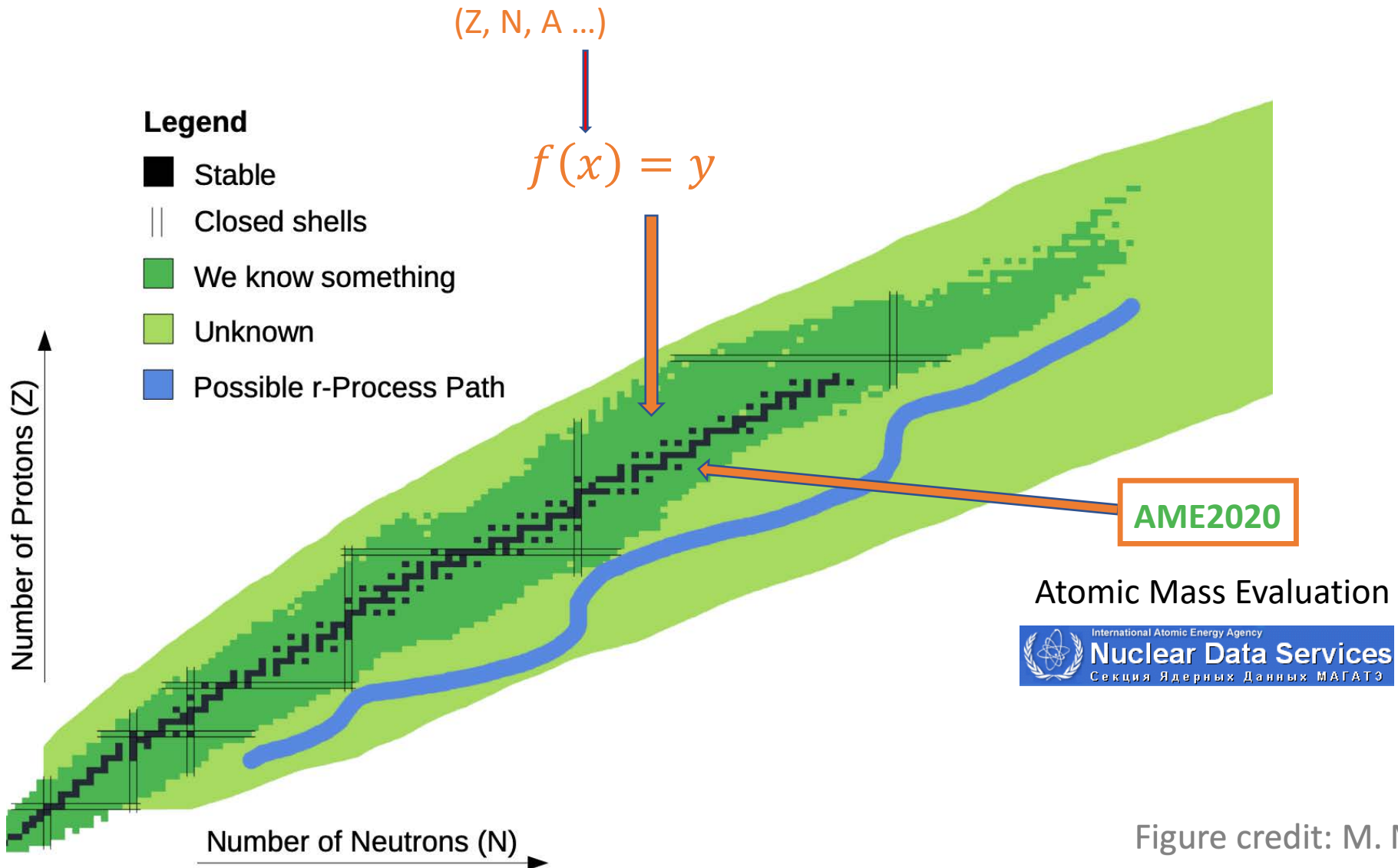


Figure credit: M. Mumpower



# Nuclear Input

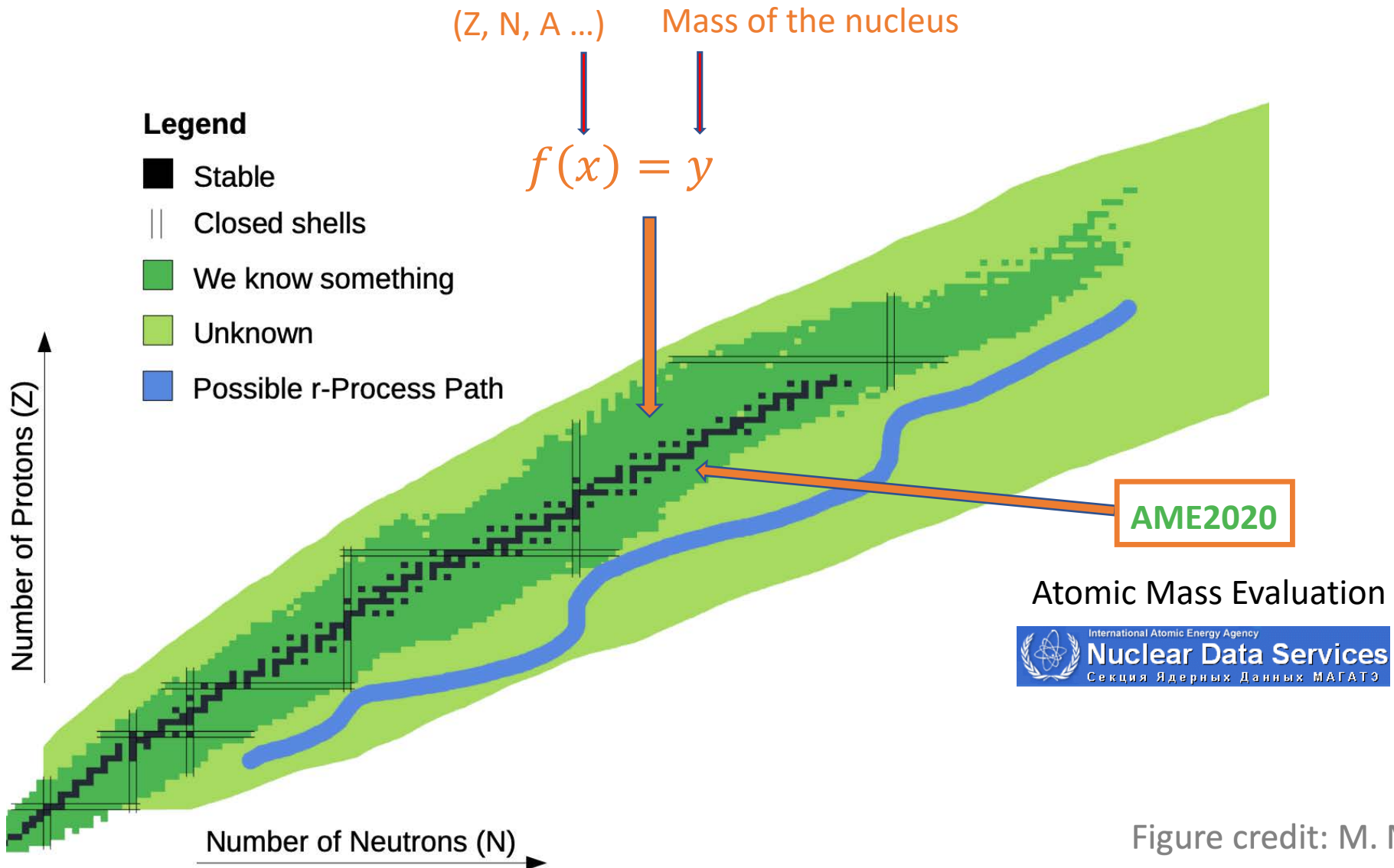
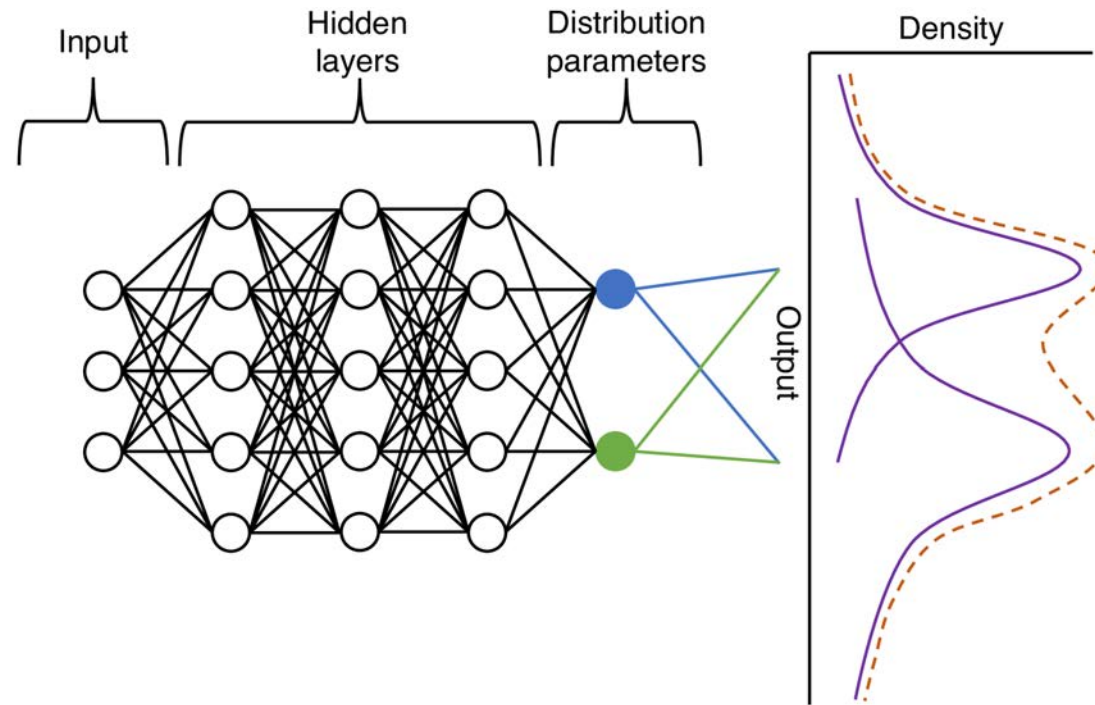


Figure credit: M. Mumpower

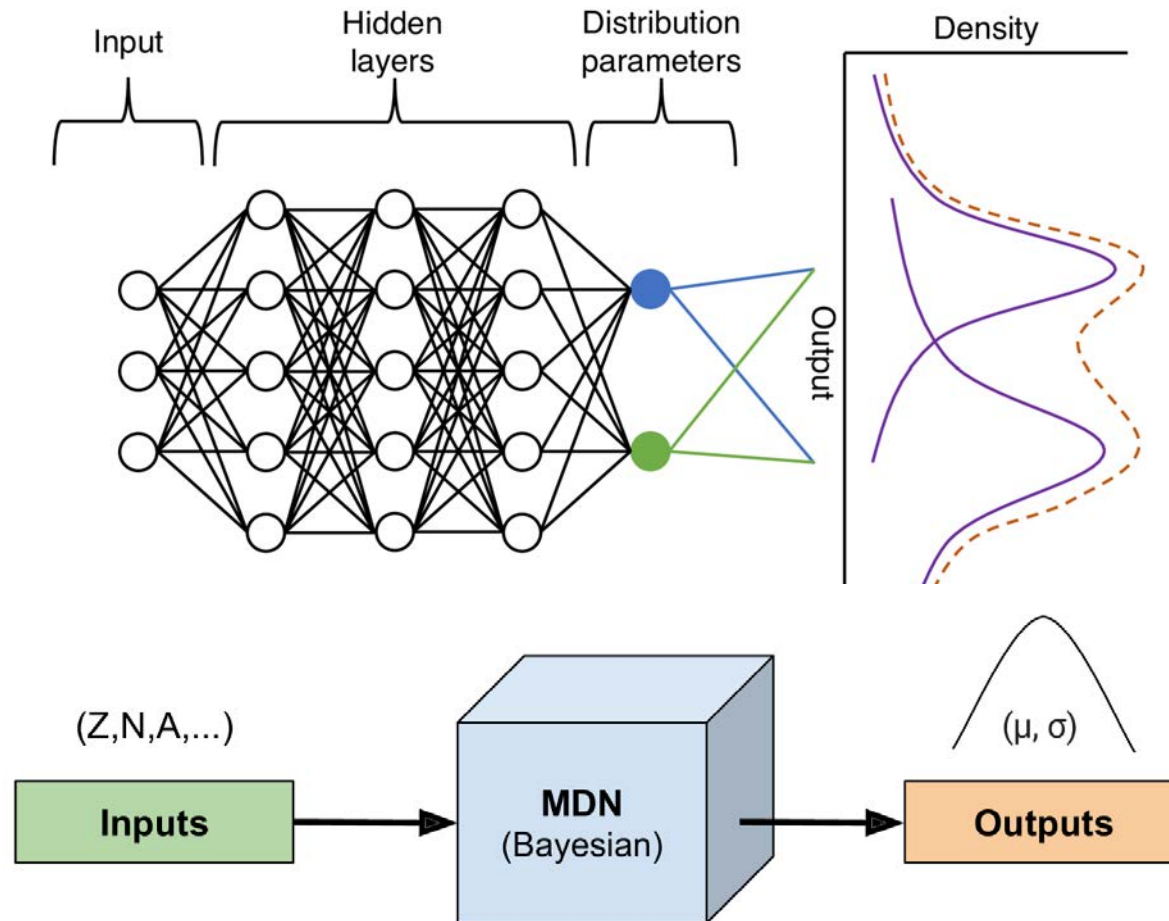
# Mass Model

Mixture Density Network (MDN)



# Mass Model

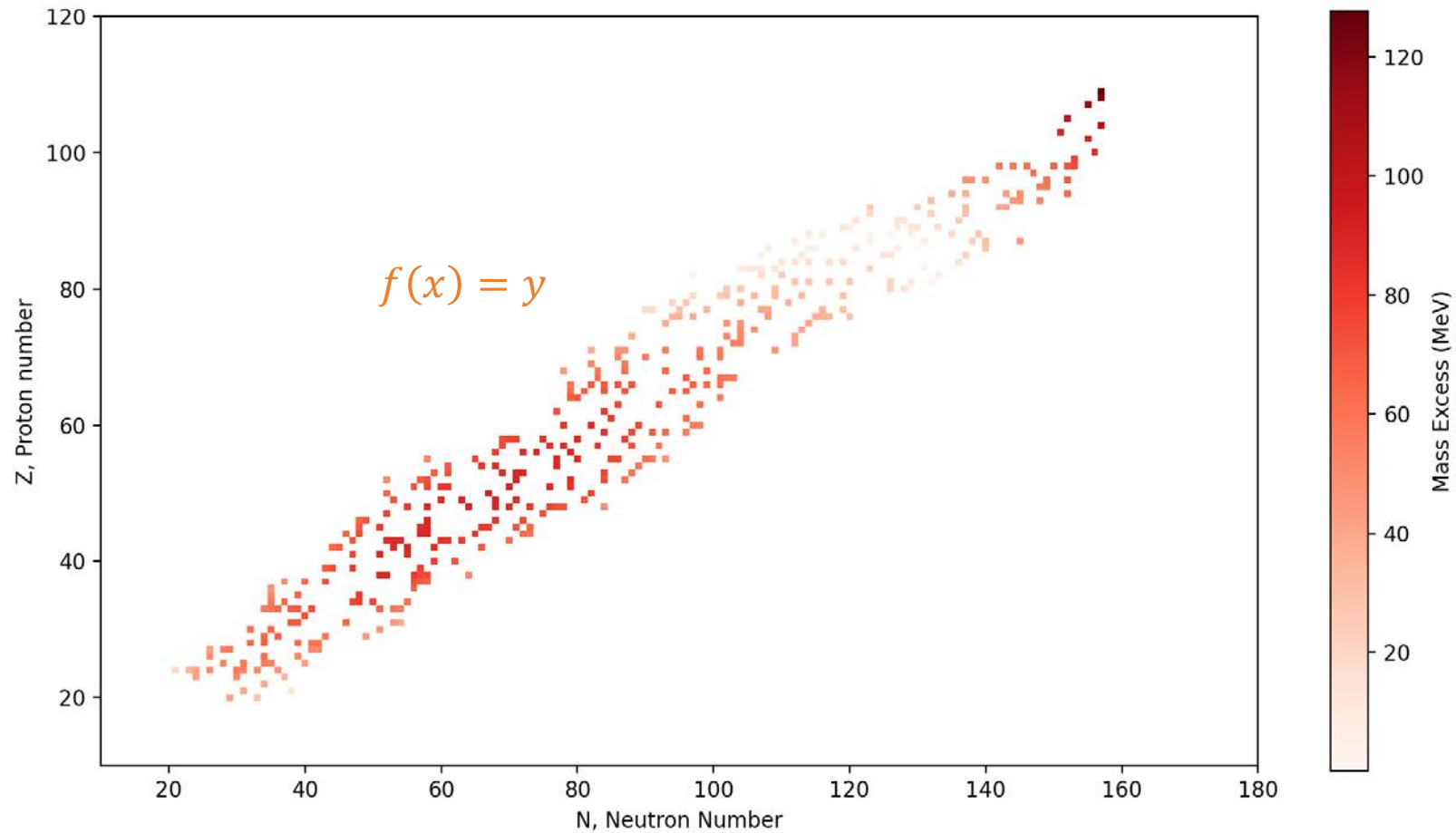
Mixture Density Network (MDN)



# Mass Model

Our Model: Training (20 % data)

Testing (80 % data)



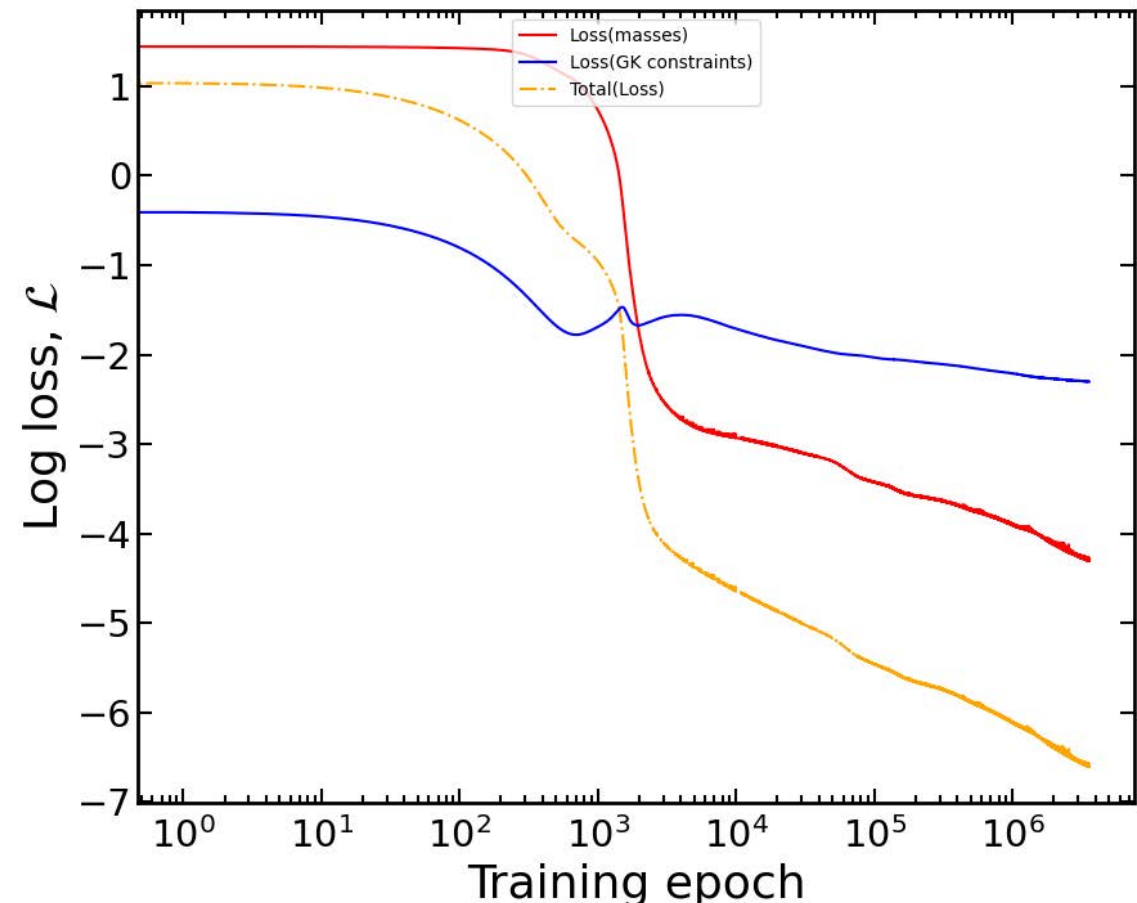
# Mass Model

$$\text{Minimize: } \mathcal{L} = -\ln \left[ \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{\alpha_i(\mathbf{x})}{(2\pi)^{m/2} \sigma_i(\mathbf{x})} \exp \left\{ -\frac{\|\mathbf{t} - \mu_i(\mathbf{x})\|^2}{2\sigma_i(\mathbf{x})^2} \right\} \right]$$

$$\mathcal{L}_2 = \sum_i GK(Z_i, N_i)$$

$GK(Z, N)$ : Garvey-Kelson Mass relation:  
(Mass relation of its 6 neighbors)

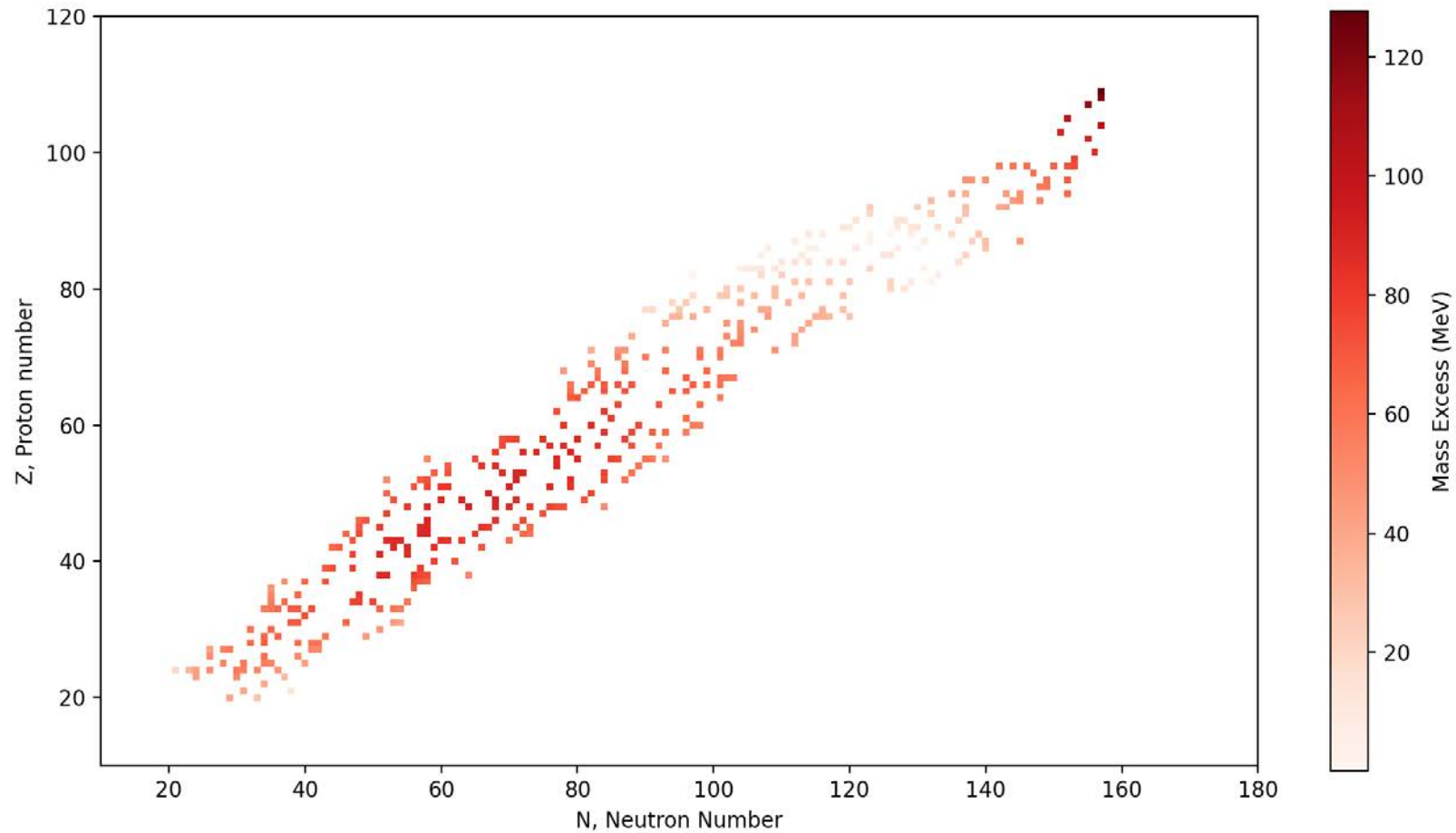
$$\begin{aligned} &M(N+2, Z-2) - M(N, Z) \\ &+ M(N, Z-1) - M(N+1, Z-2) \\ &+ M(N+1, Z) - M(N+2, Z-1) = 0 \end{aligned}$$



# Mass Model

Our Model: Training (20 % data)

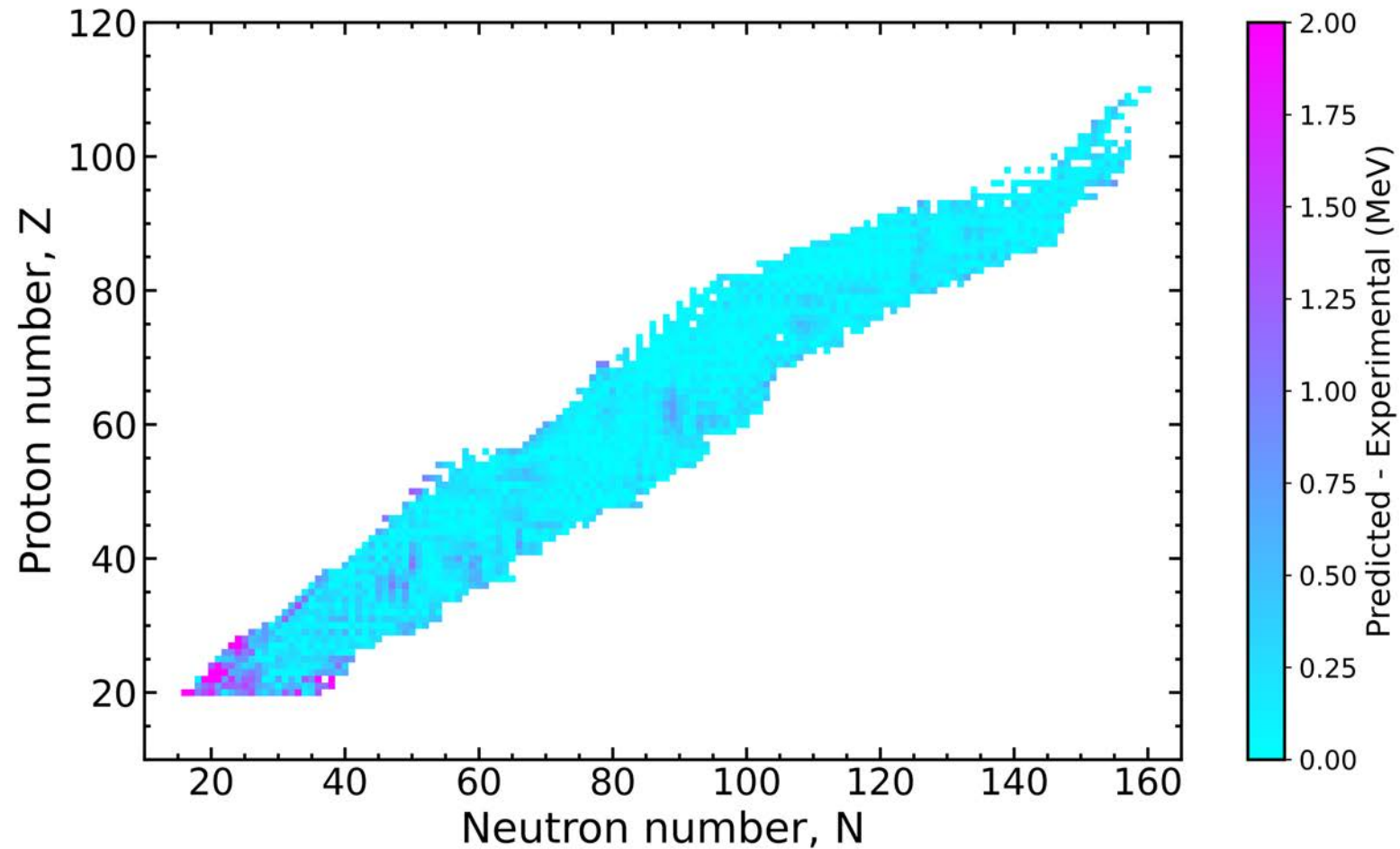
Testing (80 % data)



# Mass Model

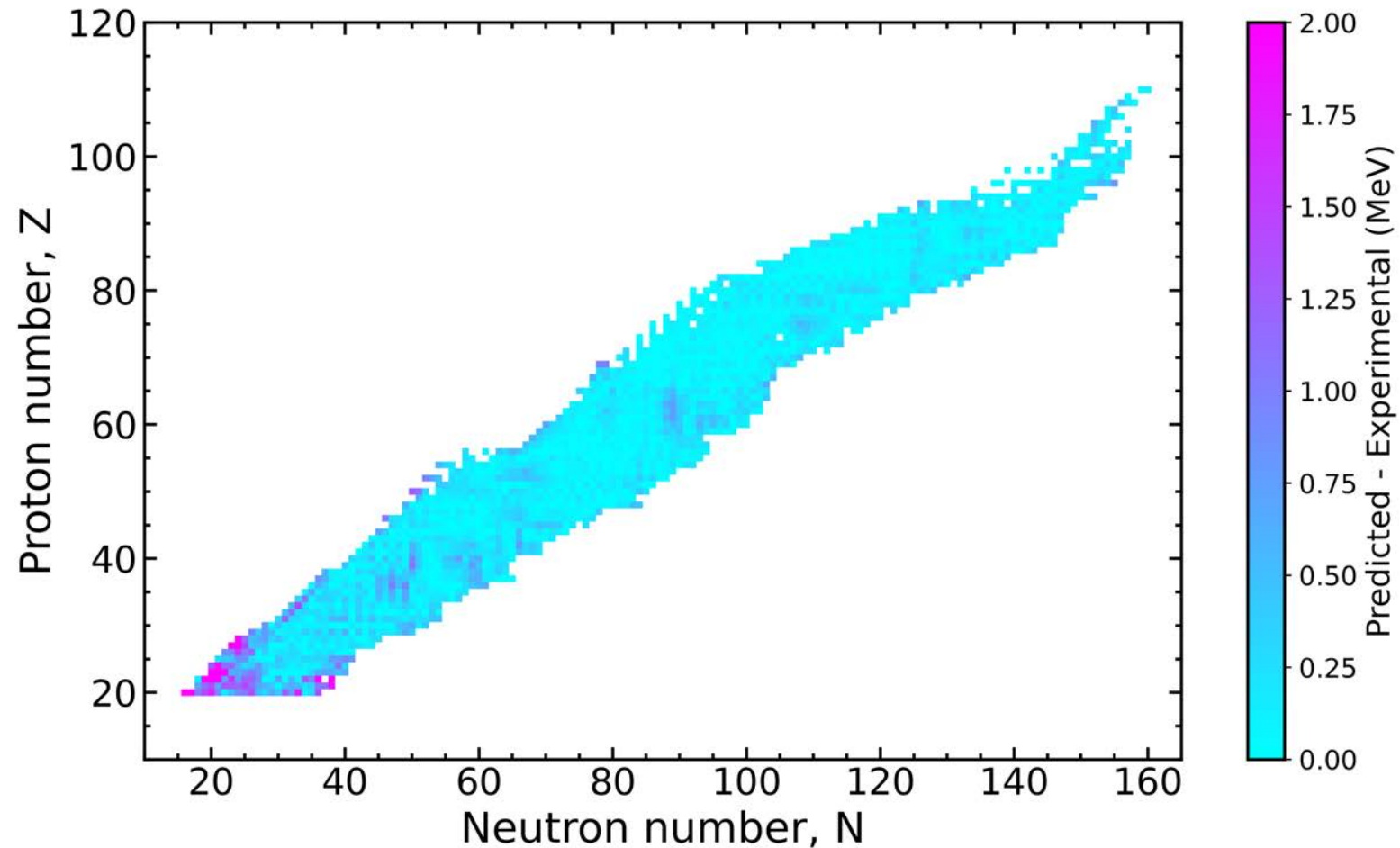
Our Model: Training (20 % data)

Testing (80 % data)



# Mass Model

Our Model: Training (20 % data) RMS: 138 keV; Testing (80 % data) RMS: 246keV

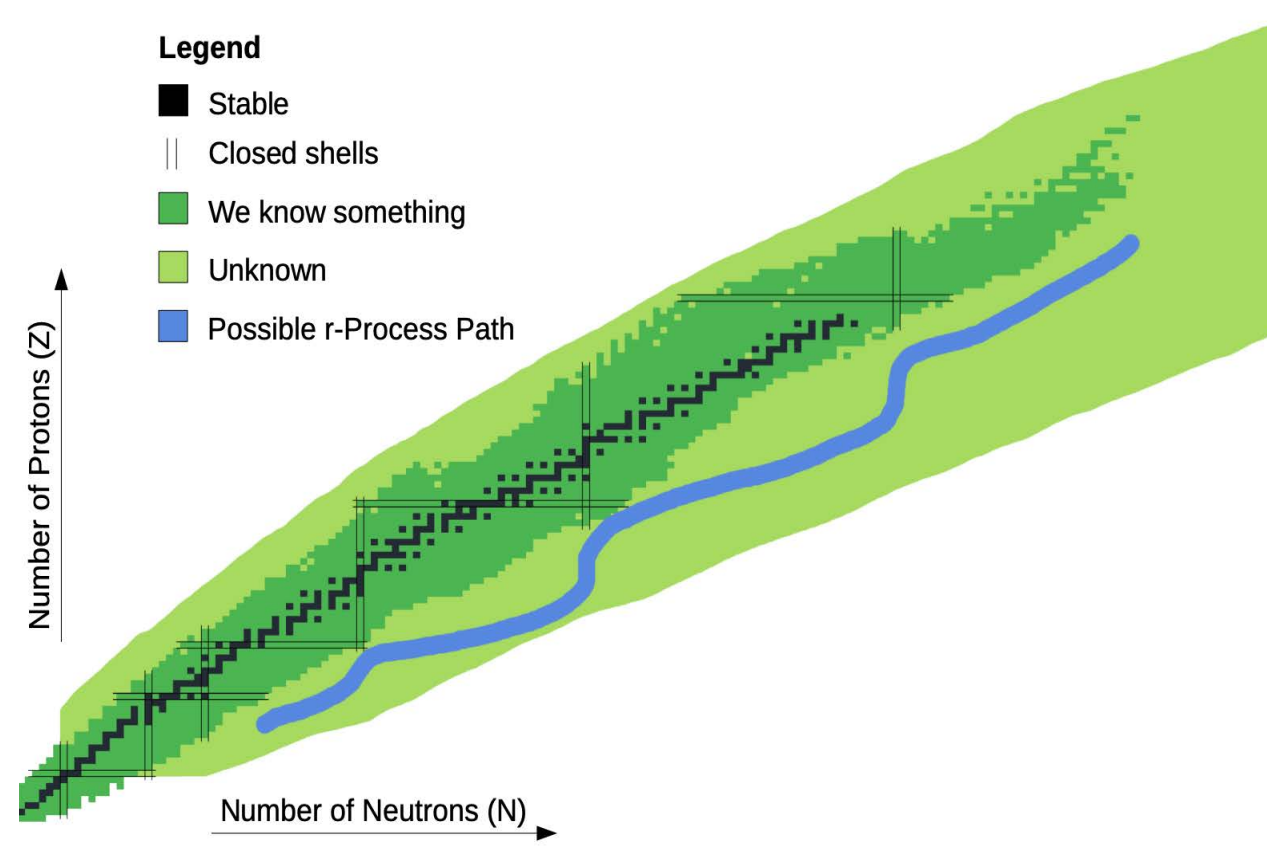


FRDM: RMS 537 keV  
DZ33 : RMS 405 keV  
Hfb32: RMS 560 keV

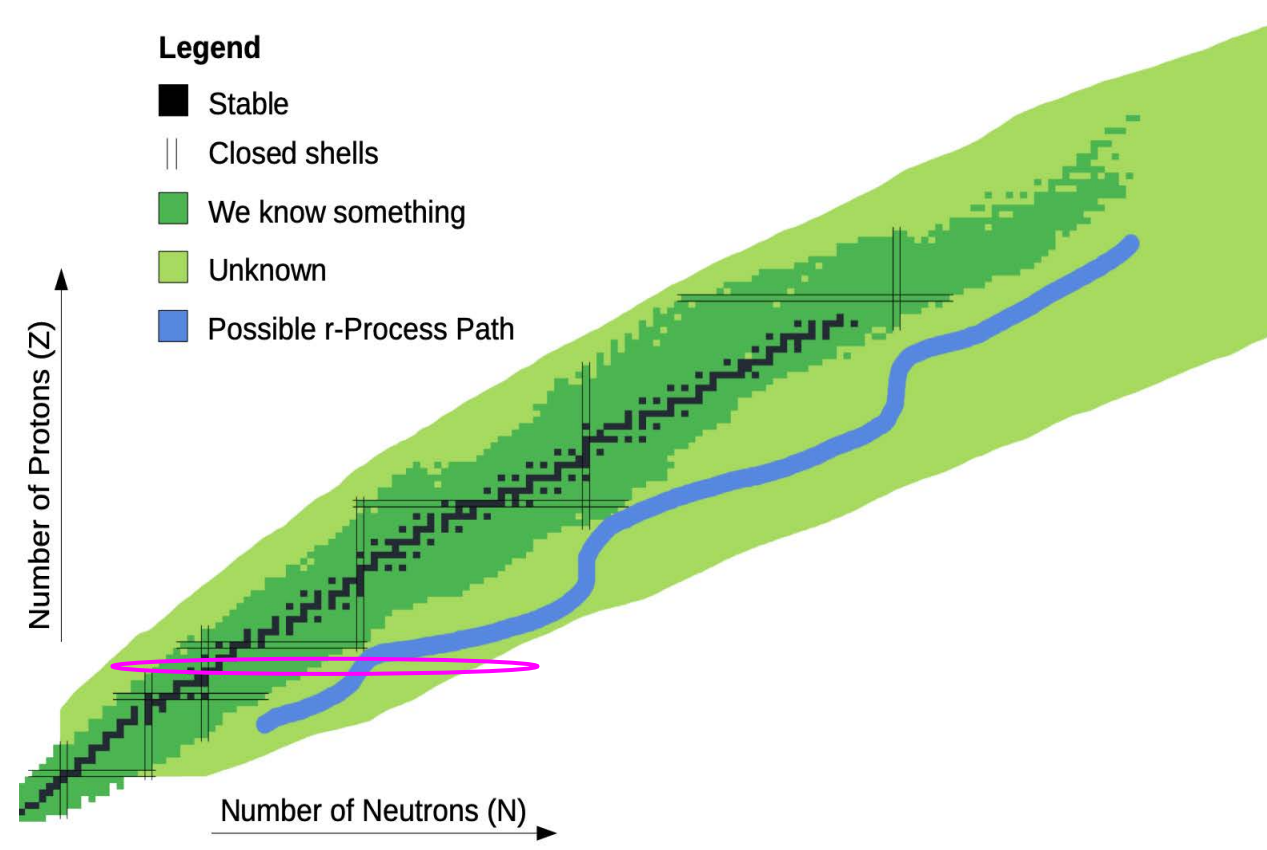
$$\text{RMS} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_i^n (\text{Predicted}_i - \text{Actual}_i)^2}{n}}$$



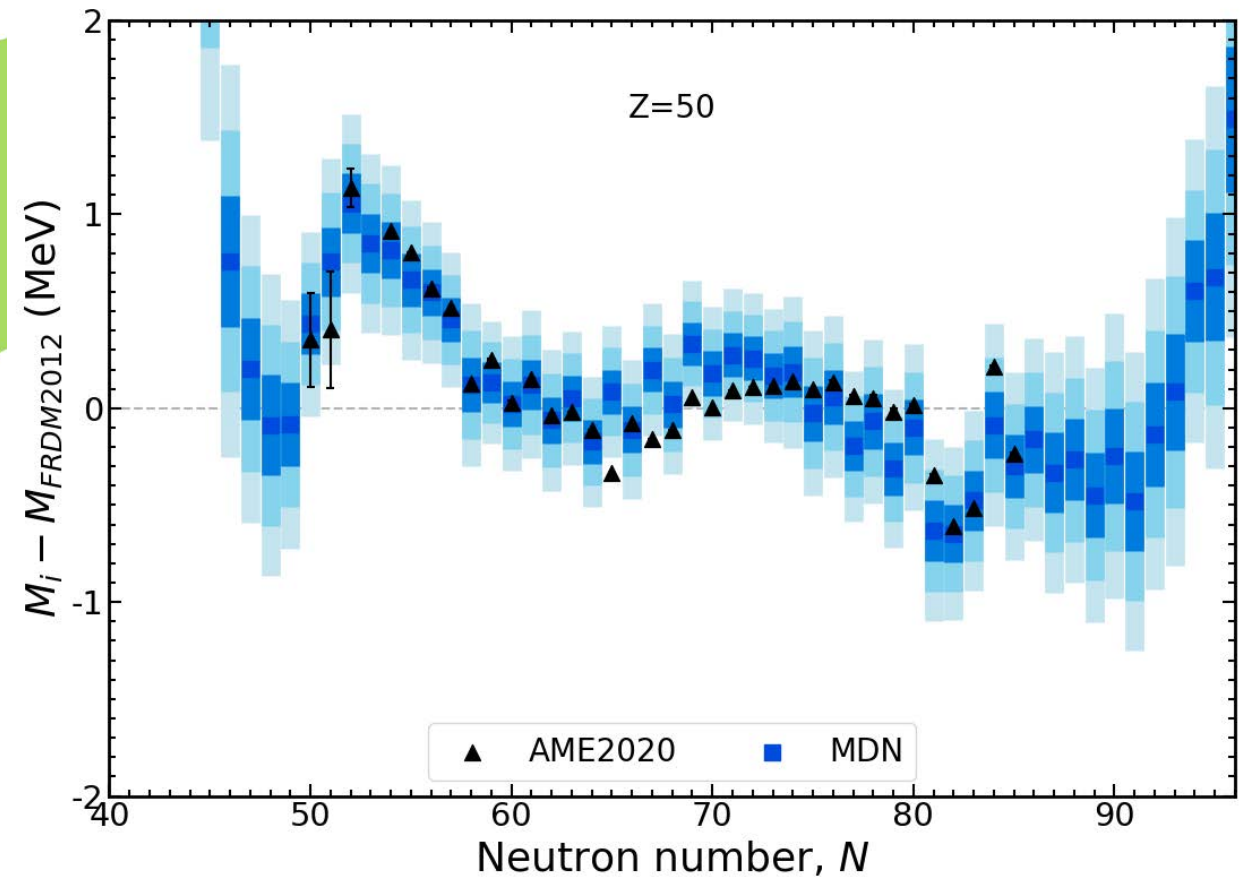
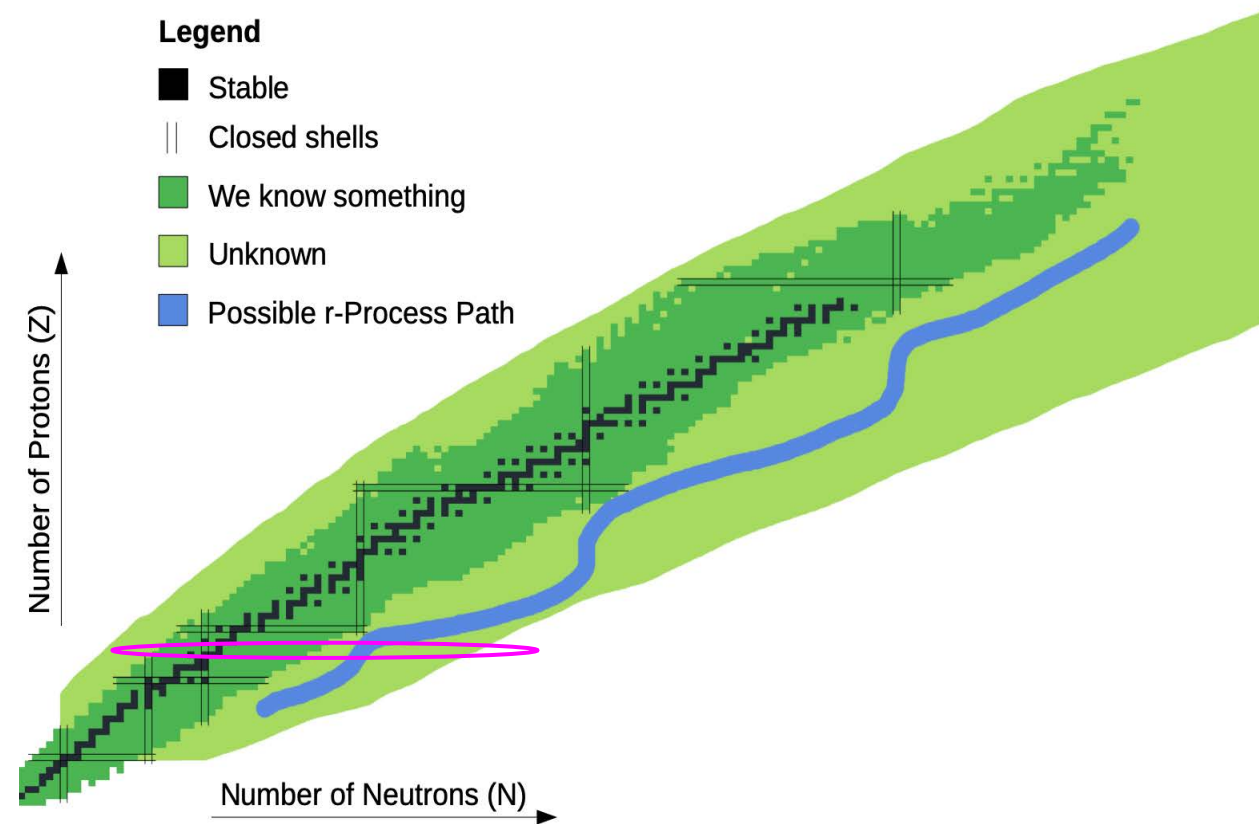
# Mass Model



# Mass Model



# Mass Model



# Application to the r-process

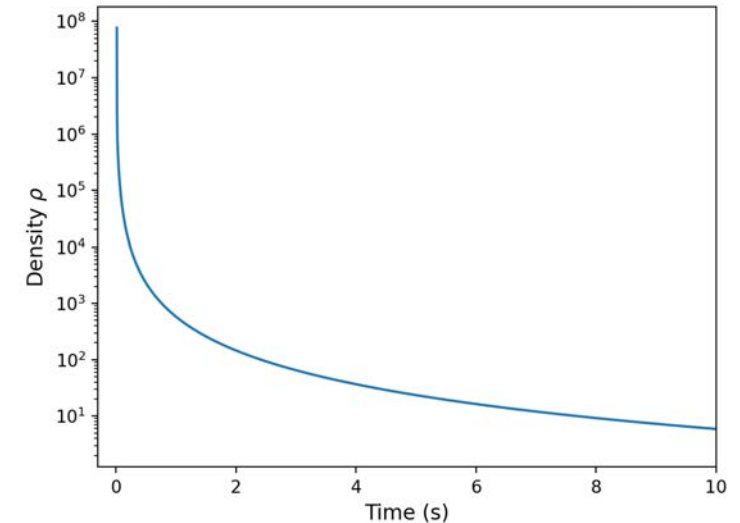
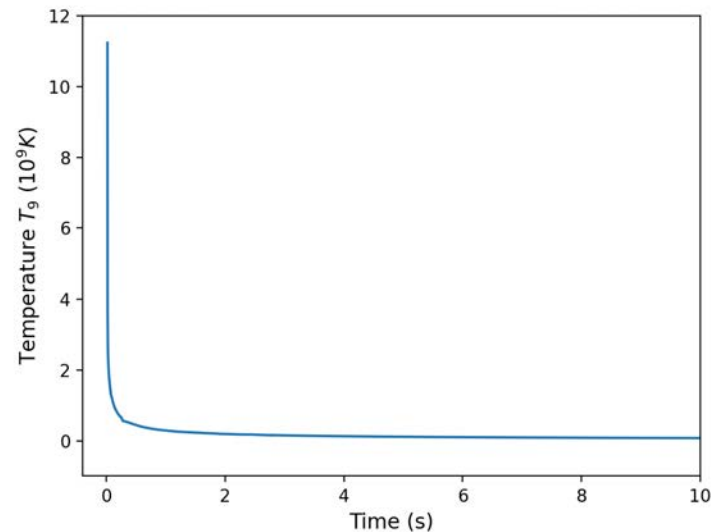


- Super high temperature (  $10^9$  K)
- Super neutron rich environment ( $10^{24}$  cm<sup>-3</sup>)
- Rapid neutron capture process or r-process happens  
(n-capture faster than  $\beta^-$  decay)
- Astrophysical site for production of heavy nuclei

# Application to the r-process

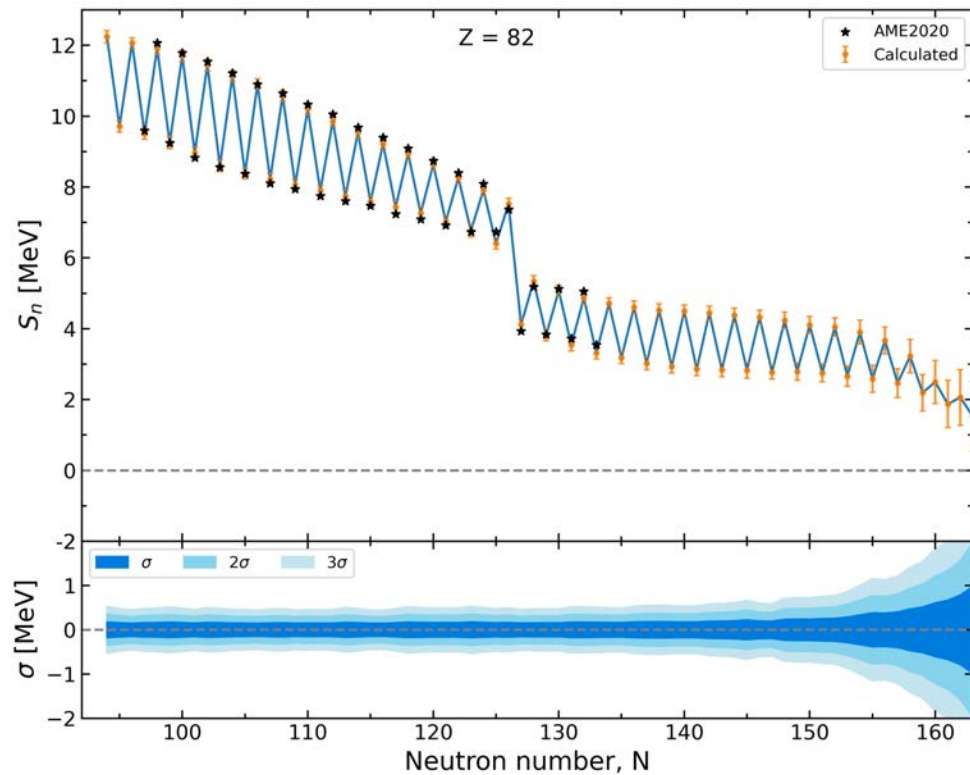


- Super high temperature (  $10^9$  K)
- Super neutron rich environment ( $10^{24}$   $\text{cm}^{-3}$ )
- Rapid neutron capture process or r-process happens  
(n-capture faster than  $\beta^-$  decay)
- Astrophysical site for production of heavy nuclei



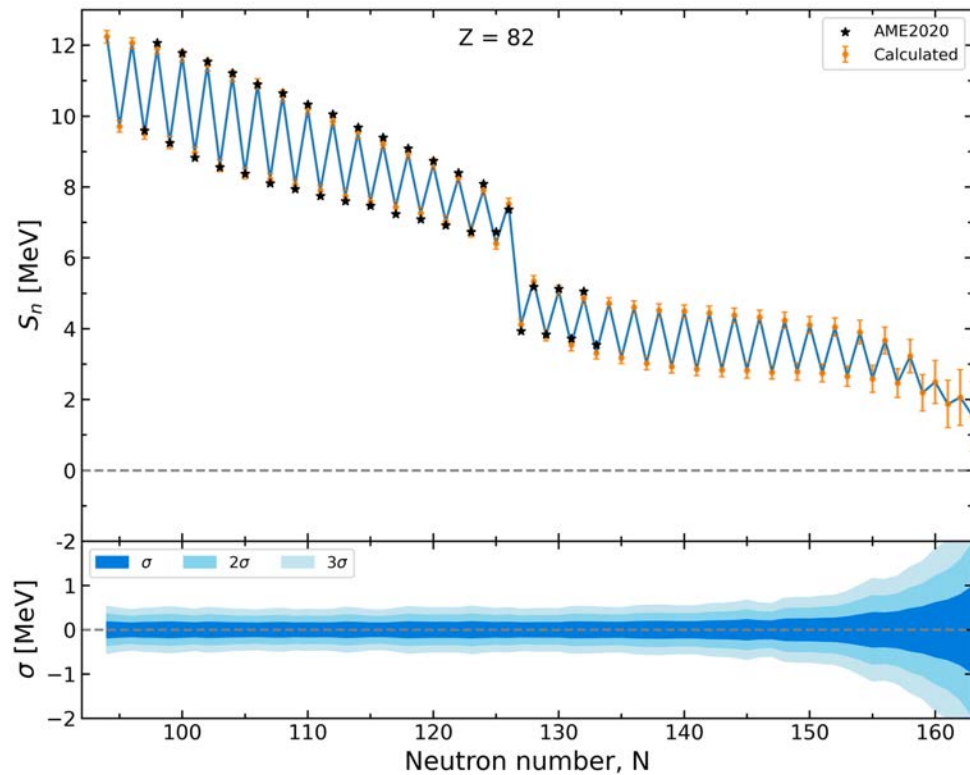
# Application to the r-process

Neutron Separation Energy:  $S_n(Z, A) = M(Z, N - 1) + M_n - M(Z, A)$



# Application to the r-process

Neutron Separation Energy:  $S_n(Z, A) = M(Z, N - 1) + M_n - M(Z, A)$

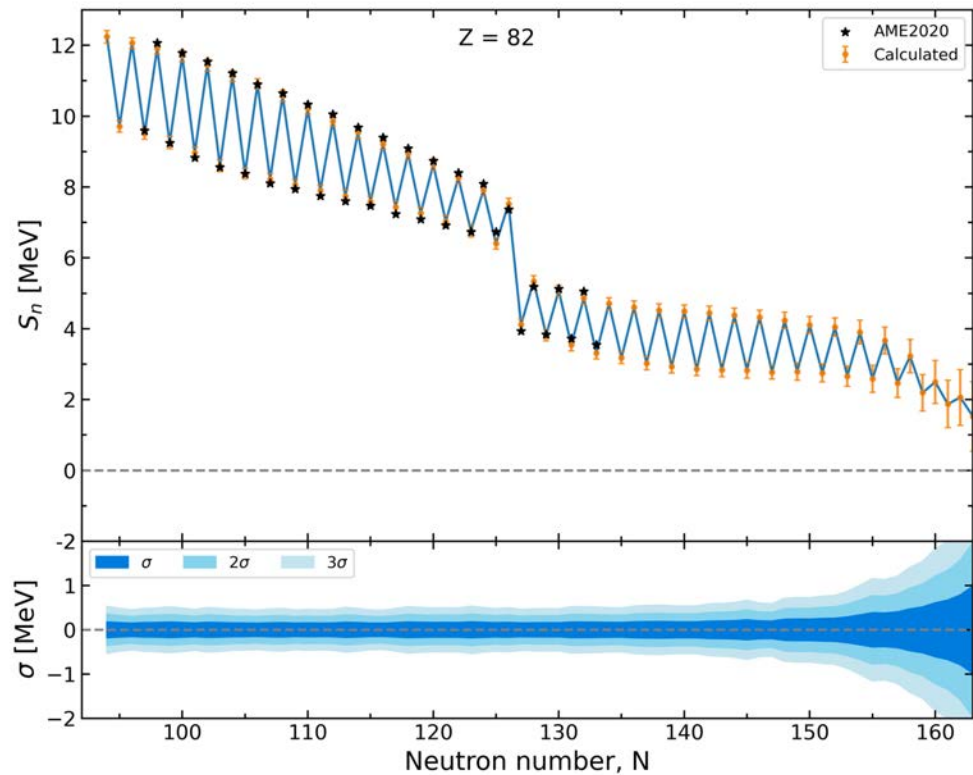


$$\lambda_{\gamma n} \propto e^{-\frac{S_n}{kT}}$$

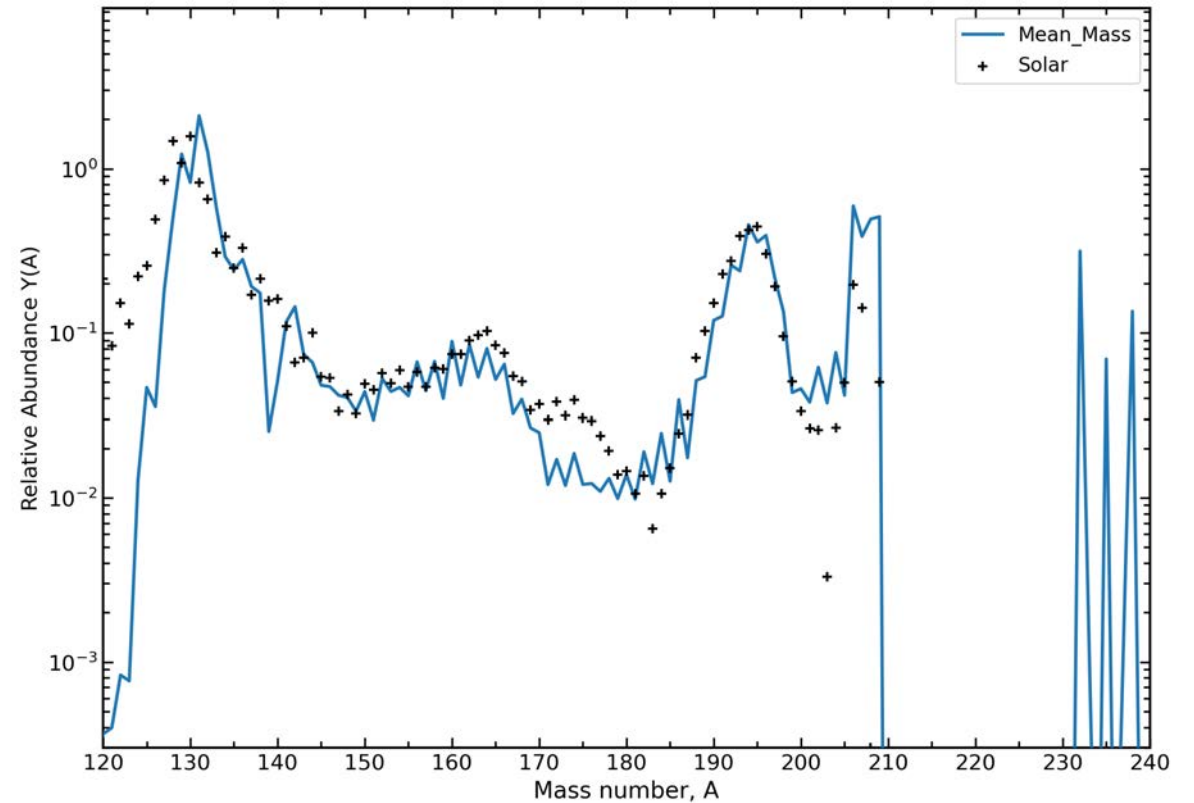


# Application to the r-process

Neutron Separation Energy:  $S_n(Z, A) = M(Z, N - 1) + M_n - M(Z, A)$



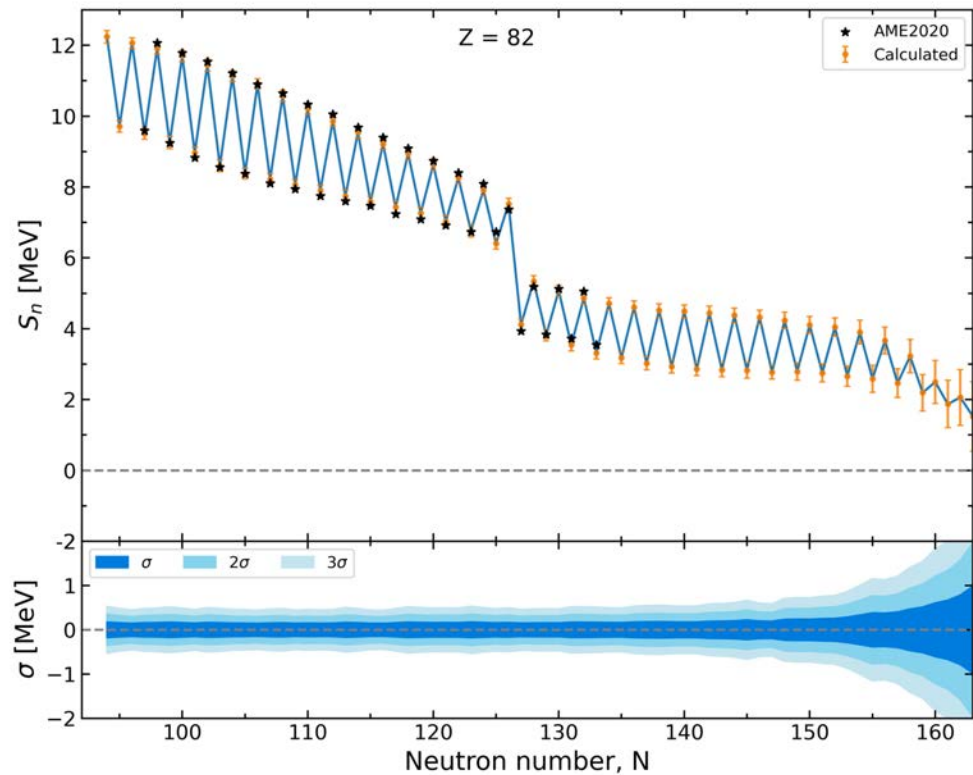
$$\lambda_{\gamma n} \propto e^{-\frac{S_n}{kT}}$$



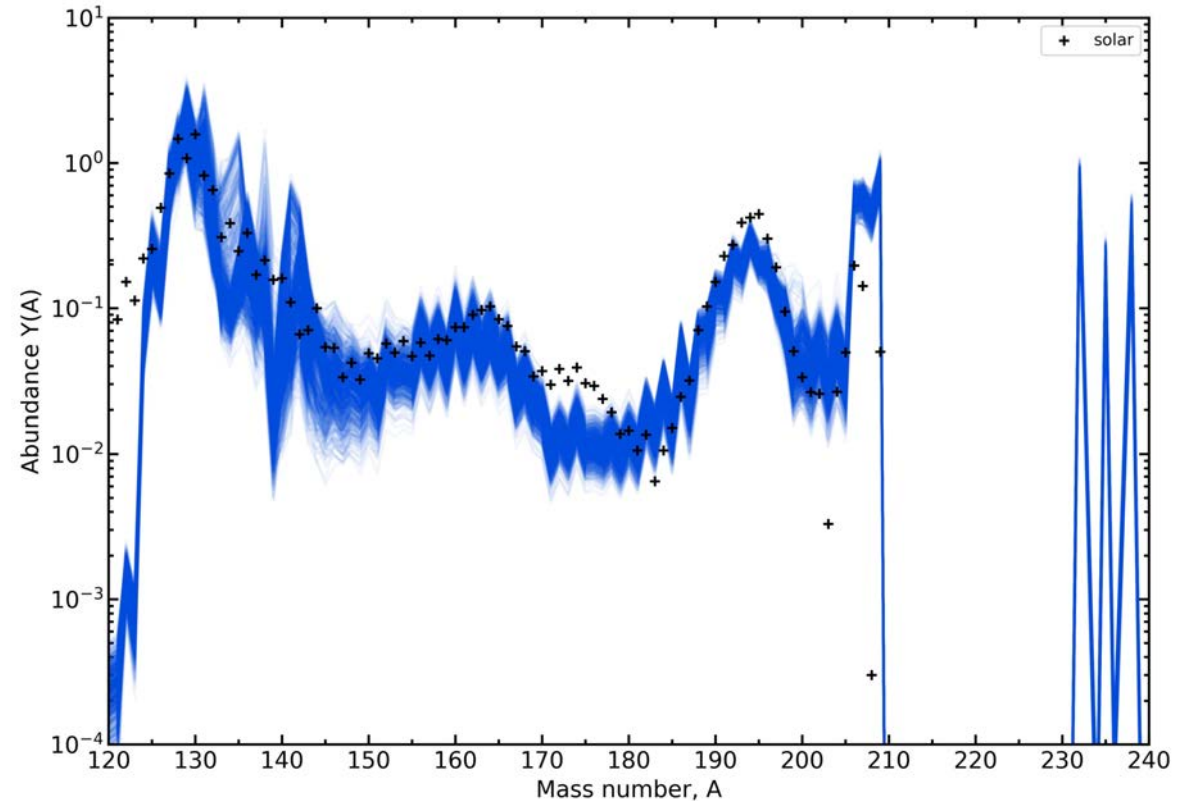


# Application to the r-process

Neutron Separation Energy:  $S_n(Z, A) = M(Z, N - 1) + M_n - M(Z, A)$



$$\lambda_{\gamma n} \propto e^{-\frac{S_n}{kT}}$$



# Summary and Future work

## 🐾 Summary

- 🐾 Studied the nuclear mass model using machine learning technique
- 🐾 Applied this mass model to r-process simulation which gives a reasonable abundance pattern

## 🐾 Future work

- 🐾 Improve this mass model by optimizing input features
- 🐾 Understand the deviation between observed and simulated r-process abundance pattern

# Acknowledgements



My Advisor: Bradley S Meyer

My LANL Mentors: Matthew R Mumpower

Trevor M Sprouse

Amy E Lovell

Arvind Mohan



Thank you for your attention!



# Input Feature Space

