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Chemical evolution with rotating massive star yields II. A new assessment of the solar s- and r-process components

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ABSTRACT

The decomposition of the Solar system abundances of heavy isotopes into their s- and r-components plays a key role in our understanding of the corresponding nuclear processes and the physics and evolution of their astrophysical sites. We present a new method for determining the s- and r-components of the Solar system abundances, fully consistent with our current understanding of stellar nucleosynthesis and galactic chemical evolution. The method is based on a study of the evolution of the solar neighbourhood with a state-of-the-art 1-zone model, using recent yields of low and intermediate mass stars as well as of massive rotating stars. We compare our results with previous studies and we provide tables with the isotopic and elemental contributions of the s- and r-processes to the Solar system composition.

Key words: Sun: abundances – stars: abundances – galaxy: abundances – galaxy: evolution.

1 INTRODUCTION

In their compilation and analysis of Solar system isotopic abundances Suess & Urey (1956) were the first to notice that, if heavier than Fe nuclei are formed by successive capture of neutrons, one should expect two abundance peaks for each of the regions near magic neutron numbers: a sharp one at the position of the magic nucleus, from material piled up there due to the low neutron capture cross-section when neutron captures take place near the β -stability valley; and a smoothed one at a few mass units below, from material made by neutron captures occurring in the neutron-rich side of the stability valley and radioactively decaying after the end of the process.

Building on that compilation, Burbidge et al. (1957) worked out the details of the two nucleosynthetic processes, which they called s- and r-, respectively.¹ The former (*slow*) would occur on time-

scales long with respect to the lifetimes of radioactive nuclei along the neutron path, i.e. tens to thousands of years, as a result of low neutron densities $N_n \sim 10^6 \div 10^7 \text{ cm}^{-3}$. The latter (*rapid*) would take place on short time-scales of the order of 1 s, as a result of high neutron densities $N_n > 10^{24} \text{ cm}^{-3}$. Burbidge et al. (1957) also noticed that, along the s-process path (i.e. the valley of nuclear stability), the product of the neutron capture cross-section σ_A , and the abundance N_A of a nucleus with mass number $A > 70$ is a smooth function of A , first declining up to $A \sim 100$ and then levelling off up to $A = 208$. They attributed that feature to the operation of the s-process in two different regimes, the former one having ‘not enough neutrons available per ^{56}Fe nucleus to build the nuclei to their saturation abundances’, while the constancy of $\sigma_A N_A$ in the latter is ‘strongly suggestive of steady flow being achieved and of all of the nuclei reaching their saturation abundances’.

Following the work of Weigert (1966), the environment provided by low- and intermediate-mass stars (LIMS) on their AGB phase was identified by Schwarzschild & Härm (1967) and Sanders (1967) as a promising site for the operation of the s-process. Today, those stars are thought to produce the bulk of the s-isotopes above $A \sim 90$ during their thermal pulses, with neutrons released mainly by the $^{13}\text{C}(\alpha, n)^{16}\text{O}$ reaction (see Straniero et al. 1995; Gallino et al. 1998 and references therein). On the other hand, Peters (1968) suggested that in the He-burning cores of massive stars, neutrons released by the $^{22}\text{Ne}(\alpha, n)^{25}\text{Mg}$ reaction should also produce s-nuclei. Today,

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¹There are observational indications of intermediate density neutron capture processes (i.e. between the s- and r-process), like the i-process (Cowan & Rose 1977; Dardelet et al. 2014; Hampel et al. 2016), possibly occurring in rapidly accreting white dwarfs (Denissenkov et al. 2017), proton ingestion episodes in low-metallicity low-mass asymptotic giant branch (AGB) stars (Cristallo et al. 2016) or super-AGB stars (Jones et al. 2016).

those stars are thought to produce the s-nuclei in the regime of ‘few neutrons per ^{56}Fe seed’, i.e. below $A \sim 90$ (Couch, Schmiedekamp & Arnett 1974; Lamb et al. 1977; Busso & Gallino 1985): stellar models – including those of Prantzos, Arnould & Arcoragi (1987) with mass-loss – show that despite the large abundance of ^{22}Ne , most of the released neutrons are captured by its progeny ^{25}Mg and other abundant nuclei, leaving few neutrons to be captured by ^{56}Fe (see Prantzos, Hashimoto & Nomoto 1990, for details of the ‘neutron economy trio’, i.e. the roles of neutron sources, seed, and poisons as function of metallicity in the case of massive stars). In contrast, in the thermally pulsing phase of AGBs, the periodic mixing of protons in the He-layer maintains the ^{13}C source to a high abundance level – through $^{12}\text{C}(p,\gamma)^{13}\text{C}$ – and releases sufficient neutrons to reach the ‘saturation regime’. Thus, both the mechanism(s) and site(s) of the s-process are considered to be sufficiently well known (see e.g. Käppeler et al. 2011, and references therein).

On the other hand, the situation with the site of the r-process is still unsatisfactory. After more than 50 yr of research on its astrophysical origin(s), the identification of a fully convincing site remains still elusive. An exhaustive description and discussion of experimental, observational, and theoretical aspects of the r-process, as well as on the sites so far proposed is provided in the recent reviews of Cowan et al. (2019) and Thielemann et al. (2017). However, up to date, no numerical simulation in the proposed scenarios has been able to fully reproduce the observed distribution of the r-process elemental and isotopic abundances in the Solar system. Nowadays the neutron star merging (NSM) scenario is given support by the recent joint detection of electromagnetic and gravitational signal from the γ -ray burst GW170817/GRB170817A (see Pian et al. 2017, and references therein), and, in particular, by the identification of the neutron-capture element Sr in the spectrum of the associated kilonova AT2017gfo (Watson et al. 2019). However, it is not yet completely understood which component of those systems (dynamical, disc, ν -wind) dominates the nucleosynthesis, since any one of them may cover a wide range of chemical distributions, depending on the adopted input parameters (Rosswog 2015; Fernández & Metzger 2016; Wu et al. 2016; Perego, Radice & Bernuzzi 2017). An additional important source of uncertainty comes from the nuclear inputs adopted to calculate the r-process nucleosynthesis, the most important ones being nuclear masses, β -decay rates, and nuclear fission models (Eichler et al. 2015; Thielemann et al. 2017). Finally, the observed evolution of the r-elements in the Galaxy is hard (albeit not impossible) to conciliate with our current understanding of the occurrence rate of NSMs, regarding both the early (halo) and the late (disc) phases of the Milky Way (Tsujiimoto & Shigeo 2014; Ishimaru, Wanajo & Prantzos 2015; Côté et al. 2018, 2019; Guiglion et al. 2018; Hotokezaka, Beniamini & Piran 2018; Ojima et al. 2018; Haynes & Kobayashi 2019; Siegel, Barnes & Metzger 2019; Wehmeyer et al. 2019).

The decomposition of the Solar system abundances of heavy elements into their s- and r-components, played and will continue to play a pivotal role in our understanding of the underlying nuclear processes and the physics and evolution of the corresponding sites. The s-contribution can be more easily determined, since isotopes dominated by the s-process form close the β -stability valley. Their nuclear properties (β -decay half-times, nuclear cross-sections, etc.) are more easily measured, while the astrophysical sites are better understood today. On the other hand, due to the large astrophysics and nuclear physics uncertainties related with the r-process, its contribution to the isotopic solar abundances has been so far deduced by a simple subtraction of the s-process contribution from the observed solar value.

In this work, we present a new method for determining the s- and r-components of the Solar system abundances. It is based on a global study of the evolution of the solar neighbourhood with a state-of-the-art 1-zone model of galactic chemical evolution (GCE), which is presented in detail in Prantzos et al. (2018) – Paper I hereafter – and adopts recent stellar yields of rotating massive stars (from Limongi & Chieffi 2018) and of LIM stars (from Cristallo et al. 2015a).

The plan of the paper is as follows: In Section 2, we review the various methods used so far in order to derive the s-component of the isotopic abundances of the heavy nuclei, and we discuss their shortcomings. In Section 3, we present in detail our new method and its assumptions. In Section 4 we present our results. We compare first the isotopic contributions to previous studies (Section 4.1), as well as to the measured Solar system abundances taking into account the uncertainties of the latter (Section 4.3). We discuss the resulting $\sigma_A N_A$ curve in Section 4.2 and we derive the r-residuals in Section 4.4. In Section 4.5 we derive the elemental s- and r-components, and finally in Section 5 we summarized the main results of this study.

2 DETERMINATION OF S- AND R-ABUNDANCES

The ‘classical’ (or ‘canonical’) s-process model was originally proposed by Burbidge et al. (1957) and developed by Clayton & Rassbach (1967). In this model two main assumptions are made: (i) the s-process temperature is constant, allowing one to adopt well determined neutron-capture cross sections; (ii) nuclei on the s-process path are either stable ($\tau_\beta > \tau_n$) or sufficiently short-lived so that the neutron capture chain continues with the daughter nucleus ($\tau_\beta < \tau_n$). This second assumption, however, is not valid at the s-process branchings ($\tau_\beta \sim \tau_n$), which requires a special treatment (see e.g. Käppeler, Beer & Wisshak 1989). In addition, the classical model assumes that some stellar material composed by iron nuclei only is exposed to the superposition of three exponential distributions of the time-integrated neutron exposure, defined as $\tau_o = \int_0^t N_n v_T dt$ (where v_T is the thermal neutron velocity at the temperature T). The three exponential distributions are usually referred to as the ‘weak’ component (responsible for the production of the $70 \leq A \leq 90$ s-nuclei), the ‘main’ component (for the $90 \leq A \leq 204$ isotopes), and the ‘strong component’ (for $A > 204$). For long-enough exposures, the equations governing the evolution of the s-nuclei abundances result in equilibrium between the production and destruction terms, leading to a constant product, $\sigma_A N_A$, of neutron cross-section and s-process abundance. Although this condition is not completely reached, the product $\sigma_A N_A$ shows a very smooth dependence on mass number (see e.g. Clayton 1968). Therefore, the product $\sigma_A N_A$ for a given isotope is fully determined by the cross-section, after the parameters τ_o and the number of neutrons captured per ^{56}Fe seed nucleus are fixed. The goal of the classical approach is to fix the empirical $\sigma_A N_A$ values for the s-only isotopes, i.e. nuclei that are shielded against the r-process by the corresponding stable isobar with charge $Z - 1$ or $Z - 2$ (see Section 3.1 for a discussion about our selection of s-only isotopes). Once the Solar system s-only distribution is fitted, the s-contribution for the rest of the ‘mixed’ isotopes (with both a s- and r-contribution) are automatically obtained. Finally, the r-contribution is derived just subtracting this s-contribution $N_{s,A}$ from the measured total Solar system abundance N_A . This classical method has been used frequently in the literature, providing satisfactory results as the measurement of neutron cross-sections have been improving during

the years (see e.g. Kappeler et al. 1989; Sneden, Cowan & Gallino 2008; Käppeler et al. 2011).

However, the classical model is affected not only by observational and nuclear input data uncertainties, but also by the assumption that the s-process operates at a fixed constant temperature and neutron and electron density, and by the hypothesis that the irradiation can be considered as exponential one. To test the influence of these assumptions, Goriely (1999) (see also Arnould, Goriely & Takahashi 2007) developed the so-called ‘multi-event’ s-process, which constitutes a step forward in the canonical method. The multievent approach assumes a superposition of a number of canonical events taken place in different thermodynamic conditions, namely: a temperature range $1.5 \leq T(\text{K})/10^8 \leq 4$, neutron densities $7.5 \leq \log N_n(\text{cm}^{-3}) \leq 10$ and a unique electron density $N_e = 10^{27} \text{ cm}^{-3}$. Each canonical event is characterized by a given neutron irradiation on the ^{56}Fe seed nuclei during a given time at a constant temperature and neutron density. These conditions try to mimic the astrophysical conditions characterizing the site of the s-process, although it is well known that temperature and neutron density are not constant during the s-process (see e.g. Käppeler et al. 2011, and references therein). The s-only nuclei abundance distribution obtained with that method is remarkably close to the solar observed one, because of the minimization procedure adopted in the selection of the aforementioned parameters. However, it presents non-negligible deviations from the classical method in the regions $A \leq 90$ and $A \geq 204$, mainly because the resulting neutron exposures in the multievent model clearly deviate from exponentials. Within the multievent model it was possible to evaluate the major uncertainties (both nuclear and due to abundance measurements) affecting the prediction of the s-(r)-abundance distribution. Goriely (1999) concluded that the uncertainties in the observed meteoritic abundances and the relevant (n, γ) rates have a significant impact on the predicted s-component of the solar abundance and, consequently, on the derived r-abundances, especially concerning the s-dominated nuclei (see also Nishimura et al. 2017 and Cescutti et al. 2018).

Stellar models of LIM stars during the AGB phase and of massive stars during hydrostatic core He-burning and shell C-burning (the two widely recognized sites of the s-process), have shown that the interplay of the different thermal conditions for the ^{13}C and ^{22}Ne neutron sources is hardly represented by a single set of effective parameters constant in time (Busso, Gallino & Wasserburg 1999; Straniero, Gallino & Cristallo 2006; Limongi & Chieffi 2018), such as those used in the classical (or the multievent) approach. In an effort to overcome this shortcoming, the results of the ‘stellar’ model have been used to estimate the contributions of the s- and r-process to the Solar system abundances. This method is based on post-processing nucleosynthesis calculation performed in the framework of ‘realistic’ stellar models. The first attempt to apply this method was made by Gallino et al. (1998) and Arlandini et al. (1999), and more recently by Bisterzo et al. (2010) with updated nuclear input. These authors showed that the solar s-process main component can be reasonably reproduced by a post-processing calculation from a particular choice (mass and extension) of the ^{13}C pocket (the main neutron source in AGB stars) by averaging the results of stellar AGB models (Gallino et al. 1998) between 1.5 and $3 M_{\odot}$ with $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] \sim -0.3$. This model is particularly successful in reproducing the s-only nuclei solar abundances and showed general improvements with respect to the classical method, especially in the mass region $A < 88$ (Arlandini et al. 1999). In fact, all these nuclei (mainly produced by the weak s-component) are synthesized in much smaller quantities. This difference is caused by the very high neutron exposures reached in the stellar model,

which favour the production of heavier elements. In particular, at the s-termination path, ^{208}Pb is produced four times more than in the classical approach. Nevertheless, the stellar model used to derive the physical inputs of post-process calculations are affected by several theoretical uncertainties. One of the less constrained physical mechanisms is the one leading to the formation of the ^{13}C pocket, which forms at the base of the convective envelope after each TDU episode. Different processes have been proposed as responsible for the formation of such a pocket: convective overshoot (Herwig et al. 1997), gravity waves (Denissenkov & Tout 2003; Battino et al. 2016), opacity induced overshoot (Cristallo et al. 2009), and mixing induced by magnetic mixing (Trippella et al. 2016). Other critical quantities are the mass fraction dredged-up after each thermal instability (third dredge up, TDU) during the AGB phase, and the mass-loss rate. Actually, the two processes are degenerate, since the number (and the efficiency) of TDUs is determined by the mass of the H-exhausted core and of the H-rich convective envelope, which in turn depend on the adopted mass-loss rate. However, AGB stellar models show that an asymptotic s-process distribution is reached after a limited number of pulses, so the mass-loss uncertainty mainly affects the total yield of the s-processed material, and not so much the shape of the resulting distribution (see e.g. fig. 12 in Cristallo et al. 2015b). In the ‘stellar’ model, the r-residuals are calculated subtracting the arithmetic average of the 1.5 and $3 M_{\odot}$ models at $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] \sim -0.3$ ($Z \sim 1/2Z_{\odot}$)² best reproducing the main s-component to the observed solar abundances. In Arlandini et al. (1999) the s- and r-components obtained by the stellar model method are compared to the classical one for nuclei $A > 88$, together with the corresponding uncertainty determined from the cross-sections and solar abundances. Uncertainties in the s- and r-residuals coming from the stellar model itself are, however, difficult to estimate.

The massive star contribution to the solar s-only composition has been explored with non-rotating stellar models in e.g. Prantzos et al. (1990), Raiteri et al. (1993) and more recently, with rotating massive stars in Pignatari et al. (2008), Frischknecht et al. (2016), Choplin et al. (2017, 2018), Limongi & Chieffi (2018). Such models have their own uncertainties (mass-loss, mixing, nuclear etc.). The role of rotation, in particular, is poorly explored and understood at present. The main reason is that the rotation-driven instabilities are included in a parametric way, and this means that the efficiency with which fresh protons are ingested in the He-burning zone is not based on first principles but it is determined by two free parameters that must be calibrated. The calibration adopted in the models adopted in this paper is discussed in detail in Limongi & Chieffi (2018). Moreover, since the proton ingestion scales directly with the initial rotational velocity (and hence the neutron flux as well), the adopted initial distribution of rotational velocities (IDROV) plays a pivotal role: already in Paper I we have shown that at least the average rotational velocity of the stars must be limited to $< 50 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ at metallicities $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}] > -1$, in order to avoid an overproduction of heavy nuclei, mainly in the Ba peak. But there are also other subtle indirect factors that may change the yields predicted by rotating models: in order to bring protons in an He active environment, at least part of the H-rich mantle must be present while He is burning. A substantial change in the mass-loss rate (e.g. due to the inclusion of a dust-driven component to the mass-loss rate or to overcome

²We adopt here the usual notation $[\text{X}/\text{H}] = \log(\text{X}/\text{H})_{\star} - \log(\text{X}/\text{H})_{\odot}$, where $(\text{X}/\text{H})_{\star}$ is the abundance by number of the element X in the corresponding object.

of the Eddington luminosity) may affect the range of masses that retain a substantial fraction of the H-rich mantle while the stars are in the central He-burning phase.

Uncertainties of stellar models is one of the reasons why the validity of the stellar method has been questioned (see e.g. Arnould et al. 2007). Another one is that this method does not consider the solar *s*-(*r*-)process abundance distribution in an astrophysical framework, i.e. as the result of all the previous generations of stars which polluted the interstellar medium prior to the formation of the Solar system. In particular, these generations of stars covered a large range of metallicities and *not a unique value (or even a limited range of values) of $[Fe/H]$* as it is assumed in the classical and stellar methods. For instance, it is well known that at low metallicities a large neutron/seed ratio is obtained, leading to the production of the heaviest *s*-nuclei, while at high metallicities the opposite happens (see e.g. Travaglio et al. 2004, and references therein).

The Solar system *s*-(*r*-) process abundances have to be understood in the framework of a GCE model. This is certainly a difficult task that requires a good understanding of the star formation history in the Galaxy, of stellar evolution, and of the interplay between stars and the interstellar gas, among other things. We are still far from fully understanding these issues. Therefore, this third method is based on a necessarily schematic description of the situation considering the chemical evolution of our Galaxy, accounting for the fact that the site(s) of the *r*-process have not been clearly identified yet. Attempts to obtain the *s*- and *r*- components of the solar composition from a GCE model were pioneered by Travaglio et al. (2004), later updated by Serminato et al. (2009), and more recently by Bisterzo et al. (2014, 2017). These authors employed a GCE code adopting *s*-process yields from AGB stellar models by Gallino et al. (1998) in a range of masses and metallicities (see these papers for details). Regarding the *r*-process yields, and for elements from Ba to Pb, they estimated the contribution to the Solar system by subtracting the *s*-residuals from the solar abundances. Then, they scale the *r*-process yields to the yield of a primary element (in a similar way we do here, see equation 4) mainly produced in core-collapse supernovae, which they assumed to occur in the mass range 8–10 M_{\odot} . They derived the weak *s*-process contribution from Raiteri et al. (1993). On the other hand, for the lighter elements, in particular for Sr–Y–Zr, they deduced the *r*-residuals and, thus, the *r*-process yields, from the abundance pattern found in CS 22892-052 (Snedden et al. 2002), by assuming that the abundance signatures of this star is of *pure r-process origin* (i.e. any contamination by other possible stellar sources is hidden by the *r*-process abundances).

The Bisterzo et al. (2014) model resulted in good agreement with the Solar *s*-only isotopic abundances between $^{134, 136}\text{Ba}$ and ^{204}Pb , also showing that the solar abundance of ^{208}Pb is well reproduced by metal-poor AGB stars, without requiring the existence of a ‘strong’ component in the *s*-process as is done in the classical method. Below the magic number $N = 82$, however, they found a significant discrepancy between the abundance distribution obtained with their GCE model and the Solar system values. It turned out that their GCE model underproduces the solar *s*-process component of the abundances of Sr, Y, and Zr by ~ 20 per cent – 30 per cent and also the *s*-only isotopes from ^{96}Mo up to ^{130}Xe . This result prompted Travaglio et al. (2004) to postulate the existence of another source of neutron-capture nucleosynthesis named the *light element primary process (LEPP)*. They argued that this process is different from the *s*-process in AGB stars and also different from the weak *s*-process component occurring in massive stars. The recent updates of this

study by Bisterzo et al. (2014, 2017), reach the same conclusion.³ In particular, these two studies ascribe a fraction ranging from 8 per cent to 18 per cent of the solar Sr, Y, and Zr abundances to this LEPP, and suggest that lighter elements from Cu to Kr could also be affected. On the other hand, they obtained an *r*-process fraction at the Solar system ranging from 8 per cent (Y) to 50 per cent (Ru).

The need of an LEPP has been recently questioned by Cristallo et al. (2015b) and later by Trippella et al. (2016) on the basis of a simple GCE model using updated *s*-process yields from AGB stars (Cristallo et al. 2011) and AGB stellar models only, respectively. These studies show that a fraction of the order of that ascribed to the LEPP in the predicted solar abundances of Sr, Y, and Zr can be easily obtained, for instance, by just a moderate change in the star formation rate prescription in a GCE model, still fulfilling the main observational constraints in the solar neighbourhood. The same effect can be found by modifying AGB stellar yields as due to nuclear uncertainties, or the choice of the mass and profile of the ^{13}C pocket. Introducing such changes in the GCE models (i.e. stellar yields) one can easily account for the *missing* fractions of the solar abundance of these elements within the observational uncertainties. In addition, in Paper I we have very recently shown that the LEPP is not necessary when metallicity-dependent *s*-process yields from rotating massive stars (i.e. the ‘weak’ *s*-process) are considered in a GCE model. The stellar yields adopted in that paper are from an extended grid of stellar masses, metallicities, and rotation velocities from Limongi & Chieffi (2018),⁴ for the first time in GCE studies, the IDROV was introduced through an empirically determined function of metallicity and rotation velocity.

In this study, we use the GCE model of Paper I to derive the *s*- and *r*-process contributions to the solar isotopic abundances in the full mass range from ^{69}Ga to ^{235}U through a new method.

3 THE METHOD

3.1 *s*-only and *r*-only isotopes

The classification of nuclei belonging to the *s*-only group is not a trivial task. By definition, an *s*-only nucleus owes its entire abundance to the slow neutron capture process. As a consequence, we tentatively identify as *s*-only any nucleus with atomic number Z for which a stable isobar with atomic number $Z-1$ (or $Z-2$) exists: that isobar shields the nucleus from any *r*-process contribution.

³Bisterzo et al. (2014, 2017) mainly focus on the impact of the different ^{13}C pocket choices in AGB stars and weak *s*-process yields from massive stars, on the *s*-process residuals at the epoch of the Solar System formation. In Bisterzo et al. (2017) yields from massive stars are included considering the impact of rotation in a limited range of masses and metallicities according to the models by Frischknecht et al. (2016).

⁴As stated in Paper I and Limongi & Chieffi (2018), the nuclear network for massive stars includes 335 isotopes in total, from H to ^{209}Bi , and is suited to properly follow all the stable and explosive nuclear burning stages of massive stars. The portion of the network from H to ^{98}Mo takes into account all the possible links among the various nuclear species due to weak and strong interactions. For heavier nuclei, we consider only (n, γ) and β -decays. Since we are mainly interested in following in detail the flux of neutrons through all the magic number bottlenecks and since in the neutron capture chain the slowest reactions are the ones involving magic nuclei, between ^{98}Mo and ^{209}Bi we explicitly follow and include in the nuclear network, all the stable and unstable isotopes around the magic numbers corresponding to $N = 82$ and $N = 126$ and assume all the other intermediate isotopes at local equilibrium.

However, such a condition is necessary, but not sufficient to define an s-only isotope. In fact, there are isotopes lying on the proton-rich side of the β -stability valley, that are shielded from the r-process, but may receive a non-negligible contribution from the p-process (see Travaglio et al. 2015). Moreover, there are isotopes with unstable isobars with (Z-1), whose lifetimes are comparable to the age of the Universe: in that case, therefore, a delayed r-process contribution cannot be excluded (e.g. for the couples ^{87}Sr - ^{87}Rb and ^{187}Os - ^{187}Re). Finally, there are a few isotopes, with stable (Z-1) isobars, which may receive an important contribution from the neutrino process in core-collapse supernovae (e.g. ^{113}In and ^{115}Sn ; see Fujimoto et al. 2007). As a matter of fact, in the past different lists of s-only isotopes circulated in the literature. We list in Table 1 the s-only isotopes considered in this study, including those that may receive a small contribution from other processes (see Travaglio et al. 2015).

The definition of r-only isotopes is even more ambiguous. In principle, at odds with s-only nuclei (shielded by the r-process from stable isobars), there is no nucleus fully shielded by the s-process. In fact, all nuclei on the neutron-rich side of the β -stability valley can receive a contribution (perhaps very small, but not null) from the s-process, depending on the activation of various branchings. For instance, net yields from AGB stars by Cristallo et al. (2015a) for isotopes marked as r-only in previous compilations (e.g. Goriely 1999 and Sneden et al. 2008) are all positive (from some per cent to significant fractions, depending on the isotope), apart from ^{130}Te . In this study we shall not pre-define ‘r-only’ nuclei, but we shall explore with our method the contribution of our stellar yields to the abundances of all heavy isotopes.

3.2 Assumptions

The method adopted in this study is based on a couple of key assumptions.

ASSUMPTION 1 Our current understanding of stellar nucleosynthesis and GCE allows us to reproduce the pre-solar isotopic abundances to a precision of (i) a factor of ~ 2 for elements with charge $2 < Z < 30$ (between Li and Zn) but (ii) to a factor of ~ 20 – 30 per cent (or less) for the s-component of heavier elements.

Statement (i) above is based on the fact that all calculations done up to now with ‘state-of-the-art’ stellar yields and models of the chemical evolution of the solar neighbourhood show indeed a dispersion of a factor ~ 2 around the solar value in the region up to the Fe-peak. This is true e.g. for the models of Timmes, Woosley & Weaver (1995), who adopted yields of Woosley & Weaver (1995), Goswami & Prantzos (2000) with yields of Woosley & Weaver (1995), Kubryk, Prantzos & Athanassoula (2015) with yields of Nomoto, Kobayashi & Tominaga (2013) and Paper I with yields of Limongi & Chieffi (2018). Even if in each case the adopted models and yields differ considerably, the outcome is the same: a dispersion by a factor of ~ 2 is always found, implying that uncertainties in the various parameters of the problem (regarding both stellar and galactic physics) remain important in the past two decades and so.

Statement (ii) is based on a limited sample of GCE models, namely those of Travaglio et al. (2004), Cristallo et al. (2015b), and Bisterzo et al. (2017) – see previous section – as well as our own model presented in Paper I. In those by Travaglio et al. (2004) and Bisterzo et al. (2017), the model values of most heavy pure s-nuclei barely exceeds the corresponding solar value and there is

Table 1. List of 30 s-only isotopes adopted in this work.

Z	Isotope	Possible contribution
32	^{70}Ge	–
34	^{76}Se	–
36	^{80}Kr	from p-process
36	^{82}Kr	–
38	^{86}Sr	from p-process
38	^{87}Sr	from ^{87}Rb
42	^{96}Mo	–
44	^{100}Ru	–
46	^{104}Pd	–
48	^{110}Cd	–
50	^{116}Sn	–
52	^{122}Te	–
52	^{123}Te	–
52	^{124}Te	–
54	^{128}Xe	–
54	^{130}Xe	–
56	^{134}Ba	–
56	^{136}Ba	–
60	^{142}Nd	–
62	^{148}Sm	–
62	^{150}Sm	–
64	^{154}Gd	–
66	^{160}Dy	–
70	^{170}Yb	–
71	^{176}Lu	Radiogenic to ^{176}Hf
72	^{176}Hf	Radiogenic from ^{176}Lu
76	^{186}Os	–
78	^{192}Pt	–
80	^{198}Hg	–
82	^{204}Pb	–

a systematic deficiency of ~ 20 – 30 per cent as one moves to lighter s-nuclei. This deficiency was interpreted as evidence for the need of another heavy isotope component, the so-called LEPP (see previous section). However, Paper I showed that rotating massive stars may produce through the weak s-process that ‘missing’ component, with no need for a new process. In that study, it is found that most pure s-nuclei are co-produced within ~ 10 – 20 per cent from their pre-solar values, with only a few of them displaying higher values (up to 40 per cent at most).

We think that it is illusory at the present stage of our knowledge to reproduce the pre-solar pure s-composition to a higher accuracy. We believe however that it is possible to use this result and try to infer the solar s- and r-components of all mixed (s + r) nuclei, as presented in Section 3.3.

ASSUMPTION 2 The r-process is of ‘primary’ nature and, in particular, it mimics the behaviour of the ‘alpha’ process which produces α -elements like e.g. ^{16}O . This assumption is based on the observational fact that pure r-elements, like Eu, display an α -like behaviour, i.e. the ratio [Eu/Fe] remains \sim constant at a value of ~ 0.3 – 0.5 dex during the late halo evolution and then declines smoothly to its solar value at [Fe/H] ~ 0 . This means that, in contrast to the s-process, which is basically of ‘secondary’ nature (i.e. the s-yields of both LIM stars and massive stars depend on the abundance of iron-seed nuclei), the r-yields are independent of the

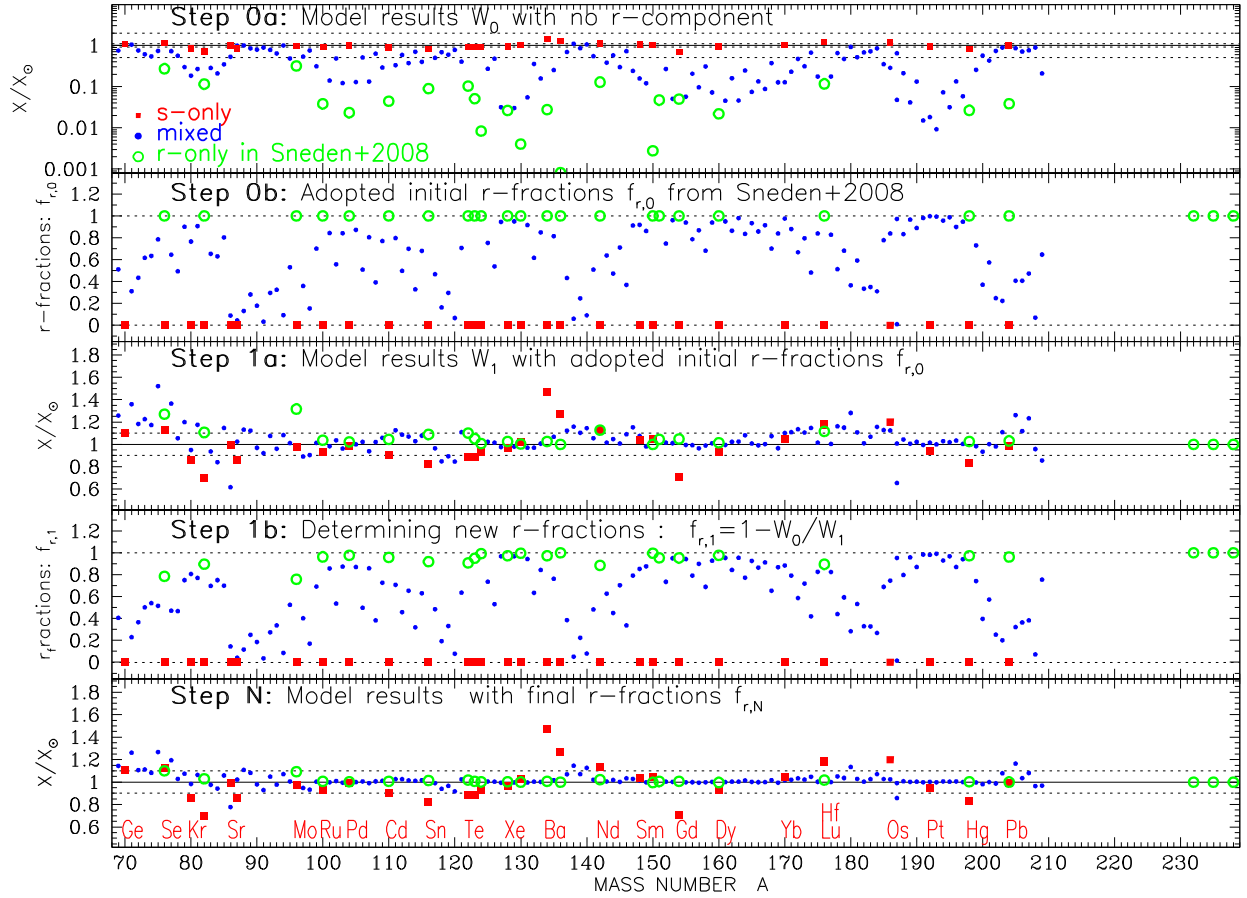


Figure 1. *Top:* Model results W_0 after Step 0, without r-component (see the text); horizontal dashed lines indicate levels of ± 10 per cent and a factor of 2 deviation from solar; *2nd from top:* Adopted initial r-fractions from Sneden et al. (2008); *3rd from top:* Results W_1 after Step 1, with r-component introduced from Sneden et al. (2008); horizontal dashed lines indicate levels of ± 10 per cent deviation from solar; *4th from top:* Our r-component after Step 1 is obtained as $r_1 = 1 - W_0/W_1$ (where the corresponding s-component is obtained first as $s_1 = W_0/W_1$) and is introduced in the next iteration; *Bottom:* Same as the 3d panel, after the final ($N = 17$ here) iteration of our ‘bootstrap’ method; horizontal dashed lines indicate levels of ± 10 per cent deviation from solar. Note that the scale in the Y-axis changes in the different panels. The names of the elements with s-only isotopes are indicated in the bottom panel.

initial metallicity of their source. The ratio of those yields to the yields of α -isotopes should then be constant with metallicity. These inferences allow one to adopt r-process yields ‘scaled’ to the stellar model yields used in the GCE model.

3.3 Method

Our ‘bootstrap’ method proceeds as follows:

Step 0: We run a GCE model as in Paper I but using exclusively the s-component for all elements with $Z > 30$. For that purpose we remove from the adopted yields the r-component (i.e. existing in the initial composition of the stars, through their scaled solar composition). In practice, we calculate a new set of yields as:

$$y_i(M, Z) = y_{i,0}(M, Z) - f_{r,i,0} X_{i,\odot} Z M_{ej}(M, Z), \quad (1)$$

where:

- (i) $y_{i,0}(M, Z)$ are the original yields of isotope i from stars of mass M and metallicity Z .
- (ii) $f_{r,i,0}$ is the solar r-fraction of nucleus i , as provided i.e. in Sneden et al. (2008) or Goriely (1999).
- (iii) $M_{ej}(M, Z)$ is the total mass ejected by the star of mass M and metallicity Z .

The results of the model at the time of Solar system formation (i.e. 4.56 Gyr before the end of the simulation) are stored as

$$W_{i,0} = X_{i,0}/X_{i,\odot} \quad (2)$$

i.e. they are normalized to the corresponding Solar system isotopic abundances adopted from Lodders, Palme & Gail (2009). These normalized abundances appear in the top panel of Fig. 1 for all nuclei with charge $Z > 30$.

Among the s-only nuclei (red dots), most are reproduced within a factor of 20 per cent solar abundances (see also Paper I⁵), except Kr, Ba, and Gd which differ from their solar values by 20–40 per cent. Taking into account the uncertainties in nuclear, stellar, and galactic physics involved in the calculation, which lead to a larger dispersion for the lighter nuclei (up to 100 per cent, factor of ~ 2 , see fig. 11 in Paper I), we think that this agreement is quite satisfactory.

⁵Notice that with respect to Paper I we have slightly reduced here the proportion of fast rotating massive stars (at 300 km s^{-1}) in our mixture, in order to avoid an overproduction of the lighter s-only nuclei like ^{70}Ge and ^{76}Se ; this reduction affects correspondingly the results of $^{80,82}\text{Kr}$ (compare e.g. to fig. 11 in Paper I) but no other nuclei, either lighter or heavier ones, since they are essentially produced by LIM stars.

In particular, regarding the nuclear uncertainties, we note that our results are obtained with nucleosynthesis calculations using the set of neutron capture cross-sections described in Straniero et al. (2006). Since then, two new cross-sections became available, i.e. those of ^{176}Lu (Wisshak et al. 2006a) and ^{176}Hf (Wisshak et al. 2006b). Both cross-sections are larger than those adopted to calculate our models, so that we expect a decrease for both isotopes (see Table 1), thus providing a better agreement with observations. We expect a similar behaviour for ^{134}Ba (and possibly ^{136}Ba): both neutron capture cross-sections will be measured in the next years at the n.TOF facility (Guerrero et al. 2013). Moreover, we further stress that the abundance of ^{134}Ba strongly depends on the activation of the branching at ^{134}Cs , whose neutron capture cross-section and temperature-dependent β -decay lifetime are rather uncertain. By varying theoretical nuclear inputs within uncertainties in a single model, we can obtain a decrease of about 15 per cent and 12 per cent for ^{134}Ba and ^{136}Ba , respectively (see also Goriely 1999; Cristallo et al. 2015b). All the above concern s-only isotopes which are overproduced with respect to their pre-Solar system values in Fig. 1.

As for the s-only isotopes that are underproduced with respect to the solar distribution, we stress that the neutron capture cross-section of ^{82}Kr is quite uncertain at typical s-process temperatures (~ 25 per cent at 8 keV; KADONIS data base⁶). Moreover, it has to be stressed that the solar Kr and Xe abundances are not directly measured in the Sun, but they ‘are based on theoretical values from neutron-capture element systematics’ (Lodders 2003). On the other hand, the synthesis of ^{154}Gd is strongly affected by the branching at ^{154}Eu . Its neutron capture cross-section has never been measured and its temperature-dependent β -decay lifetime is uncertain by a factor of three (Goriely 1999). Note that for the decay, no hints on its trend between 5×10^7 K and laboratory temperature is provided in Takahashi & Yokoi (1987). As already done for barium isotopes, if we just vary theoretical nuclear inputs within uncertainties, we can obtain an increase of about 25 per cent for ^{154}Gd .⁷

Finally, it should be emphasized that we did not make any attempt to adjust the parameters of the GCE model (distribution of stellar rotational velocities, initial mass function, or star formation and infall rates) as to optimize the s-only distribution; as discussed in Paper I, our GCE model is tuned in order to reproduce as well as possible local parameters like the current gas fraction, the metallicity distribution, and age–metallicity relation and the abundances of major elements like O and Fe at Solar system formation. Despite that, we find that the parameter

$$g = \exp \left[\frac{1}{n_s} \sum_{Z,A}^{n_s} \ln^2 \frac{N_{\text{cal}}(Z,A)}{N_{\odot}(Z,A)} \right]^{1/2}, \quad (3)$$

where the sum runs over the $n_s = 30$ s-only nuclei (of charge Z and mass A , see Table 1) is $g = 1.18$, i.e. it is not much higher than the value of 1.10 obtained in Goriely (1999). This author optimized the few parameters of his multievent model as to minimize g , while we did not attempt such an optimization here (with a classical analysis Goriely 1999 found $g = 1.44$). Although our results are obtained with a different method and data (nuclear cross-sections, stellar conditions, solar abundances), we believe that our result regarding the s-only distribution is quite reasonable and constitutes a good starting point for our GCE method. We discuss a little more our

distribution of the s-component of our GCE model in Section 4, where we present the resulting $\sigma_A N_A$ distribution.

We emphasize here that, in contrast to the GCE method of Travaglio et al. (2004), Bisterzo et al. (2014, 2017) we do not proceed directly after the first run to the evaluation of the solar s-component by subtracting our results from the solar composition. This might lead to the need of an LEPP to justify the underproduction of several s-only nuclei, as the aforementioned GCE studies did. We proceed in a different way, allowing us to keep the ‘s-only’ property of the isotopes of Table 1 and at the same time evaluate self-consistently the s-fraction of the mixed (s + r) isotopes. For that, we need to introduce a priori their r-fractions, as described below.

Step 1: We run a model by using now the original stellar yields $y_{i,0}(M, Z)$ and introducing this time the r-component of each isotope as in Paper I, namely by assuming that it is co-produced with a typical product of massive stars like ^{16}O , i.e. the new yield for massive stars ($M > 10 M_{\odot}$) is

$$y_{i,1}(M, Z) = y_{i,0}(M, Z) + f_{r,i,0} y_{^{16}\text{O}}(M, Z) X_{i,\odot}/X_{^{16}\text{O},\odot}, \quad (4)$$

where the last term represents the r-component of the yield and $f_{r,i,0}$ is an ‘educated guess’ for the solar r-fraction of isotope i ; we start by adopting the r-fractions of Sneden et al. (2008) but our results are independent of that choice (see below).

The underlying physical assumption of equation (4) is that ^{16}O and the r-component have the same source, namely massive stars and this implicit assumption allows one to reproduce naturally the observed alpha-like behaviour of elements that are mostly of r-origin, like e.g. Eu. The method can be used in essentially the same way in the case that the main source of r-process turns out to be a rare class of massive stars, like collapsars (see e.g. Siegel et al. 2019, and references therein). In that case a stochastic treatment should be made, e.g. as applied for neutron star mergers in Ojima et al. (2018). If neutron star mergers are assumed to be the site of the r-process, a different prescription should be used, involving the rate of occurrence of that site (through a delayed time distribution, as for SNIa, e.g. Côté et al. 2018) and the mass ejected in the form of isotope i , normalized as to get a solar abundance for the pure r-isotopes of Th and U.

Notice that in this run we treat *all* nuclei except the s-only ones of Table 1 as mixed s + r: those classified as pure r- in Sneden et al. (2008) or Goriely (1999) are also treated as such. They are simply given an *initial r-fraction* $f_{r,i,0} = 1$, which may change after Step 1. The result of the new run is also plotted in Fig. 1 for all isotopes with charge $Z > 30$ as overabundances

$$W_{i,1} = X_{i,1}/X_{i,\odot}, \quad (5)$$

where

$$X_{i,1} = X_{s,i,1} + X_{r,i,1} \quad (6)$$

with $X_{s,i,1} = X_{s,i,0}$ (the s-component remains the same) and

$$X_{r,i,1}/X_{i,\odot} = C f_{r,i,0} \quad (7)$$

is the r-component (proportional to the r-fraction $f_{r,i}$) with the constant C being the IMF average of the r-component term in equation (4) and adjusted as to obtain at Solar system formation the exact solar abundances of pure r-isotopes, like Th, which we use here as benchmarks.⁸ The value of C depends on the adopted

⁶<https://exp-astro.de/kadonis1.0/>

⁷Note that the ^{154}Gd neutron capture cross-section has been recently measured at the n.TOF facility (Massimi et al., in preparation)

⁸The radioactive decay of Th and U isotopes is properly taken into account in our GCE model.

ingredients of the GCE model (IMF, SF, and infall rates, stellar yields) and it is ~ 1.12 in our case. One notices that:

(i) s-only isotopes are produced exactly at the same level as in step 0, since their yields have not been modified.

(ii) r-only isotopes with the meaning discussed in Section 3.1 are produced exactly at their pre-solar abundances – because of the adopted normalization in equations (4) and (7) – except a few of them which have received a non-zero contribution from the s-process in step 0 (see green symbols in top panel of Fig. 1) and are now slightly overproduced. The most prominent of them are ^{76}Ge (by ~ 25 per cent), ^{82}Se (~ 10 per cent), ^{96}Zr (~ 30 per cent), and ^{142}Ce (~ 15 per cent), as shown in the third panel of Fig. 1.

(iii) isotopes of mixed (s + r) origin are nicely co-produced w.r.t. their pre-solar abundances, to better than 10 per cent in general, although in some regions (A $\sim 205, 180, 138, <95$) they are overproduced by ~ 20 per cent and the overproduction reaches 40 per cent for the lightest ones.

Obviously, by comparing the results of runs 0 and 1 (top and third from top panels) one may obtain the s-fraction of each mixed isotope as

$$f_{s,i,1} = W_{i,0}/W_{i,1} = W_{i,0}/(W_{i,0} + C f_{r,i,0}) \quad (8)$$

and the corresponding r-fraction as

$$f_{r,i,1} = 1 - f_{s,i,1} = 1 - W_{i,0}/(W_{i,0} + C f_{r,i,0}). \quad (9)$$

This procedure was adopted in Paper I, albeit not for the pure r-isotopes for which we assumed a final r-fraction equal to the initial one $f_r = 1$. However, at this level the method was obviously not self-consistent: the resulting r-residuals, obtained with equation (9) were not the same as those used to run the model with the r-component in equation (4). This is obvious in the fourth panel of Fig. 1, in particular regarding the r-fractions of ^{76}Ge (which is now ~ 80 per cent instead of 100 per cent initially) and ^{82}Se (now ~ 90 per cent instead of 100 per cent).

Step 3: In this study, seeking for self-consistency, we proceed by injecting the obtained r-fractions of step 1 and equation (9) into the yields of equation (4) and running a new model. The results of the new model are identical with those of previous calculations regarding all isotopes below $Z = 30$ and the pure s-ones, but they fit slightly better the pre-solar distribution of mixed s + r isotopes.

We evaluate the quality of the fit to the solar composition through a simple χ^2 test and we repeat running the models injecting each time the new r-fraction obtained through equation (9) into the yields of mixed isotopes. The fit improves slower and slower as the number of iterations increases, until the improvement becomes negligible (less than 1 part in a thousand) and we stop. This happens in general after 10–20 iterations, depending on the initial r-fractions adopted.⁹

From the mathematical point of view, it can be easily shown that the quantities W (equation 5), f_s (equation 8), and f_r (equation 9), expressed as recursive functions, converge to the values indicated in Table 2, depending on whether the constant C is greater or smaller than the initial overabundance W_0 ,¹⁰ i.e. the s-component. In other terms, our results for the s- and r-fractions depend uniquely on (i)

Table 2. Limits of recursive functions W, f_s , and f_r for $k \rightarrow \infty$.

Function	$C > W_0$	$C \leq W_0$
$W_k = W_0 + C f_{r,k-1}$	C	W_0
$f_{s,k} = \frac{W_0}{W_0 + C f_{r,k-1}}$	$\frac{W_0}{C}$	1
$f_{r,k} = 1 - \frac{W_0}{W_0 + C f_{r,k-1}}$	$1 - \frac{W_0}{C}$	0

the adopted stellar yields of s-isotopes (which determine, along with the chemical evolution model, the term W_0), and (ii) the goodness of the fit to the pure r-isotopes of Th and U (which determine through equations (4) and (7) the constant C), but they are independent of the choice of the initial values of $f_{r,0}$.

The reason why this iterative method improves – albeit slightly – the overall fit is due to the fact that the sum of the s- and r-fractions for a mixed nucleus is always $f_s + f_r = 1$. If the new s-fraction is found (equation 8) to be smaller than the original one, then the new r-fraction is automatically found to be larger than the original one to compensate, and vice versa.

In the bottom panel of Fig. 1 we display the results of the final run. The agreement with pre-solar abundances is now considerably improved for the mixed (s + r) nuclei, which are reproduced to better than a few per cent in most cases. We consider this a satisfactory result and we believe that it is the best one may hope to get from current models of stellar nucleosynthesis and GCE.

We also repeated the procedure by adopting the initial r-residuals of Goriely (1999) and we obtained quantitatively similar results for all mixed (s + r) isotopes, except for the few cases which are classified as pure s- or r- by Goriely (1999) but not by Sneden et al. (2008); these are cases where the minor residual has a very small contribution to the isotopic abundance, typically less than a few per cent, which may be smaller than the uncertainties defined by the method of Goriely (1999).

4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Our results concerning the s- and r-fractions of all the heavy isotopes are presented in Table 3, along with those of Goriely (1999) and Sneden et al. (2008) as well as those of Bisterzo et al. (2014); notice that for the latter we provide only the s-contribution (see below). For an easier comparison with those studies, the data are also presented in Figs 2 and 3. Although it is impossible (and rather meaningless) to perform a one-to-one comparison for each isotope, we notice some important features.

4.1 The s- and r-fractions

We start by displaying in Fig. 2 the results for heavy nuclei that have been classified as s-only (top) or r-only (bottom) in each of the studies of Goriely (1999), Sneden et al. (2008), and the present one. We emphasize that in our study the nuclei considered as s-only in the beginning (Model 0) are also found to be s-only during the whole procedure and in the final model, since the adopted yields for those species are always the same (exactly as in the case of nuclei lighter than $Z = 31$). This does not mean that their final abundances match perfectly well the corresponding Solar system abundances. But we consider that the obtained deviations from the solar abundances are a natural feature of the adopted GCE method, reflecting the current limitations of 1-zone models of GCE (coming mainly from stellar yields).

⁹The number of iterations required to reach a given level of convergence increases with decreasing $f_{r,0}$; for a level of 10^{-2} we find that 20–30 iterations are sufficient.

¹⁰This can be trivially obtained by putting $f_r = f_{r,0}$ in equation (9)

Table 3. Contribution (by mass fraction) to the Solar system isotopic composition by the s- and r-process, as obtained in Sneden et al. (2008), Goriely (1999), Bisterzo et al. (2014) (only for the s-process), and this work. Solar system abundances N_{\odot} from Lodders et al. (2009) are given per 10^6 Si atoms.

Z	Isotope		Sne+2008		Gor1999		Bis2014	This work	
	A	N_{\odot}	s-	r-	s-	r-	s-	s-	r-
31	⁶⁹ Ga	2.20E+01	0.490	0.510	0.719	0.281	–	0.653	0.347
31	⁷¹ Ga	1.46E+01	0.689	0.311	0.866	0.134	–	0.832	0.168
32	⁷⁰ Ge	2.43E+01	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	–	1.000	0.000
32	⁷² Ge	3.17E+01	0.567	0.433	1.000	0.000	–	0.678	0.322
32	⁷³ Ge	8.80E+00	0.384	0.616	0.283	0.717	–	0.548	0.452
32	⁷⁴ Ge	4.12E+01	0.366	0.634	0.522	0.478	–	0.499	0.501
32	⁷⁶ Ge	8.50E+00	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.000	–	0.247	0.753
33	⁷⁵ As	6.10E+00	0.215	0.785	0.380	0.620	–	0.581	0.419
34	⁷⁶ Se	6.32E+00	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	–	1.000	0.000
34	⁷⁷ Se	5.15E+00	0.356	0.644	0.270	0.730	–	0.605	0.395
34	⁷⁸ Se	1.60E+01	0.507	0.493	1.000	0.000	–	0.547	0.453
34	⁸⁰ Se	3.35E+01	0.235	0.765	0.161	0.839	–	0.187	0.813
34	⁸² Se	5.89E+00	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.000	–	0.111	0.889
35	⁷⁹ Br	5.43E+00	0.100	0.900	0.114	0.886	–	0.278	0.722
35	⁸¹ Br	5.28E+00	0.094	0.906	0.229	0.771	–	0.252	0.748
36	⁸⁰ Kr	1.30E+00	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.133	1.000	0.000
36	⁸² Kr	6.51E+00	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.274	1.000	0.000
36	⁸³ Kr	6.45E+00	0.347	0.653	0.321	0.679	0.095	0.291	0.709
36	⁸⁴ Kr	3.18E+01	0.370	0.630	0.257	0.743	0.117	0.222	0.778
36	⁸⁶ Kr	9.61E+00	0.911	0.089	1.000	0.000	0.152	0.677	0.323
37	⁸⁵ Rb	5.12E+00	0.198	0.802	0.440	0.560	0.153	0.326	0.674
37	⁸⁷ Rb	2.11E+00	0.957	0.043	0.861	0.139	0.249	0.960	0.040
38	⁸⁶ Sr	2.30E+00	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.611	1.000	0.000
38	⁸⁷ Sr	1.60E+00	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.582	1.000	0.000
38	⁸⁸ Sr	1.92E+01	0.869	0.131	0.787	0.213	0.711	0.903	0.097
39	⁸⁹ Y	4.63E+00	0.719	0.281	0.760	0.240	0.719	0.778	0.222
40	⁹⁰ Zr	5.55E+00	0.821	0.179	0.529	0.471	0.603	0.807	0.193
40	⁹¹ Zr	1.21E+00	0.967	0.033	0.826	0.174	0.712	0.957	0.043
40	⁹² Zr	1.85E+00	0.705	0.295	0.966	0.034	0.682	0.745	0.255
40	⁹⁴ Zr	1.87E+00	0.908	0.092	1.000	0.000	0.836	0.925	0.075
40	⁹⁶ Zr	3.02E–01	0.000	1.000	1.000	0.000	0.387	0.291	0.709
41	⁹³ Nb	7.80E–01	0.676	0.324	0.873	0.127	0.560	0.651	0.349
42	⁹⁵ Mo	4.04E–01	0.470	0.530	0.653	0.347	0.454	0.479	0.521
42	⁹⁶ Mo	4.25E–01	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.782	1.000	0.000
42	⁹⁷ Mo	2.45E–01	0.642	0.358	0.670	0.330	0.433	0.563	0.437
42	⁹⁸ Mo	6.22E–01	0.847	0.153	0.881	0.119	0.575	0.804	0.196
42	¹⁰⁰ Mo	2.50E–01	0.000	1.000	0.096	0.904	0.023	0.038	0.962
44	⁹⁹ Ru	2.27E–01	0.300	0.700	0.238	0.762	0.210	0.312	0.688
44	¹⁰⁰ Ru	2.24E–01	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.801	1.000	0.000
44	¹⁰¹ Ru	3.04E–01	0.158	0.842	0.122	0.878	0.128	0.141	0.859
44	¹⁰² Ru	5.62E–01	0.444	0.556	0.440	0.560	0.433	0.476	0.524
44	¹⁰⁴ Ru	3.32E–01	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.014	0.023	0.977
45	¹⁰³ Rh	3.70E–01	0.160	0.840	0.197	0.803	0.118	0.122	0.878
46	¹⁰⁴ Pd	1.51E–01	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.839	1.000	0.000
46	¹⁰⁵ Pd	3.03E–01	0.129	0.871	0.123	0.877	0.107	0.129	0.871
46	¹⁰⁶ Pd	3.71E–01	0.491	0.509	0.539	0.461	0.398	0.510	0.490
46	¹⁰⁸ Pd	3.59E–01	0.609	0.391	0.669	0.331	0.505	0.625	0.375
46	¹¹⁰ Pd	1.59E–01	0.000	1.000	0.019	0.981	0.016	0.044	0.956
47	¹⁰⁷ Ag	2.54E–01	0.195	0.805	0.169	0.831	0.001	0.134	0.866
47	¹⁰⁹ Ag	2.36E–01	0.231	0.769	0.271	0.729	0.226	0.286	0.714
48	¹¹⁰ Cd	1.97E–01	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.776	1.000	0.000
48	¹¹¹ Cd	2.01E–01	0.203	0.797	0.244	0.756	0.249	0.321	0.679
48	¹¹² Cd	3.80E–01	0.503	0.497	0.537	0.463	0.499	0.575	0.425
48	¹¹³ Cd	1.92E–01	0.302	0.698	0.354	0.646	0.285	0.365	0.635
48	¹¹⁴ Cd	4.52E–01	0.672	0.328	0.619	0.381	0.591	0.693	0.307
48	¹¹⁶ Cd	1.18E–01	0.000	1.000	0.191	0.809	0.088	0.087	0.913
49	¹¹⁵ In	1.70E–01	0.320	0.680	0.347	0.653	0.298	0.391	0.609
50	¹¹⁶ Sn	5.24E–01	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.683	1.000	0.000
50	¹¹⁷ Sn	2.77E–01	0.533	0.467	0.458	0.542	0.384	0.501	0.499
50	¹¹⁸ Sn	8.73E–01	0.837	0.163	0.721	0.279	0.554	0.728	0.272
50	¹¹⁹ Sn	3.09E–01	0.705	0.295	0.405	0.595	0.469	0.618	0.382
50	¹²⁰ Sn	1.18E+00	0.934	0.066	0.818	0.182	0.627	0.850	0.150

Table 3 – continued

Z	Isotope		Sne+2008		Gor1999		Bis2014	This work	
	A	N _⊙	s-	r-	s-	r-	s-	s-	r-
50	¹²² Sn	1.67E-01	0.000	1.000	0.090	0.910	0.364	0.101	0.899
50	¹²⁴ Sn	2.09E-01	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.000	–	0.008	0.992
51	¹²¹ Sb	1.79E-01	0.294	0.706	0.533	0.467	0.309	0.393	0.607
51	¹²³ Sb	1.34E-01	0.000	1.000	0.157	0.843	0.050	0.051	0.949
52	¹²² Te	1.22E-01	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.736	1.000	0.000
52	¹²³ Te	4.30E-02	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.741	1.000	0.000
52	¹²⁴ Te	2.26E-01	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.781	1.000	0.000
52	¹²⁵ Te	3.35E-01	0.248	0.752	0.236	0.764	0.174	0.269	0.731
52	¹²⁶ Te	8.89E-01	0.462	0.538	0.447	0.553	0.363	0.474	0.526
52	¹²⁸ Te	1.49E+00	0.000	1.000	0.011	0.989	0.033	0.026	0.974
52	¹³⁰ Te	1.58E+00	0.000	1.000	0.003	0.997	–	0.004	0.996
53	¹²⁷ I	1.10E+00	0.055	0.945	0.229	0.771	0.038	0.032	0.968
54	¹²⁸ Xe	1.22E-01	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.763	1.000	0.000
54	¹²⁹ Xe	1.50E+00	0.051	0.949	0.280	0.720	0.028	0.030	0.970
54	¹³⁰ Xe	2.39E-01	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.851	1.000	0.000
54	¹³¹ Xe	1.19E+00	0.084	0.916	0.309	0.691	0.065	0.055	0.945
54	¹³² Xe	1.44E+00	0.384	0.616	0.546	0.454	0.268	0.353	0.647
54	¹³⁴ Xe	5.27E-01	0.000	1.000	0.269	0.731	0.041	0.028	0.972
54	¹³⁶ Xe	4.29E-01	0.000	1.000	0.231	0.769	–	0.001	0.999
55	¹³³ Cs	3.71E-01	0.151	0.849	0.167	0.833	0.135	0.157	0.843
56	¹³⁴ Ba	1.08E-01	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.011	1.000	0.000
56	¹³⁵ Ba	2.95E-01	0.186	0.814	0.159	0.841	0.285	0.249	0.751
56	¹³⁶ Ba	3.51E-01	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.013	1.000	0.000
56	¹³⁷ Ba	5.02E-01	0.568	0.432	0.661	0.339	0.632	0.647	0.353
56	¹³⁸ Ba	3.21E+00	0.940	0.060	0.933	0.067	0.918	0.959	0.041
57	¹³⁹ La	4.57E-01	0.754	0.246	0.656	0.344	0.755	0.800	0.200
58	¹⁴⁰ Ce	1.04E+00	0.909	0.091	0.846	0.154	0.920	0.935	0.065
58	¹⁴² Ce	1.31E-01	0.000	1.000	0.496	0.504	0.195	0.126	0.874
59	¹⁴¹ Pr	1.72E-01	0.491	0.509	0.360	0.640	0.499	0.535	0.465
60	¹⁴² Nd	2.31E-01	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.983	1.000	0.000
60	¹⁴³ Nd	1.03E-01	0.363	0.637	0.315	0.685	0.329	0.377	0.623
60	¹⁴⁴ Nd	2.03E-01	0.528	0.472	0.508	0.492	0.522	0.565	0.435
60	¹⁴⁵ Nd	7.50E-02	0.290	0.710	0.280	0.720	0.262	0.297	0.703
60	¹⁴⁶ Nd	1.47E-01	0.632	0.368	0.637	0.363	0.660	0.699	0.301
60	¹⁴⁸ Nd	4.90E-02	0.083	0.917	0.141	0.859	0.173	0.156	0.844
60	¹⁵⁰ Nd	4.80E-02	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.000	–	0.003	0.997
62	¹⁴⁷ Sm	4.10E-02	0.088	0.912	0.185	0.815	0.265	0.234	0.766
62	¹⁴⁸ Sm	3.00E-02	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.034	1.000	0.000
62	¹⁴⁹ Sm	3.70E-02	0.139	0.861	0.127	0.873	0.129	0.121	0.879
62	¹⁵⁰ Sm	2.00E-02	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.000	1.000	0.000
62	¹⁵² Sm	7.10E-02	0.254	0.746	0.196	0.804	0.228	0.268	0.732
62	¹⁵⁴ Sm	6.00E-02	0.000	1.000	0.008	0.992	0.025	0.049	0.951
63	¹⁵¹ Eu	4.71E-02	0.000	1.000	0.040	0.960	0.059	0.047	0.953
63	¹⁵³ Eu	5.14E-02	0.040	0.960	0.037	0.963	0.061	0.050	0.950
64	¹⁵⁴ Gd	7.80E-03	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.891	1.000	0.000
64	¹⁵⁵ Gd	5.33E-02	0.062	0.938	0.122	0.878	0.060	0.057	0.943
64	¹⁵⁶ Gd	7.36E-02	0.214	0.786	0.213	0.787	0.179	0.206	0.794
64	¹⁵⁷ Gd	5.63E-02	0.132	0.868	0.163	0.837	0.111	0.097	0.903
64	¹⁵⁸ Gd	8.94E-02	0.318	0.682	0.313	0.687	0.275	0.308	0.692
64	¹⁶⁰ Gd	7.87E-02	0.000	1.000	0.058	0.942	0.007	0.022	0.978
65	¹⁵⁹ Tb	6.34E-02	0.063	0.938	0.052	0.948	0.080	0.072	0.928
66	¹⁶⁰ Dy	9.40E-03	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.901	1.000	0.000
66	¹⁶¹ Dy	7.62E-02	0.051	0.949	0.028	0.972	0.053	0.046	0.954
66	¹⁶² Dy	1.03E-01	0.137	0.863	0.125	0.875	0.160	0.159	0.841
66	¹⁶³ Dy	1.01E-01	0.021	0.979	0.033	0.967	0.044	0.046	0.954
66	¹⁶⁴ Dy	1.14E-01	0.165	0.835	0.097	0.903	0.239	0.243	0.757
67	¹⁶⁵ Ho	9.10E-02	0.067	0.933	0.078	0.922	0.083	0.074	0.926
68	¹⁶⁶ Er	8.80E-02	0.143	0.857	0.144	0.856	0.167	0.134	0.866
68	¹⁶⁷ Er	6.00E-02	0.086	0.914	0.090	0.910	0.094	0.088	0.912
68	¹⁶⁸ Er	7.10E-02	0.299	0.701	0.287	0.713	0.314	0.367	0.633
68	¹⁷⁰ Er	3.90E-02	0.026	0.974	0.054	0.946	0.126	0.126	0.874
69	¹⁶⁹ Tm	4.06E-02	0.162	0.838	0.163	0.837	0.091	0.128	0.872
70	¹⁷⁰ Yb	7.60E-03	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.958	1.000	0.000
70	¹⁷¹ Yb	3.61E-02	0.121	0.879	0.177	0.823	0.227	0.226	0.774

Table 3 – *continued*

Z	Isotope		Sne+2008		Gor1999		Bis2014	This work	
	A	N_{\odot}	s-	r-	s-	r-	s-	s-	r-
70	¹⁷² Yb	5.56E-02	0.333	0.667	0.315	0.685	0.439	0.454	0.546
70	¹⁷³ Yb	4.13E-02	0.205	0.795	0.235	0.765	0.278	0.305	0.695
70	¹⁷⁴ Yb	8.21E-02	0.519	0.481	0.524	0.476	0.609	0.635	0.365
70	¹⁷⁶ Yb	3.33E-02	0.000	1.000	0.123	0.877	0.072	0.115	0.885
71	¹⁷⁵ Lu	3.70E-02	0.162	0.838	0.176	0.824	0.181	0.176	0.824
71	¹⁷⁶ Lu	1.10E-03	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.055	1.000	0.000
72	¹⁷⁶ Hf	8.10E-03	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.001	1.000	0.000
72	¹⁷⁷ Hf	3.16E-02	0.172	0.828	0.247	0.753	0.173	0.175	0.825
72	¹⁷⁸ Hf	4.25E-02	0.488	0.512	0.548	0.452	0.575	0.618	0.382
72	¹⁷⁹ Hf	2.12E-02	0.318	0.682	0.349	0.651	0.412	0.451	0.549
72	¹⁸⁰ Hf	5.47E-02	0.636	0.364	0.735	0.265	0.894	0.809	0.191
73	¹⁸¹ Ta	2.10E-02	0.409	0.591	0.495	0.505	0.466	0.503	0.497
74	¹⁸² W	3.63E-02	0.667	0.333	0.625	0.375	0.638	0.675	0.325
74	¹⁸³ W	1.96E-02	0.650	0.350	0.668	0.332	0.622	0.701	0.299
74	¹⁸⁴ W	4.20E-02	0.690	0.310	0.748	0.252	0.788	0.790	0.210
74	¹⁸⁶ W	3.90E-02	0.162	0.838	0.372	0.628	0.424	0.279	0.721
75	¹⁸⁵ Re	2.07E-02	0.222	0.778	0.271	0.729	0.270	0.341	0.659
75	¹⁸⁷ Re	3.74E-02	0.029	0.971	0.150	0.850	0.094	0.048	0.952
76	¹⁸⁶ Os	1.08E-02	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.035	1.000	0.000
76	¹⁸⁷ Os	8.60E-03	0.990	0.010	1.000	0.000	0.374	0.751	0.249
76	¹⁸⁸ Os	9.04E-02	0.168	0.832	0.217	0.783	0.282	0.209	0.791
76	¹⁸⁹ Os	1.10E-01	0.035	0.965	0.064	0.936	0.048	0.041	0.959
76	¹⁹⁰ Os	1.79E-01	0.111	0.889	0.151	0.849	0.146	0.132	0.868
76	¹⁹² Os	2.78E-01	0.003	0.997	0.018	0.982	0.033	0.018	0.982
77	¹⁹¹ Ir	2.50E-01	0.020	0.980	0.084	0.916	0.019	0.015	0.985
77	¹⁹³ Ir	4.21E-01	0.007	0.993	0.078	0.922	0.014	0.009	0.991
78	¹⁹² Pt	1.00E-02	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.812	1.000	0.000
78	¹⁹⁴ Pt	4.20E-01	0.044	0.956	0.000	1.000	0.049	0.072	0.928
78	¹⁹⁵ Pt	4.31E-01	0.013	0.987	0.000	1.000	0.020	0.032	0.968
78	¹⁹⁶ Pt	3.22E-01	0.101	0.899	0.062	0.938	0.123	0.133	0.867
78	¹⁹⁸ Pt	9.10E-02	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.001	0.027	0.973
79	¹⁹⁷ Au	1.95E-01	0.054	0.946	0.021	0.979	0.061	0.058	0.942
80	¹⁹⁸ Hg	4.60E-02	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.828	1.000	0.000
80	¹⁹⁹ Hg	7.70E-02	0.271	0.729	0.342	0.658	0.216	0.255	0.745
80	²⁰⁰ Hg	1.06E-01	0.630	0.370	0.685	0.315	0.519	0.575	0.425
80	²⁰¹ Hg	6.00E-02	0.426	0.574	0.558	0.442	0.399	0.428	0.572
80	²⁰² Hg	1.37E-01	0.752	0.248	0.812	0.188	0.704	0.742	0.258
80	²⁰⁴ Hg	3.10E-02	0.000	1.000	0.142	0.858	0.082	0.038	0.962
81	²⁰³ Tl	5.40E-02	0.778	0.222	0.939	0.061	0.807	0.823	0.177
81	²⁰⁵ Tl	1.29E-01	0.594	0.406	0.615	0.385	0.667	0.735	0.265
82	²⁰⁴ Pb	6.60E-02	1.000	0.000	1.000	0.000	0.870	1.000	0.000
82	²⁰⁶ Pb	6.14E-01	0.594	0.406	0.679	0.321	0.729	0.688	0.312
82	²⁰⁷ Pb	6.80E-01	0.528	0.472	0.791	0.209	0.702	0.706	0.294
82	²⁰⁸ Pb	1.95E+00	0.931	0.069	1.000	0.000	0.977	0.922	0.078
83	²⁰⁹ Bi	1.38E-01	0.354	0.646	0.637	0.363	0.204	0.216	0.784
90	²³² Th	4.40E-02	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.000	–	0.000	1.000
92	²³⁵ U	5.80E-03	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.000	–	0.000	1.000
92	²³⁸ U	1.80E-02	0.000	1.000	0.000	1.000	–	0.000	1.000

Our method (dividing M0 by M1) allows us to attribute $f_s = 1$ to those nuclei that we *pre-defined* as s-only. This is not the case with the other studies using GCE models (Travaglio et al. 2004; Bisterzo et al. 2014), which try to reproduce perfectly the solar abundances of s-only isotopes, something we think is illusory at present. This is why we postpone the discussion of our differences with those studies to Fig. 3.

We notice that the s- and r-fractions displayed in Fig. 2 are evaluated in different ways for the three studies. Sneden et al. (2008) provide the absolute numbers for both components s- and r- (N_s and N_r) for each heavy isotope, in a scale where $N_{Si} \equiv 10^6$; in that case one has obviously: $f_s = N_s/(N_s + N_r)$ and $f_r = N_r/(N_s + N_r)$. Goriely

(1999) provides only the N_r values, again in a scale $N_{Si} \equiv 10^6$, but he does not provide the corresponding N_s values; we obtain here the corresponding N_s values by subtracting N_r from the total isotopic abundances N_T where we use the pre-solar ones of Lodders et al. (2009), which were not available in 1999. This obviously introduces some systematic differences with the actual values found by Goriely (1999), hopefully small ones. We do not take into account a couple of nuclei considered as s-only in Goriely (1999), which we consider instead as p-nuclei, like ¹⁵²Gd and ¹⁶⁴Er.

Fig. 2 illustrates the difficulties to determine unambiguously whether an isotope is produced exclusively by one or the other of the two neutron capture processes. While Goriely (1999) finds

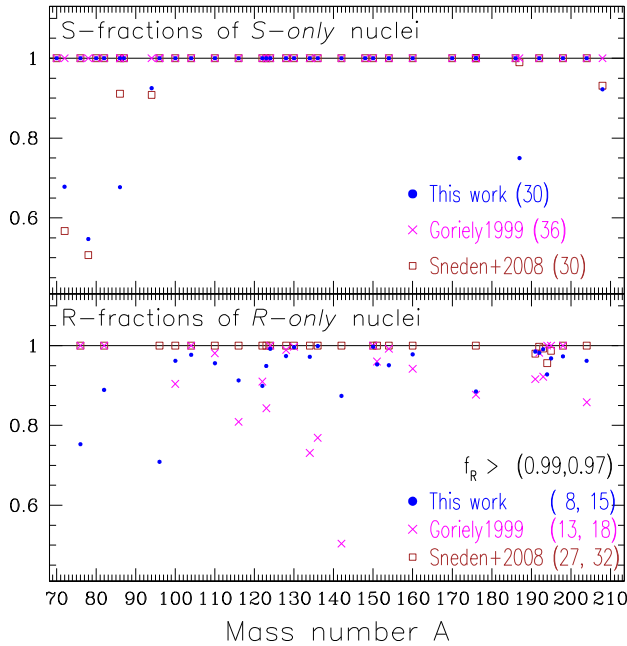


Figure 2. *Top:* Nuclei having an *s*-fraction $f_s = 1$ in at least one of the lists of Goriely (1999), Sneden et al. (2008), or ours. *Bottom:* Nuclei with *r*-fraction $f_r = 1$ in at least one of the cited studies. In parentheses: the number of such nuclei in each study. In the bottom panel: two numbers are given, for *r*-fractions $f_r > 0.99$ and > 0.97 , respectively; the Th and U isotopes are counted in, even if they do not appear in the figure.

36 *s*-only isotopes, we and Sneden et al. (2008) find only 30. For two of the six discrepant cases, ^{94}Zr and ^{208}Pb , we and Sneden et al. (2008) find quite high *s*-fractions of more than 90 per cent, i.e. almost pure *s*-nuclei. For two others (^{72}Ge and ^{78}Se) we both find a dominant *s*-contribution of 55–65 per cent, which leaves room however, for a large *r*-contribution. Finally, there are two cases (^{86}Kr and ^{187}Os) where Sneden et al. (2008) find a very high *s*-contribution of more than 90 per cent (making those nuclei almost *s*-only), while we find a smaller one, around 70–75 per cent. It is hard to trace the exact origin of these differences, which can be broadly attributed to the different methods and data followed to derive the *s*-fractions. The abundance of ^{86}Kr is determined by the branching at ^{85}Kr ; its activation largely depends on the temperature and, as a consequence, requires the use of full stellar models to be properly treated. On the other hand, ^{187}Os may receive an important contribution from the decay of ^{187}Re during the long burning phases of low and intermediate mass stars (the so-called ‘astration’ term of Yokoi, Takahashi & Arnould 1983). Unfortunately, such a decay is not known at temperatures intermediate between laboratory values and some tens of millions K, making the evaluation of the ‘astration’ term in full stellar evolutionary models very uncertain.

As for the *r*-only nuclei, the bottom panel of Fig. 2 shows that their number varies strongly with the adopted criterion for their definition. If an *r*-contribution $f_r > 0.99$ is required, then only 8 nuclei fulfill it in our case, against 13 for Goriely (1999) and 27 for Sneden et al. (2008). If $f_r > 0.97$ is adopted instead, the corresponding numbers become 15, 18, and 32, respectively. Obviously, this reflects directly the difficulty to determine accurately the corresponding *s*-fractions, which are fairly small. The reason for the discrepancy between Sneden et al. (2008) and the other two studies is quite probably the broader range of physical conditions

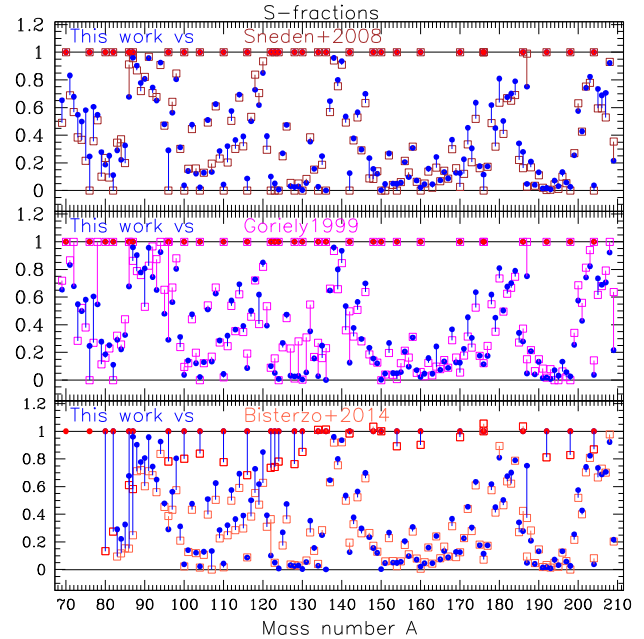


Figure 3. Our *s*-fractions (in blue in all panels) compared to results of three works obtained with different methods. *Top:* Sneden et al. (2008) with the classical method. *Middle:* Goriely (1999) with the multievent method. *Bottom:* Bisterzo et al. (2014) with a GCE model. The vertical lines connect same nuclei, their colour corresponding to the largest *s*-fraction of the two results. The red circles indicate our *s*-only nuclei (see Table 1).

(temperature and neutron fluence) spanned in the multievent study and this work, which allows the neutron flow to reach in some cases nuclei usually unreachable in the ‘classical’ method. The most characteristic cases are ^{134}Xe , ^{136}Xe for which Goriely (1999) finds an *r*-contribution of ~ 75 per cent (against more than 97 per cent in our case), and ^{142}Ce where he obtains 50 per cent only while we obtain 87 per cent (see Table 3).

The most significant discrepancy between those studies is the case of ^{96}Zr . It is considered as a pure *r*-nucleus in Sneden et al. (2008), but we find only 70 per cent while Goriely (1999) finds that its *r*-contribution is compatible with zero, i.e. that it may be a pure *s*-nucleus. The abundance of this nucleus strongly depends on the treatment of the branching at ^{95}Zr , which is activated during thermal pulses only (i.e. when the temperature at the base of the convective shell exceeds 2.5×10^8 K). We notice that, in our models, the contribution of the *s*-process (from LIM stars) is 30 per cent, which is compatible with the 40 per cent *s*-contribution of Bisterzo et al. (2014).

In Fig. 3 we present a more detailed comparison of our results to those of Sneden et al. (2008) (top panel), Goriely (1999) (middle), and Bisterzo et al. (2014) (bottom). We notice that there are few *s*-only nuclei (i.e. with $f_s \sim 1$) in the latter work, since they are not ‘pre-defined’, as in our case. Thus, despite the use of a similar method to ours (GCE), the *s*-component of the heavy nuclei is identified in a different way in Bisterzo et al. (2014) and this makes more difficult a direct comparison to our results. It turns out, however, that apart from the *s*-only nuclei, our results display largely similar features.

In the range $A < 85$, our results are systematically higher than Sneden et al. (2008) or Bisterzo et al. (2014) and rather closer to Goriely (1999). This is due to the fact that our adopted yields from rotating massive stars (responsible for the weak *s*-process in that region of mass number) produce abundantly the light *s*-nuclei: as

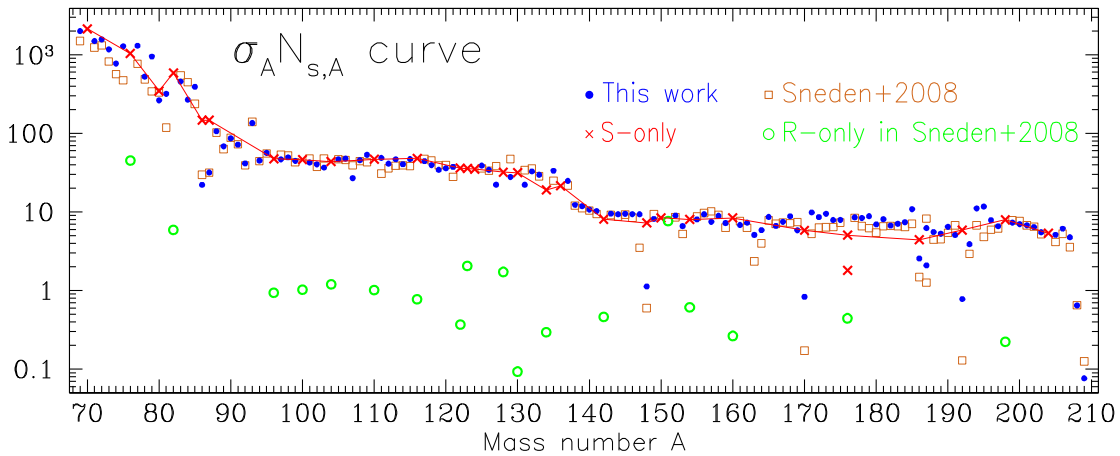


Figure 4. Curve $\sigma_A N_{s,A}$ of the pre-Solar system s-component, after Sneden et al. (2008) (brown open squares) and this work (all other symbols). Our s-only nuclei appear as red crosses and are connected by a solid curve to guide the eye. The green open circles represent nuclei that are r-only for Sneden et al. (2008) (hence they should not appear in the figure), but they receive a small s-contribution in our work. Cross-sections are expressed in mb and number abundances $N_{s,A}$ are in the meteoritic scale of $N_{Si} \equiv 10^6$.

explained in Paper I, rotational mixing of ^{14}N from the H-layer in the He-core produces more ^{22}Ne than in non-rotating models and enhances substantially the neutron fluency and the resulting s-isotope production (see also Choplin et al. 2016, 2018). This leads to a larger s-process contribution to the isotopic abundances in that mass range.

The cases of ^{76}Ge and ^{82}Se illustrate these findings well. They are classified as pure r-nuclei by Sneden et al. (2008) and Goriely (1999) whereas our method leads to a 25 per cent s-contribution to the former and a 11 per cent s-contribution to the latter, because of the rotating massive star yields.

In the region $85 < A < 200$ our results are in fairly good quantitative agreement with Sneden et al. (2008), while Goriely (1999) finds systematically higher s-fractions for $85 < A < 100$ and $120 < A < 135$. However, in all these cases the uncertainties in the determination of the s-fractions (as evaluated only by Goriely 1999) are substantial and the results can be considered as compatible with each other. This is also true for several cases found to be pure r-isotopes by Goriely (1999), while both Sneden et al. (2008) and us find a small s-contribution (e.g. ^{153}Eu , ^{159}Tb , ^{161}Dy).

In the region $A > 200$ Goriely (1999) has, in general, larger s-contributions than both Sneden et al. (2008) and us. His multievent method results in a stronger ‘strong’ s-process component than the other studies.

Above $A = 100$ and up to the heaviest nuclei, our results are in excellent agreement with Bisterzo et al. (2014), except for the cases of the s-only nuclei (already discussed). This is the case of ^{142}Ce which is a pure r-nucleus for Sneden et al. (2008), while we find an s-contribution of ~ 13 per cent and Bisterzo et al. (2014) find a 20 per cent s-contribution. Finally, ^{187}Os has a much larger s-contribution of 75 per cent in our case versus 37 per cent in Bisterzo et al. (2014), while it is a pure s-nucleus in both Sneden et al. (2008) and Goriely (1999).

4.2 The $\sigma_A N_A$ curve

The classical method to determinate the s-component of the heavy isotopes relies on the assumed constancy of the product $\sigma_A N_{s,A}$ of the neutron capture cross-section σ_A times the number abundance $N_{s,A}$ of the s-component of the heavy nuclei. In Fig. 4 we display that

product for our results, obtained from our s-fraction from Table 3, the corresponding Solar system isotopic abundance from Lodders et al. (2009) (also provided in Table 3) and the neutron capture cross-sections at 30 keV provided in the KADONIS data base¹¹ (Dillmann et al. 2008).

Our $\sigma_A N_{s,A}$ curve displays the ‘classical’ features, namely, a decrease up to $A \sim 90$, a near constant value up to the second peak at $A \sim 135$ (the Ba isotopes), then a small decline and again an approximately constant value up to the third peak at $A \sim 205$ (the Pb isotopes). We notice, however, that the $\sigma_A N_{s,A}$ product of s-only nuclei (red cross symbols, connected with a solid curve) is not constant in the whole range of A before the third peak, but it declines by almost a factor of 2 between $A=160$ and $A=190$; this would make it difficult to derive accurately with the classical method the s-only abundances of isotopes in that mass range, at least with the sets of σ_A and $N_{s,A}$ adopted here.

In Fig. 4 we also present the $\sigma_A N_{s,A}$ product obtained with the s-component of Sneden et al. (2008), multiplied by the same set of cross-sections as in our case. In that way, the differences between the two sets of results depend only on the s-residuals, which are obtained by two different methods. Although the s-residuals of Sneden et al. (2008) were obtained by using the $\sigma_A N_A$ method with a different set of cross-sections (older than the one used here and presumably less accurate), still it is interesting to compare the two sets of results.

There is fairly good agreement for a large range of mass numbers ($90 < A < 190$). There are, however, important discrepancies (by factor of ~ 2) in the range of light s-nuclei, for $74 < A < 87$; this is not surprising, since $\sigma_A N_{s,A}$ is not expected to be constant in that atomic mass region, making it difficult to derive the s-component with the classical method.

The most important differences between the two results concern:

- (i) The three nuclei ^{76}Ge , ^{82}Se , and ^{96}Zr , which are pure r-nuclei (open circles in the figure) in both Goriely (1999) and Sneden et al. (2008) but are found to receive an s-contribution of 25 per cent, 11 per cent, and 30 per cent, respectively, from our s-process, the first two from rotating massive stars and the third from LIM stars.

¹¹Online at <http://www.kadonis.org>

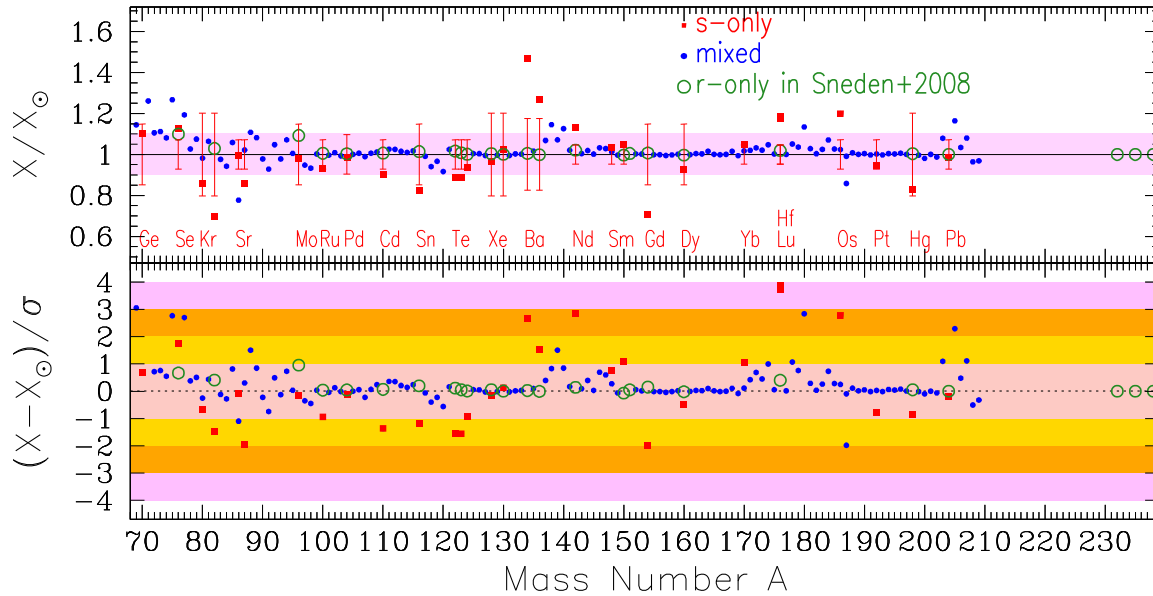


Figure 5. Results compared to uncertainties of pre-solar abundances. *Top:* Model overabundances at the time of Solar system formation and elementary uncertainties $\pm 1\sigma$ for the s-only isotopes (vertical red segments), centred at $X/X_{\odot} = 1$ from Lodders et al. (2009), the names of which are provided in the bottom of the panel; the shaded area indicates the range of ± 10 per cent deviation from solar. *Bottom:* Overabundances (positive) or underabundances (negative) expressed in terms of the corresponding elementary uncertainties. Shaded areas indicate ranges of $\pm 1\sigma$, $\pm 2\sigma$, etc.

(ii) Several other nuclei, which are considered pure r-nuclei in Sneden et al. (2008) but have s-contribution in our case and in Goriely (1999). In most cases that contribution is of a few per cent, but it mounts to 10 per cent for ^{116}Cd , ^{142}Ce , and ^{176}Yb ; similar results for the s-contribution of all those nuclei are obtained in Bisterzo et al. (2014).

(iii) Nuclei lying near branching points, like ^{148}Nd , ^{170}Er , and ^{192}Os , which receive a fairly small s-contribution in Sneden et al. (2008) but a considerably larger one (factors 2–4 larger) in our case

We notice that in the last two cases, our results agree fairly well with those of Goriely (1999) and Bisterzo et al. (2014), probably because these studies explore more realistic physical conditions in stellar interiors than the classical study of Sneden et al. (2008) could do. We consider this is an important advantage of those methods over the classical one in determining the s-fractions – and, thereof, the r-fractions – of the solar composition.

4.3 Comparison to Solar system abundances

In the previous sub-sections we presented our s- and r-fractions of the heavy isotopes and we compared them to those of previous studies, pointing out similarities and discrepancies. In some cases we were able to attribute those discrepancies in differences in the adopted data and methods. We also presented our $\sigma_A N_{s,A}$ curve, which constitutes an important criterion of the validity of our method; we showed that it succeeds fairly well and in some cases (e.g. the nuclei in branching points) even better than the classical method.

In this sub-section we present the abundances of all heavy isotopes (already displayed in the bottom panel of Fig. 1) and we compare them to the Solar system ones, taking into account the measurement uncertainties of the latter. As we emphasized in Paper I, our results strongly depend on the adopted yields of LIM stars and rotating massive stars, but also on the adopted chemical evolution

model, because of the extreme sensitivity of the s-process yields to stellar metallicity. We also reiterate here two of our main findings in Paper I, namely that (i) rotating massive stars contribute the bulk of the weak s-process up to $A \sim 90$ (and very little above it) while low mass stars are major s-contributors for $A > 90$, and (ii) we find no compelling evidence for the LEPP invoked in Travaglio et al. (2004), especially if uncertainties in measured Solar system abundances are taken into account (see fig. 11 and Section 3.2.2 of that paper).

In the top panel of Fig. 5 it is seen that the vast majority of the heavy isotopes (120 out of a list of 149, from which the p-isotopes are excluded) lie within ± 10 per cent of their solar values, while 96 of them lie within ± 5 per cent. However, among the 30 s-only nuclei, only half (14) lie within ± 10 per cent of their solar values and a quarter (8) lie within ± 5 per cent, while four display a deviation (overabundance or underabundance) between 10–20 per cent, three show a deviation of 20 per cent to 30 per cent and one (^{134}Ba) a deviation of 45 per cent.

We notice that the dispersion of the pure s-nuclei is substantially larger than the dispersion of the other heavy nuclei, as expected: the latter have an adjustable component (the r-component), while the former are the direct product of the adopted ingredients for stellar nucleosynthesis and chemical evolution of the solar neighbourhood. We also notice that the deviations of the distribution of the s-nuclei from the solar one drives the deviations of the mixed (s + r) nuclei: the latter are important in the ‘weak’ s-process region ($A < 90$), between ^{116}Sn and the $^{122}, ^{123}, ^{124}\text{Te}$ isotopes, just above the $^{132}, ^{134}\text{Ba}$ isotopes and in the $172 < A < 182$ region. The ‘strong’ s-component, at $A \sim 205$ also appears enhanced.

The dispersion of the heavy nuclei is clearly smaller than one of the isotopes lighter than the Fe-peak, as described in Paper I. The reason is that the latter are produced in various advanced phases of massive star evolution (including very poorly understood ones as the final stellar explosion) while the s-nuclei are produced in the better understood phase of He-burning. On top of that, the introduction

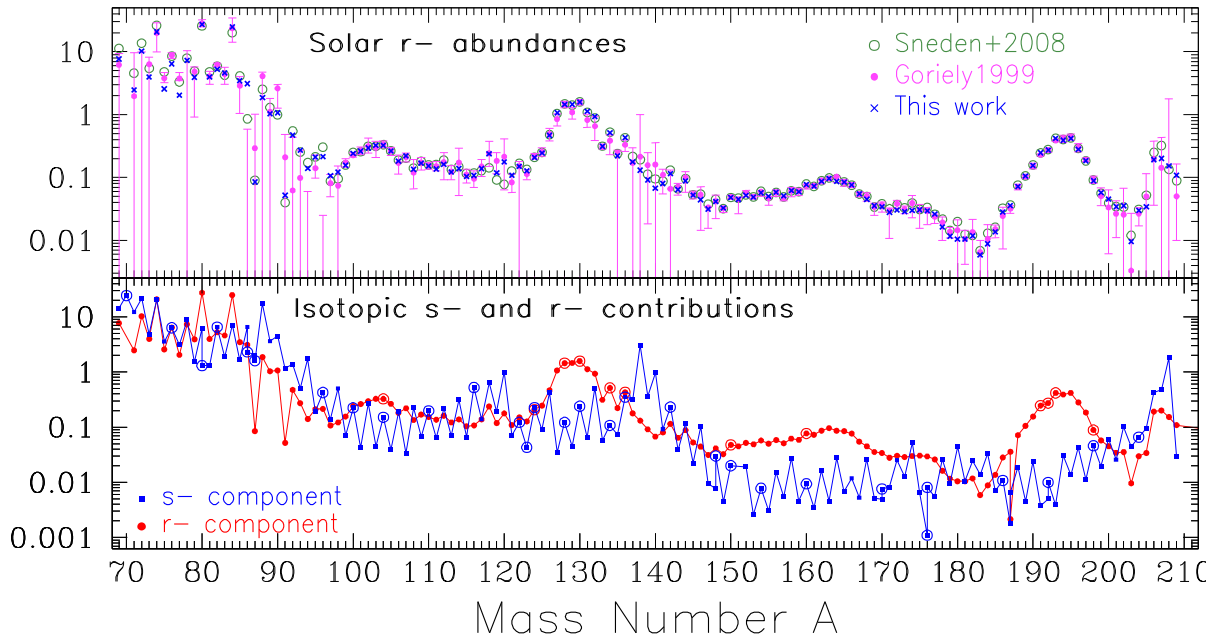


Figure 6. *Top:* Absolute r-residuals, i.e. contribution by number of r-process N_r to pre-solar composition compared to Sneden et al. (2008) and Goriely (1999). Number abundances are expressed in the meteoritic scale of $N_{\text{Si}} \equiv 10^6$. *Bottom:* s- and r-contributions to Solar system isotopic composition according to this work. The open circles represent s-only or r-only nuclei (see the text).

of an ‘adjustable’ (through our iteration procedure) r-component further improves the situation for the heavies.

The true magnitude of the deviation of the model from the observed solar composition is also understood in terms of the uncertainties in the measured solar abundances. We notice here that measured uncertainties in Lodders et al. (2009) concern elemental abundances, not isotopic ones, and we assume here that they apply to all the isotopes of a given element. In the top panel of Fig. 5 these uncertainties are displayed as vertical error bars for the s-only nuclei. The bottom panel of the same figure displays the situation for all the heavy nuclei in a different way: over- (or under-) abundances are presented in units of the corresponding 1σ uncertainty. Now 120 isotopes are found within $\pm 1\sigma$, 18 within $\pm 2\sigma$, and 7 within $\pm 3\sigma$ of their solar values, whether the two isotopes of $A = 176$ (Lu and Hf) are at almost 4σ .

All values within $\pm 1\sigma$ of the observed ones, i.e. the vast majority of heavy nuclei, can be considered as perfectly reproduced by the model, to the present level of our knowledge. The majority of the remaining ones (16 out of 28) are s-only nuclei. As already discussed, it seems difficult to further reduce the dispersion of those nuclei around their solar values in the framework of present-day stellar nucleosynthesis and GCE models. Further developments (e.g. concerning nuclear inputs, improved treatment of the ^{13}C pocket in LIM stars or of the rotational mixing in massive stars, a better understanding of the contribution of rotating stars to the chemical evolution of the Galaxy, etc.) will certainly help to reduce that dispersion. The method presented here will allow us then to determine completely and accurately the contribution of the s- and r-processes to the solar composition in a realistic global astrophysical framework.

4.4 The r-component

Our r-residuals, i.e. the isotopic Solar system abundances of Lodders et al. (2009) multiplied with the r-fractions derived in this work (as

presented in Table 3) are displayed in Fig. 6. They are compared (top panel) to those derived by Goriely (1999) and Sneden et al. (2008). The former study includes the model uncertainties, resulting from the corresponding uncertainties in the observed Solar system composition, the neutron radiative capture rates (n,γ) and the β -decay rates. The uncertainties in those quantities date back to more than 20 yr ago and some of them have been reduced in the meantime. However, the work of Goriely (1999) is the only one up to now to include a systematic evaluation of those uncertainties and we chose to display them here in order to provide some idea of their importance.

A first glance at the top panel of Fig. 6 (and a quantitative one in Table 3) shows that there is a fairly good overall agreement between the three studies for the region $100 < A < 200$: a simple χ^2 test for the $N = 85$ isotopes (excluding the s-only) gives $\chi^2/N \sim 0.03$ when comparing our results to both Goriely (1999) and Sneden et al. (2008). This is also the region with the smallest number of uncertain r-residuals in the study of Goriely (1999).

In the regions $A < 100$ ($N = 30$) and $200 < A < 210$ ($N = 9$) we obtain clearly better agreement with Sneden et al. (2008) ($\chi^2/N \sim 0.06$ for $A < 100$ and $\chi^2/N \sim 0.02$ for $A < 200$) than with Goriely (1999) ($\chi^2/N \sim 0.30$ for $A < 100$ and $\chi^2/N \sim 0.22$ for $A < 200$). Our discrepancies are produced essentially for nuclei with fairly small r-fractions, like ^{88}Sr , $^{91,94}\text{Zr}$ (where we obtain r-fractions of a few per cent whereas Goriely 1999 obtains ~ 20 per cent on average). In all those cases, however, the uncertainties quoted in Goriely (1999) are quite large, making our results compatible with his. For ^{75}As and ^{77}Se , our r-residuals are lower than in both Goriely (1999) and Sneden et al. (2008), lying below the quoted uncertainties of the former. This is due to our enhanced s-component from rotating massive stars, leading to a low r-component for those nuclei. As already discussed, ^{86}Kr and ^{96}Zr are cases apart, since Goriely (1999) finds a zero r-contribution while all other studies in Table 3 find a substantial r-fraction, lying even outside his quoted uncertainties.

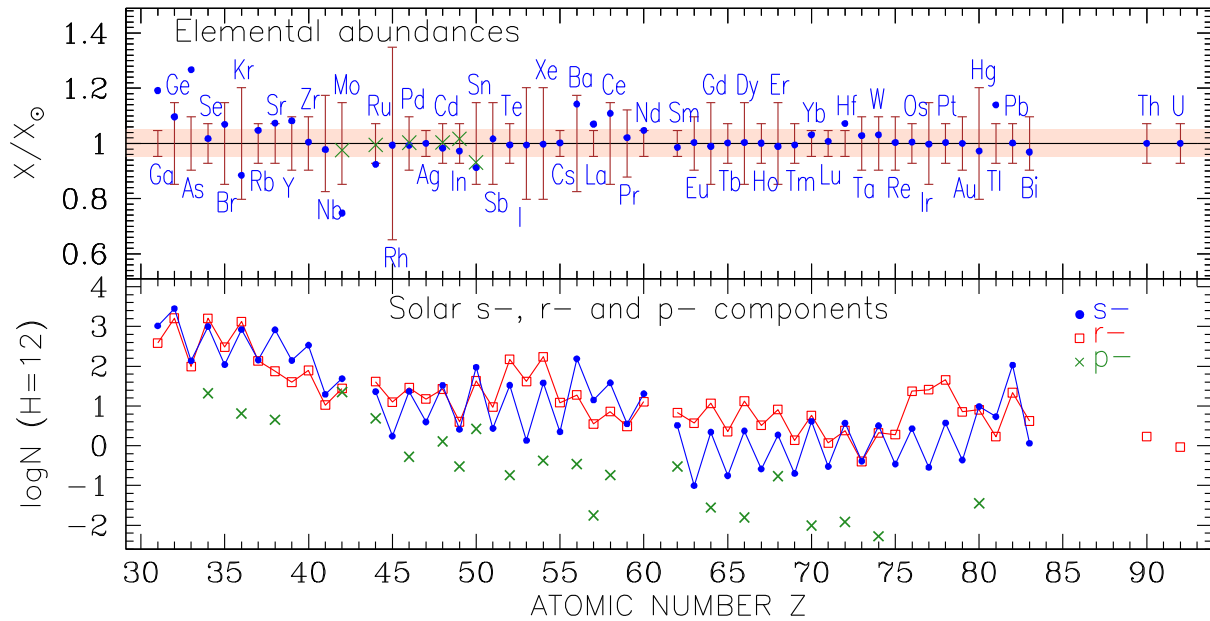


Figure 7. *Top:* Elemental pre-solar abundances for $Z > 30$ obtained with the final GCE model at the Solar System formation 4.5 Gyr ago and compared to the data of Lodders et al. (2009) (vertical uncertainty bars). The green crosses correspond to the addition of the p-component (23 per cent in the case of Mo, see Table 4). The horizontal shaded area indicates the range of ± 5 per cent around the solar values. *Bottom:* Solar abundance pattern by number decomposed into s- (blue points), r- (red squares), and p- (green crosses) components according to this study.

We did not attempt here any evaluation of the uncertainties of our model results, but in the previous section we compared them to the solar abundances and took into account the corresponding uncertainties in the abundance measurements. It is interesting to notice here the broad similarity between some features in Figs 3 and 6 (top panel). The regions of the largest deviation of our results from solar in Fig. 3 are for $A < 100$, $A \sim 140$, and $A \sim 205$; those same regions display the largest uncertainties in their r-component in Goriely (1999), which in turn are driven by the uncertainties in the corresponding s-fractions. More work on these A regions is required to further reduce those uncertainties.

Finally, in the bottom panel of Fig. 6 we display the isotopic s- and r-contributions to the Solar system composition according to our results. The distributions differ little from previous ones – especially in the adopted logarithmic scale. Pure r-nuclei are designated with red open circles in that panel and correspond to r-fractions $f_r > 0.97$. As discussed in Section 4 their definition remains ambiguous, and we adopt here a rather arbitrary criterion accounting for the estimated uncertainties.

4.5 Elemental abundances

In Fig. 7 we plot the elementary abundances of our model. In the top panel, we compare them to the solar abundances of Lodders et al. (2009). 36 out of the 51 elements from Ga to Bi lie within ± 5 per cent of their Solar system values (we do not count Th and U, they are reproduced exactly at their solar value by construction, but their role is important because they are used to monitor the way we introduce the r-process isotopes in our GCE calculations).

The above result is obtained without considering the role of the p-isotopes. The 35 p-isotopes are a minor component of the Solar system composition. They are shielded from the neutron capture

processes¹² and they are supposed to be produced by either the p- (proton captures) or the γ - (photo-disintegration of heavier nuclei) processes; the former may play some role in the production of a few of the lighter p-nuclei while the latter dominates for most p-isotopes (Arnould & Goriely 2003). Despite decades of theoretical and experimental studies, their origin, nucleosynthesis sites, and GCE are still poorly understood (see Travaglio et al. 2018 and references therein). We did not include those isotopes in our study, but we have to include them when comparing our final elementary composition with the Solar system abundances.

For that purpose we consider all the 35 p-isotopes as unaffected by any neutron capture process and we simply add their contribution (from Lodders et al. 2009, as appearing in our Table 4) to our s + r contributions of each element at Solar system formation. The results to the handful of elements affected by that addition appear as crosses in the top panel of Fig. 7. Mo receives an important contribution (23 per cent) from its $^{92,94}\text{Mo}$ isotopes and ruthenium a small one (7 per cent) from $^{96,98}\text{Ru}$. Pd, Cd, In, and Sn also receive contributions of 2–4 per cent from their p-isotopes. The addition of those contribution from p-isotopes improves largely the situation for Mo and Ru, which are now also produced to better than 3 per cent of their Solar system abundance.

When the uncertainties in the experimental determination of the Solar system composition are taken into account, the situation improves largely. Only 3 out of the 51 elements are clearly above 1σ of their solar abundance (Ga, As, and Tl), while La and Hf are barely above 1σ . The conclusion is that our understanding of the solar composition in heavy elements is fairly satisfactory, except for

¹²The s-process may contribute to the production of the p-nuclei ^{152}Gd and ^{164}Er , as well as to ^{115}Sn , ^{180}Ta and ^{180}W ; see Arnould & Goriely (2003) and references therein.

Table 4. Solar elementary abundances from Lodders et al. (2009) and fractions produced by the s-, r-, and p-processes according to this study.

Elm.	Z	$\log \epsilon(X)^1$	Mass fraction	s-	r-	p-
Ga	31	3.150	7.00E-08	0.730	0.270	0.000
Ge	32	3.645	2.28E-07	0.636	0.364	0.000
As	33	2.372	1.25E-08	0.581	0.419	0.000
Se	34	3.416	1.46E-07	0.379	0.612	0.008
Br	35	2.616	2.35E-08	0.265	0.735	0.000
Kr	36	3.334	1.28E-07	0.387	0.610	0.003
Rb	37	2.446	1.69E-08	0.510	0.490	0.000
Sr	38	2.953	5.58E-08	0.912	0.083	0.005
Y	39	2.252	1.13E-08	0.778	0.222	0.000
Zr	40	2.619	2.70E-08	0.817	0.183	0.000
Nb	41	1.479	1.99E-09	0.651	0.349	0.000
Mo	42	1.993	6.71E-09	0.497	0.275	0.228
Ru	44	1.837	4.94E-09	0.338	0.591	0.071
Rh	45	1.155	1.04E-09	0.122	0.878	0.000
Pd	46	1.719	3.96E-09	0.448	0.542	0.010
Ag	47	1.277	1.45E-09	0.209	0.791	0.000
Cd	48	1.784	4.85E-09	0.548	0.432	0.021
In	49	0.837	5.60E-10	0.374	0.582	0.044
Sn	50	2.144	1.17E-08	0.680	0.301	0.019
Sb	51	1.082	1.05E-09	0.247	0.753	0.000
Te	52	2.258	1.64E-08	0.192	0.807	0.001
I	53	1.628	3.83E-09	0.032	0.968	0.000
Xe	54	2.324	1.96E-08	0.182	0.816	0.002
Cs	55	1.156	1.35E-09	0.157	0.843	0.000
Ba	56	2.237	1.68E-08	0.888	0.109	0.002
La	57	1.247	1.74E-09	0.799	0.200	0.001
Ce	58	1.658	4.53E-09	0.848	0.148	0.004
Pr	59	0.822	6.64E-10	0.535	0.465	0.000
Nd	60	1.519	3.38E-09	0.615	0.385	0.000
Sm	62	1.013	1.10E-09	0.325	0.647	0.029
Eu	63	0.580	4.10E-10	0.049	0.951	0.000
Gd	64	1.143	1.55E-09	0.163	0.835	0.002
Tb	65	0.389	2.76E-10	0.072	0.928	0.000
Dy	66	1.193	1.80E-09	0.151	0.847	0.001
Ho	67	0.546	4.11E-10	0.074	0.926	0.000
Er	68	1.006	1.20E-09	0.184	0.799	0.017
Tm	69	0.195	1.88E-10	0.128	0.872	0.000
Yb	70	0.995	1.22E-09	0.429	0.570	0.001
Lu	71	0.168	1.83E-10	0.204	0.796	0.000
Hf	72	0.786	7.74E-10	0.605	0.393	0.002
Ta	73	-0.091	1.04E-10	0.503	0.497	0.000
W	74	0.724	6.91E-10	0.601	0.397	0.001
Re	75	0.351	2.97E-10	0.154	0.846	0.000
Os	76	1.417	3.53E-09	0.103	0.897	0.000
Ir	77	1.413	3.53E-09	0.011	0.989	0.000
Pt	78	1.692	6.81E-09	0.078	0.922	0.000
Au	79	0.877	1.05E-09	0.058	0.942	0.000
Hg	80	1.248	2.52E-09	0.548	0.450	0.002
Tl	81	0.849	1.03E-09	0.760	0.240	0.000
Pb	82	2.106	1.88E-08	0.831	0.169	0.000
Bi	83	0.727	7.91E-10	0.216	0.784	0.000
Th	90	0.230	2.80E-10	0.000	1.000	0.000
U	92	-0.037	1.55E-10	0.000	1.000	0.000

Note: (1) $\log \epsilon(X) \equiv \log (X/H) + 12$.

the lighter of those elements which lie in the region of the weak s-process. Rotating massive stars appear to be important contributors to that region, but their role has still to be explored and better constrained. The more so since other sources, poorly explored up to now, may also contribute in that mass region, like electron-capture supernovae (e.g. Wanajo, Janka & Müller 2011), the νp -process (e.g. Fröhlich et al. 2006), and the rp -process (e.g. Schatz et al. 1998).

Our results do not reproduce perfectly the solar composition, but we assume that they reflect our current understanding of the situation. The interest of our method lies in the fact that it allows us to evaluate self-consistently the fractional contribution of the s- and r-processes to the solar abundances (while the p-fraction is directly taken from observations). Even if some of the s-only isotopes are overproduced in our calculation, the adopted method leads automatically to an s-fraction equal to one for them, and it evaluates similarly the s-fractions (and then the r-fractions) of the mixed nuclei. In the bottom panel of Fig. 7 we display then our decomposition of the Solar system elemental abundance distribution into s-, r-, and p-components, multiplying the corresponding fractions from Table 4 with the solar elemental abundances of Lodders et al. (2009).

Fig. 8 reproduces the ensemble of our results concerning the elemental and isotopic contributions of the three nucleosynthetic processes to the Solar system composition in an original way, allowing one to grasp at a glance the importance of one of the three nucleosynthetic processes to the corresponding abundance.

5 SUMMARY

In this work we present a new method for assessing the s- and r-fractions of the Solar system abundances of heavy nuclei (heavier than Zn).

Our method (Section 3.3) is based on a GCE model using state-of-the-art yields of LIM stars and rotating massive stars, for all isotopes from H to Bi. The model has been presented in detail in Paper I and, as extensively discussed there, satisfies all the main observational constraints that can be expected from a 1-zone model for the solar neighbourhood. In particular, the isotopic distribution of nuclei up to the Fe-peak at Solar system formation (4.5 Gyr ago) is well reproduced.

Our method consists in running first a model with only the s-component for all heavy isotopes, i.e. without considering any r-component in the stellar ejecta (model M0). Then, the r-component is introduced (model M1) based on some prior estimate of it (in our case, the r-fractions estimated by Goriely 1999 or Sneden et al. 2008). We assume that the r-process is primary in nature and follows the evolution of an alpha element, as suggested by observations of e.g. Eu. The s-fractions of all nuclei f_s are thus obtained as the results of M0/M1 at Solar system formation. They are by construction ≤ 1 (independently of whether the corresponding isotopes are overproduced w.r.t. their solar abundance) and they are equal to one for the 30 heavy isotopes which are *pre-defined* as s-only (Table 1). This is one of the advantages of our GCE method. The corresponding r-fractions are defined as $f_r = 1 - f_s$, they are also positive (independently of whether the corresponding nuclei in Model 0 or 1 are overproduced or not) and they differ slightly from their initial r-fraction (the adopted prior).

In order to make our GCE model self-consistent, we then inject the new r-fractions into it and run it again. The new isotopic composition fits better the solar one (as indicated by a simple χ^2 test) and we iterate again with the new r-component until the results do not vary sensitively any more. We obtain thus a final decomposition of the Solar system isotopic abundance distribution into s- and r-components, fully self-consistent with our GCE model and the adopted stellar yields.

We present our results in Table 3 and we compare them to those of previous studies, based on different methods (Goriely 1999; Sneden et al. 2008; Bisterzo et al. 2014) in Section 3.1. We find good overall agreement between the various studies, but also some

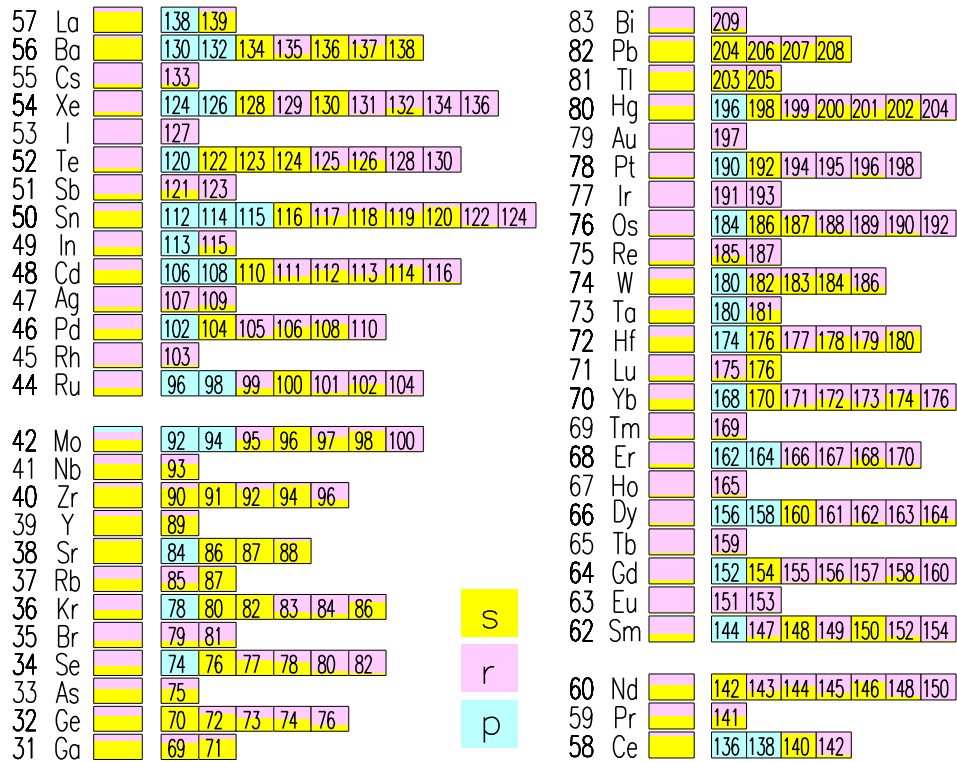


Figure 8. Contribution of the s-, r-, and p-process to the isotopic and elemental pre-solar composition according to this work (from Tables 3 and 4). The contribution of each process is proportional to the coloured area of the corresponding box.

discrepancies. The most important are found in the region of the ‘weak s-process’, namely below $A = 90$. In that region, Sneden et al. (2008) find that ^{76}Ge and ^{82}Se are r-only nuclei (in agreement with Goriely 1999), while we find a substantial contribution from the s-process in rotating massive stars (25 per cent and 11 per cent, respectively).

Our $\sigma N_{s,A}$ curve (first time derived from a GCE model) displays the classical feature of $\sigma N_{s,A} \sim \text{const}$ between magic neutron numbers, but shows an interesting difference with the classical study of Sneden et al. (2008) (Section 4.2): nuclei lying near branching points, like ^{148}Nd , ^{170}Er , and ^{192}Os , receive a fairly small s-contribution in Sneden et al. (2008) but a considerably larger one (factors 2–4) in our case; our results are, in general, in better agreement with those of Goriely (1999) and Bisterzo et al. (2014), probably because their studies explore a larger range of (and/or more realistic) physical conditions in stellar interiors than the classical study of Sneden et al. (2008).

Comparison of our model distribution with measured solar abundances (Section 4.3) shows an excellent agreement, especially when uncertainties in the measured abundances are considered. The most important deviations concern the s-only nuclei, because there is no possibility to modify the result by an adjustable r-component, as we do for all other mixed (s + r or pure r-) nuclei. Since the final abundances are ‘driven’ by the s-component of Model 0, it is clear that the most important deviations are expected in the regions where the s-process dominates, namely the three s-peaks (see Fig. 3). This is encouraging, since it implies that a better treatment of the s-process in both LIM stars and rotating massive stars will allow one to reduce further those deviations from the solar composition by applying our method. We notice here that the study of Goriely (1999)

finds that the largest uncertainties in the r-component (displayed in Fig. 6, top panel) concern precisely those regions. In Section 4.5 we present our results for the s-, r-, and p-components of heavy elements in the Sun, both in graphical (Figs 7 and 8) and tabular (Table 4) forms.

In summary, we propose a new method for evaluating the s- and r-components of the chemical composition of the Sun and during the Milky Way history, in a way fully consistent with our current understanding of stellar nucleosynthesis and GCE. The accuracy of our results obviously depends on the current uncertainties in those fields, as well as on the uncertainties in the measured solar isotopic composition.

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