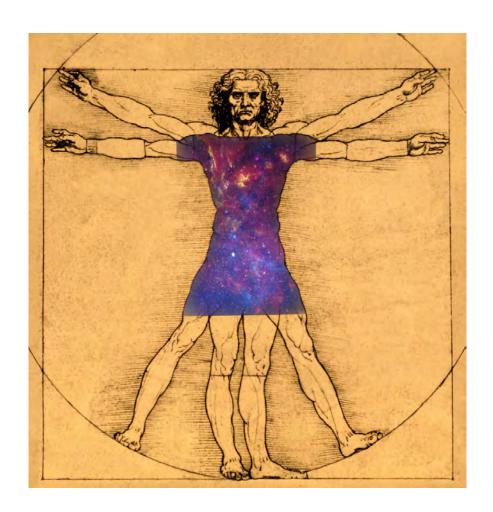
# Michigan State University's FRIB Project Where Do the Atoms in Your Body Come From?



Wolfgang Bauer
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and Astronomy
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University

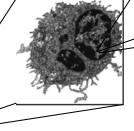




10<sup>-15</sup> m scale: Nuclei

10<sup>-10</sup> m scale: Atoms

10<sup>-5</sup> m scale: Cells



1 m scale: People



10<sup>5</sup> m scale: Large City

10<sup>10</sup> m scale: Earth + Moon system

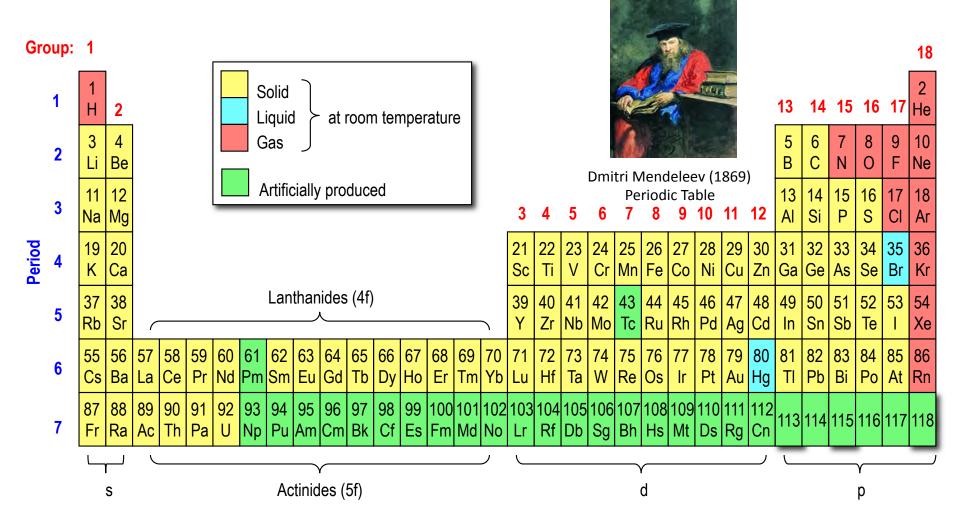
Distance Moon-Earth =  $3.8 \cdot 10^8$  m, distance Sun-Earth =  $1.5 \cdot 10^{11}$  m



#### All matter is made of atoms!

- 118 known elements
- Hydrogen, Helium, Lithium, ..., Copernicium, + 6 more yet to be named
- Each atom is characterized by its charge number = number of electrons
- The nucleus of the atom consists of protons and neutrons and contains almost all of the mass (electrons contribute ~1 part in 2000)
- # protons = # electrons; atoms electrically neutral

#### All matter is made of atoms!

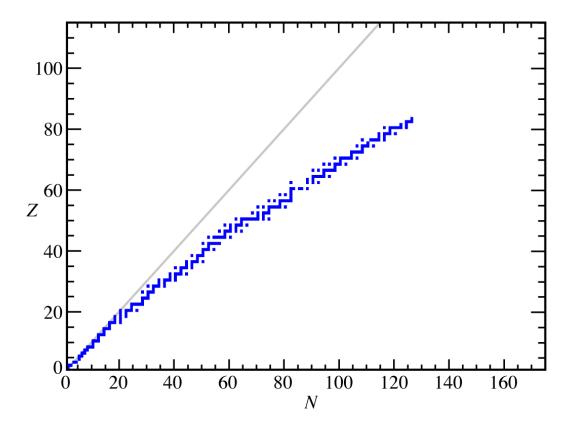


Electrons arranged in shells. Electrons in outer shell(s) determine chemical properties.



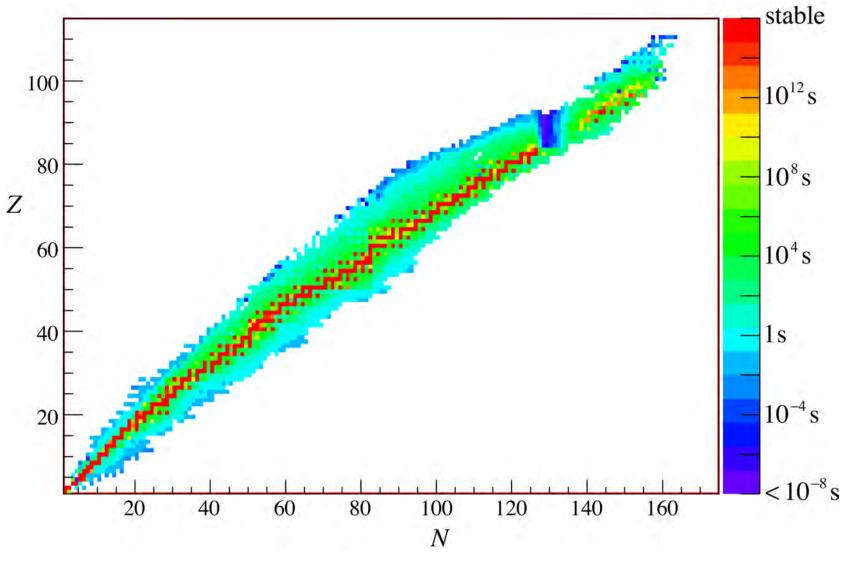
#### **Atomic Nuclei**

- Nucleus is 10,000 to 100,000 times smaller than atom, but contains almost all mass
- Isotopes of a nucleus are distinguished by different number of neutrons
- 251 known stable isotopes (none for Z=43 technetium, Z=61 promethium, Z>83)





#### **Lifetimes**

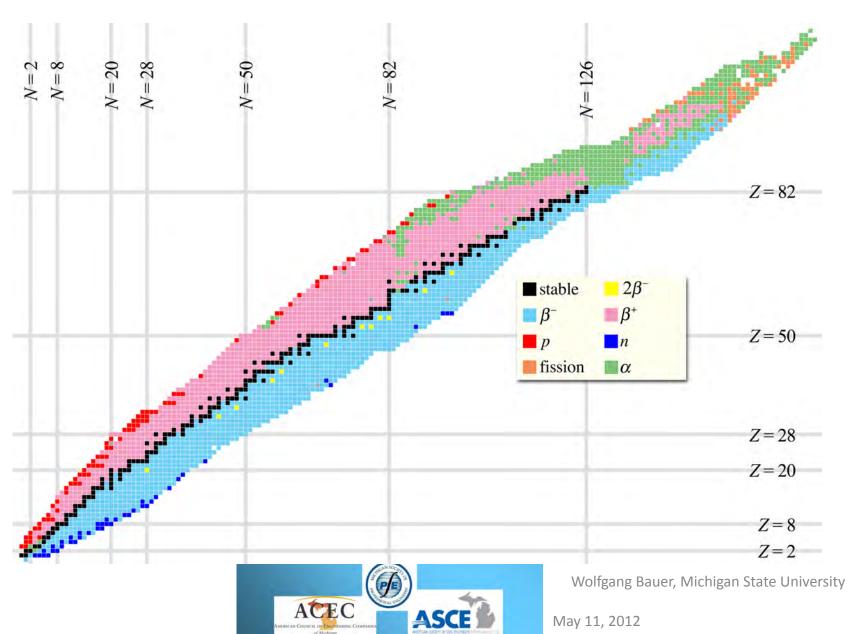




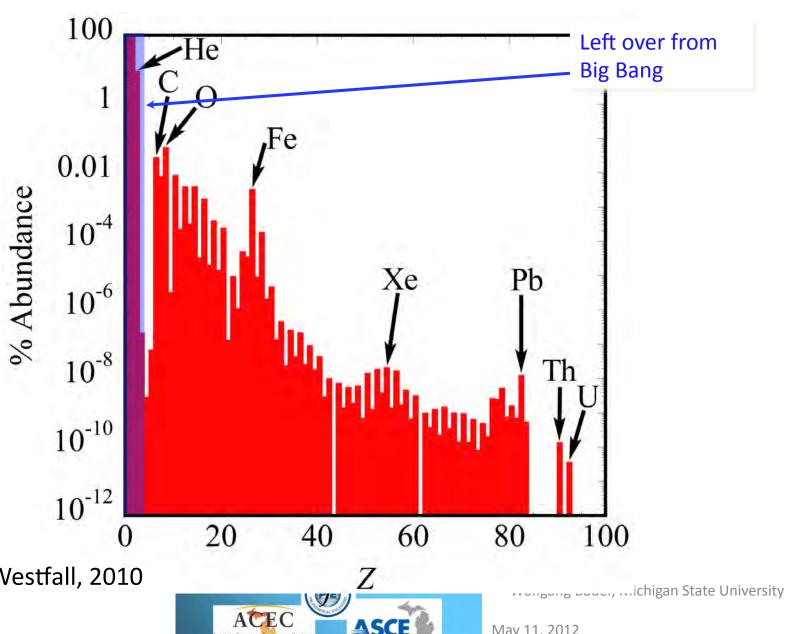
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#### **Decays**



#### **Element Abundances**

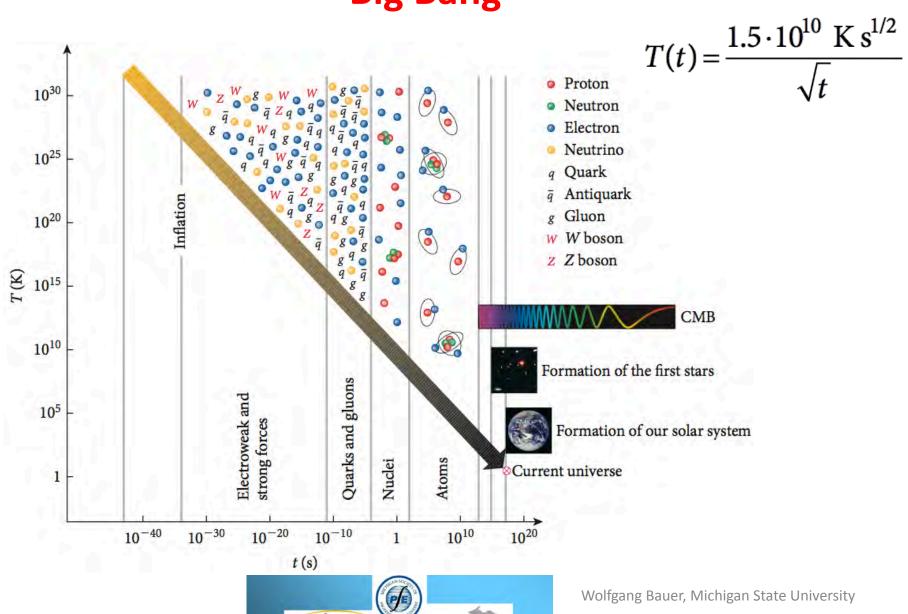


**ASCE** 

Bauer & Westfall, 2010

May 11, 2012

#### **Big Bang**

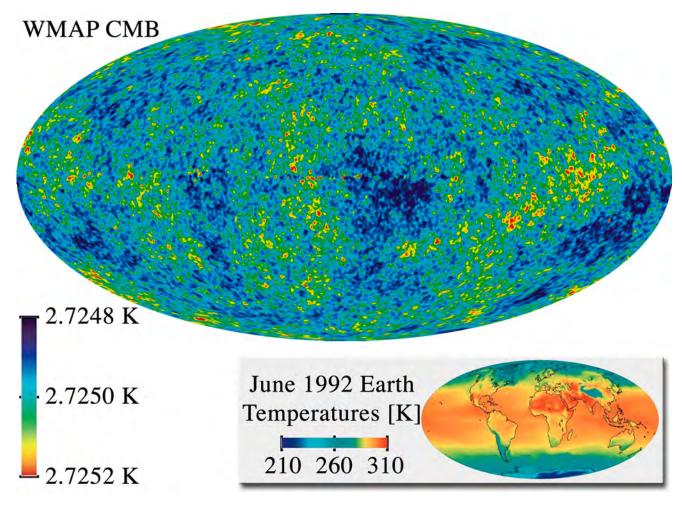


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# **Big Bang Afterglow**





# **He/H ratio from Big Bang**

- Coming out of QGP, T ~ 10<sup>11</sup> K (~10 MeV)
- p and n in equilibrium

$$n + \nu_e \rightleftharpoons p + e^{-}$$

 Number of p and n determined by Boltzmann factors

$$n + \nu_e \rightleftharpoons p + e^-$$
  
 $n + e^+ \rightleftharpoons p + \overline{\nu}_e$ 

$$\frac{n_{\rm n}}{n_{\rm p}} = e^{(m_{\rm n}c^2 - m_{\rm p}c^2)/k_{\rm B}T}$$

- $T^{0.86}$  MeV: weak reactions too slow to maintain equilibrium
- Ratio freezes out at

$$e^{-1.293/0.86} = 0.222$$

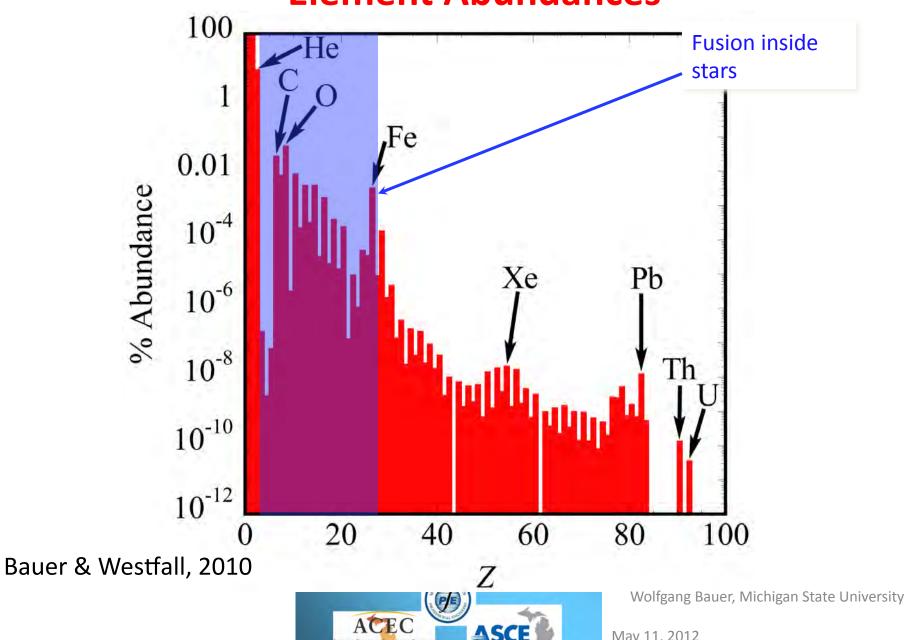


#### **He/H ratio from Big Bang**

- So far (t = 1 s): 22 n for every 100 p, T still too high for nuclei to form
- t = 100 s:  $T \sim 10^9 \text{ K}$ , nuclei (alpha particles) can form
  - Due to n beta decay (half life 15 min), only ~16 n are left for every 100 p
- All free n can get trapped in alphas:
  - 16 n and 16 p can form 8 alphas
  - Mass fraction of alphas (= nuclei of helium) is then 4.8/(100+16) = 27%
  - Close to observed value of 23%
  - Big success for early Big Bang cosmology!



#### **Element Abundances**



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#### **Fusion**

 In the Sun, hydrogen nuclei fuse into helium (and release a lot of energy)

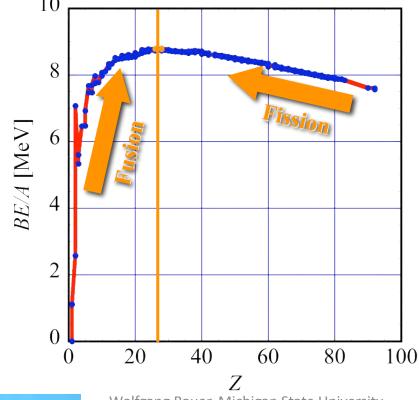
Once most hydrogen is used up, the helium fuses to

carbon, oxygen, neon,

..., iron

 Once the stellar core is all iron, fusion stops, and the star dies

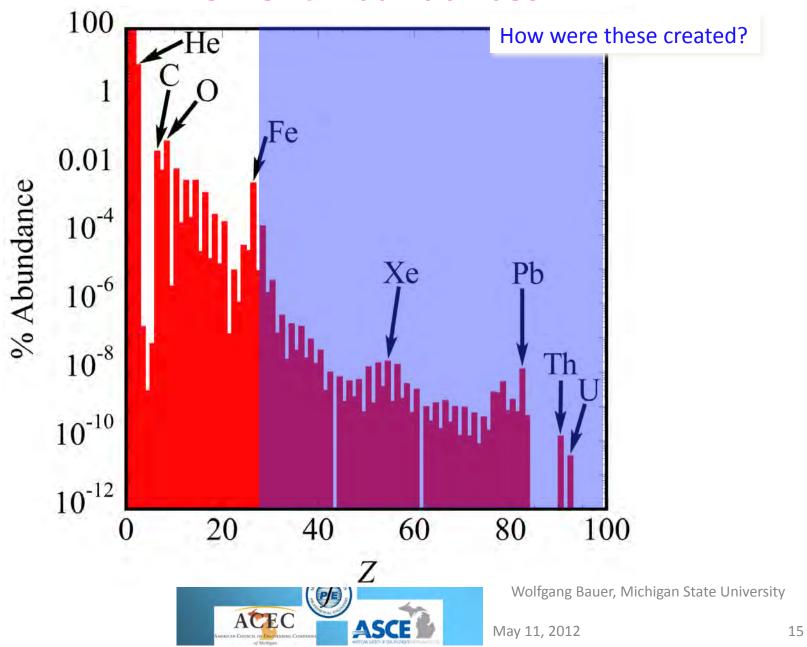
 Nothing heavier than iron can be made inside a star!





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#### **Element Abundances**





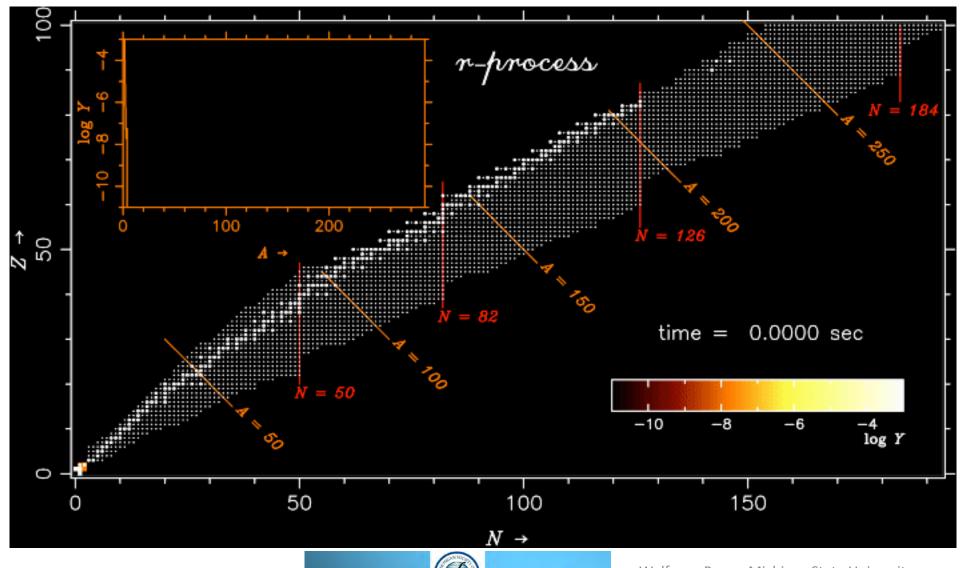
r(apid)-Process

Calculation: Shinja Wanayo, Tokyo n-process beta-Decay 100 200  $Z \rightarrow 2$ n-Capture time = 0.5052 sec -10log Y 0 -50 100 150  $N \rightarrow$ 

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ACEC

### r(apid)-Process - the movie



ACEC

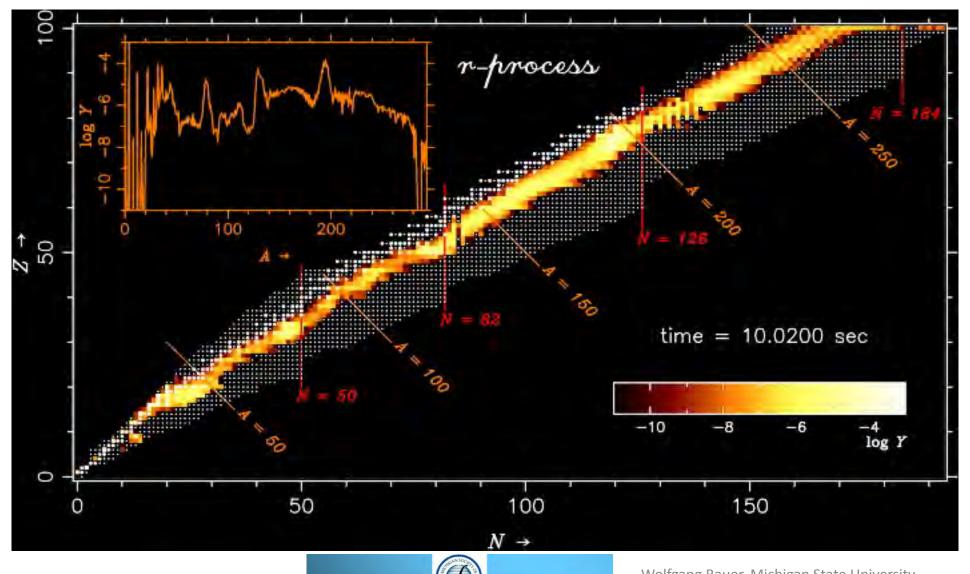
ASCE

ASSE

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# r(apid)-Process - the movie



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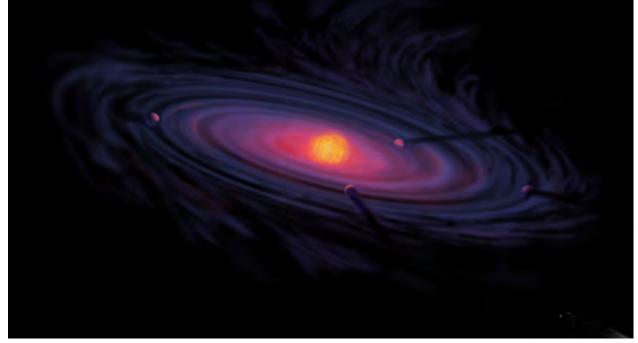
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#### **How old are Atoms on Earth?**

- Solar system formed 4.6 billion years ago from interstellar dust cloud via gravitational collapse
  - Dust cloud generated from previous supernova explosion

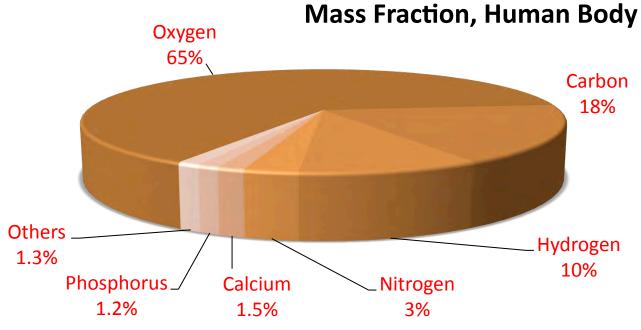
Most atoms on Earth > 4.6 billion years old





#### All matter is made of atoms!

This includes us: We are made from the ashes of a dying star!





Others: Sulfur, chlorine, sodium, magnesium, iron, cobalt, zinc, iodine, selenium, fluorine, ...



#### **How Many Atoms Inside of Us?**

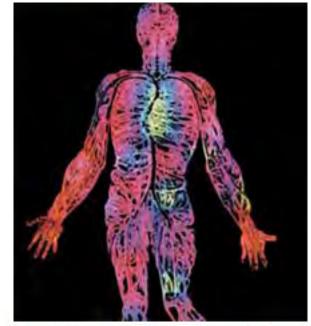
- Assume a mass of 70 kg (~155 lb)
- Approximately 6.7·10<sup>27</sup> atoms
- 6,700,000,000,000,000,000,000,000

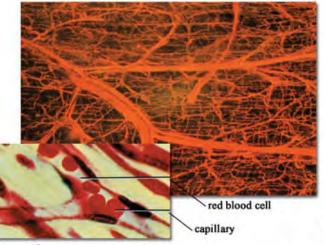




#### **Atom Exchange**

- Our bodies constantly exchange atoms with environment
  - Breathing (produces ~1 kg of CO<sub>2</sub>/day)
  - Eating, drinking
  - Transported to each of our ~100 trillion cells via blood vessel network of ~100,000 km total length
- Exchange >10 times our body weight with biosphere each year
  - ~50,000 kg during average life time





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#### Where do Exchanged Atoms go?

- Majority of atoms expelled from body are contained in CO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>O
  - CO<sub>2</sub> enters atmosphere
  - H<sub>2</sub>O distributed in biosphere
- Rapid (order of days to years) mixing with other atoms and distribution throughout the biosphere

#### Weight of the Atmosphere

```
Air pressure ~ 101,000 N/m<sup>2</sup>
Force of the atmosphere on surface of Earth =
Weight of atmosphere
• Weight = m g
  Force = pA = p 4\pi r^2
  Weight = Force
   m g = p 4\pi r^2
• m = p 4\pi r^2 / g
      = (1.01 \cdot 10^5 \text{ N/m}^2) 4\pi (6.37 \cdot 10^6 \text{ m})^2 / (9.81 \text{ m/s}^2)
      = 5.2 \cdot 10^{18} \text{ kg}
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                                            May 11, 2012
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#### Size of the Biosphere



#### How many atoms do you have from ...?

 Probability that a given atom has been part of the body of a given person (historical figure)

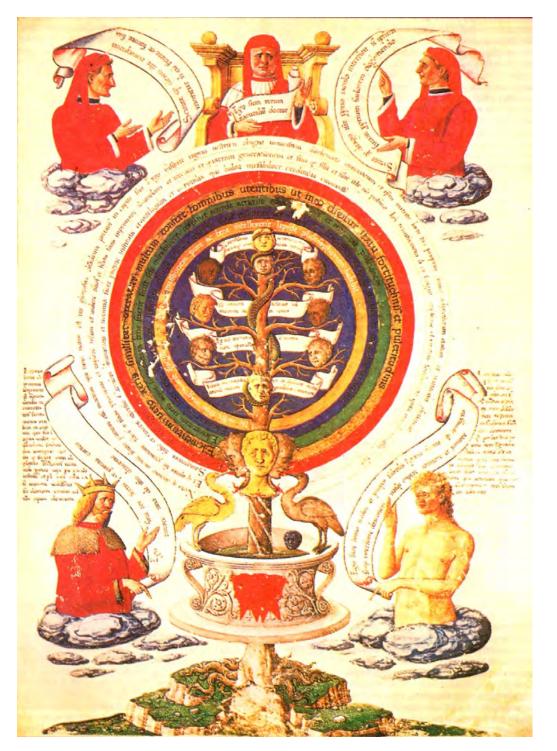
$$p = \frac{50,000 \text{ kg}}{5.10^{20} \text{ kg}} = 1.10^{-16}$$

 Number of atoms in your body right now that once belonged to <fill in the blank>

$$N = p \cdot N_{\text{atoms}} = (7 \cdot 10^{27})(1 \cdot 10^{-16}) = 7 \cdot 10^{11}$$

Approximately a trillion atoms!!!



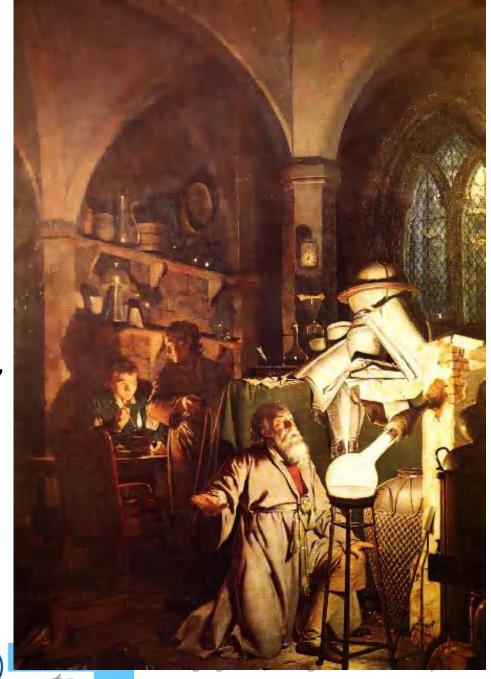


# Alchemy

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# **Alchemy**

- Primary Objective:
  - (Re)Creation of the Philosopher's Stone
  - ="Magnum Opus"
- Philosopher's Stone
  - Turns common metals (lead, iron) into silver or gold
  - Elixir of life
- Attempted for many centuries



# **Success in the 20th Century**

- "Gold can be extracted from mercury, but mercury cannot be transmuted into gold." 1924 Editors of Scientific American
- It was not until 1941 that gold was actually prepared from a base metal. By bombarding mercury with fast neutrons, Sherr, Bainbridge, and Anderson obtained three radioactive isotopes of gold. Even that did not fulfill the dream of the alchemists; the gold was radioactive and the process did not produce wealth; it consumed it." A Philatelic Ramble Through Chemistry (Heilbronner and Miller; Verlag 1998)

#### THE

# PHYSICAL REVIEW

A Journal of Experimental and Theoretical Physics Established by E. L. Nichols in 1893

Vol. 60, No. 7

OCTOBER 1, 1941

SECOND SERIES

#### Transmutation of Mercury by Fast Neutrons

R. Sherr and K. T. Bainbridge, Research Laboratory of Physics, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts

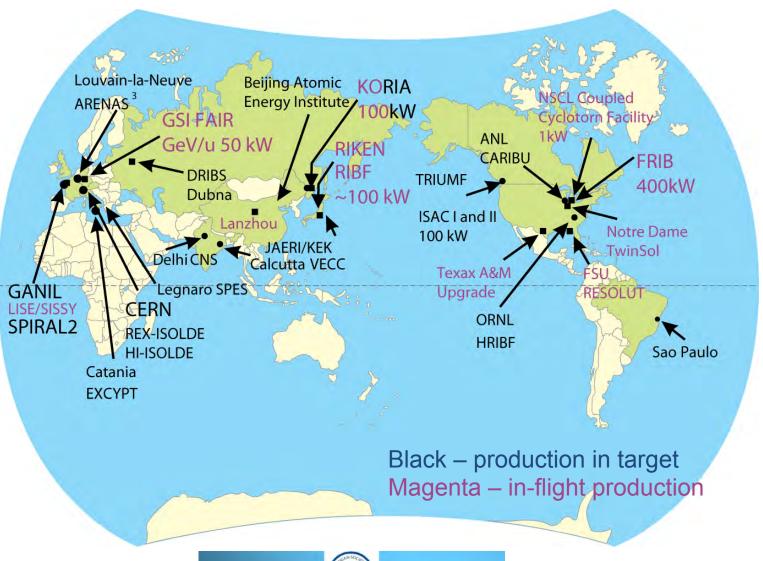
AND

H. H. Anderson, Mallinckrodt Laboratory, Department of Chemistry, Harvard University, Cambridge, Maszachuzetts (Received August 13, 1941)



Wolfgang Bauer, Michigan State University

#### Rare Isotope Facilities





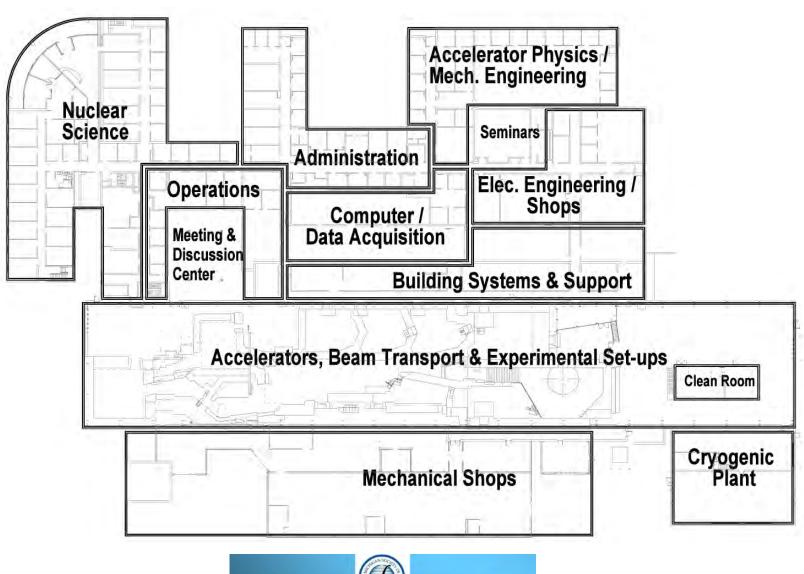
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#### **NSCL, National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory**



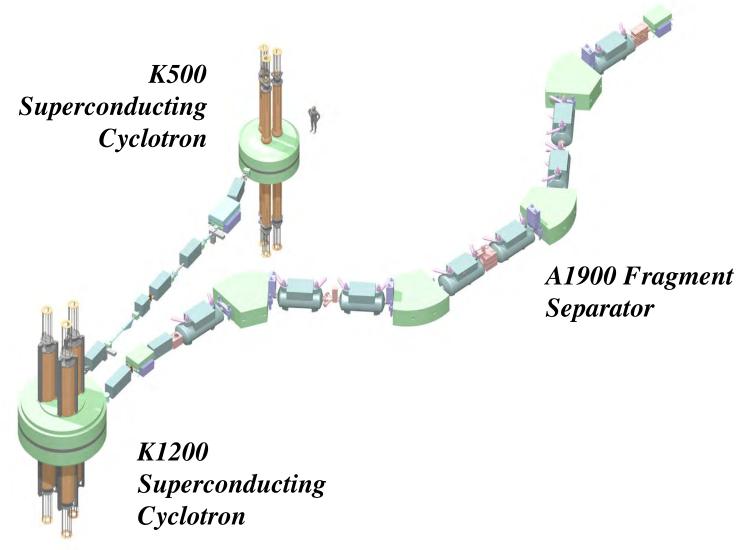
# **Layout of NSCL**





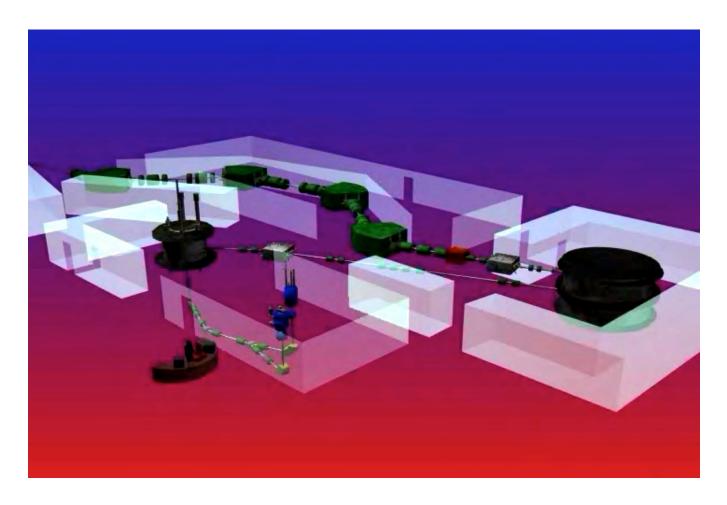
Wolfgang Bauer, Department of Physics and Astronomy Biomedical and Physical

#### **Overview of Coupled Cyclotrons**





#### **Fly-by of NSCL Coupled Cyclotron Facility**





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#### The next step: FRIB



#### **MSU Project Management Team**

The MSU FRIB Project Management Team designs and establishes FRIB as a Department of Energy Office of Science national user facility to support the mission of the Office of Nuclear Physics. Once FRIB is completed the FRIB Project will cease to exist and the MSU FRIB Laboratory will operate FRIB as a national user facility.



Thomas Glasmacher

Project Manager



**Donna Donovan** 

Deputy Project Manager



Al Zeller

Associate Project Manager



Jie Wei

Accelerator Systems Division Director



Georg Bollen

Experimental Systems Division Director



**Brad Bull** 

Conventional Facilities Division Director



**Peter Grivins** 

Environmental, Safety, Health, and Quality Manager



**Robert Lowrie** 

Environmental, Safety, and Health Deputy Manager



**Dan Stout** 

Project Chief Engineer

The MSU FRIB Laboratory will operate FRIB as a national user facility once the FRIB Project is complete. During design and establishment of FRIB, the FRIB Laboratory interacts with the scientific community on MSU's behalf.



Konrad Gelbke

FRIB Laboratory Director



#### **Bradley Sherrill**

FRIB Chief Scientist

A decade-long battle for a Mega-Project in Michigan: status as of 2007

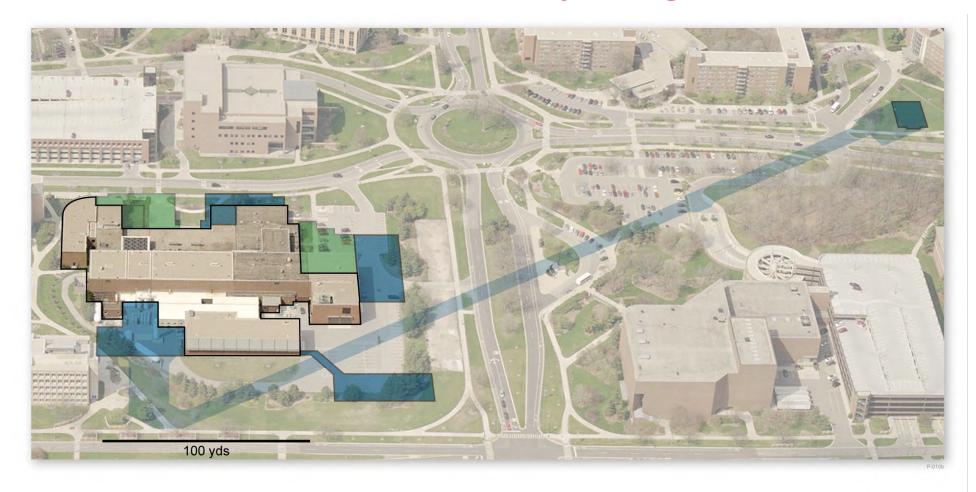
## **RIA at MSU Projected Site**





Wolfgang Bauer, Department of Physics and Astronomy Biomedical and Physical A decade-long battle for a Mega-Project in Michigan: status as of 2009

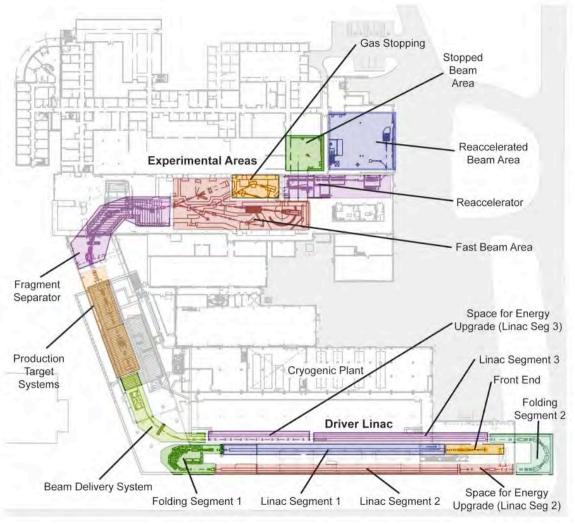
### **FRIB: Preliminary Design**





#### A decade-long battle for a Mega-Project in Michigan: status as of now

#### **FRIB Final Design: Cutaway Drawing**



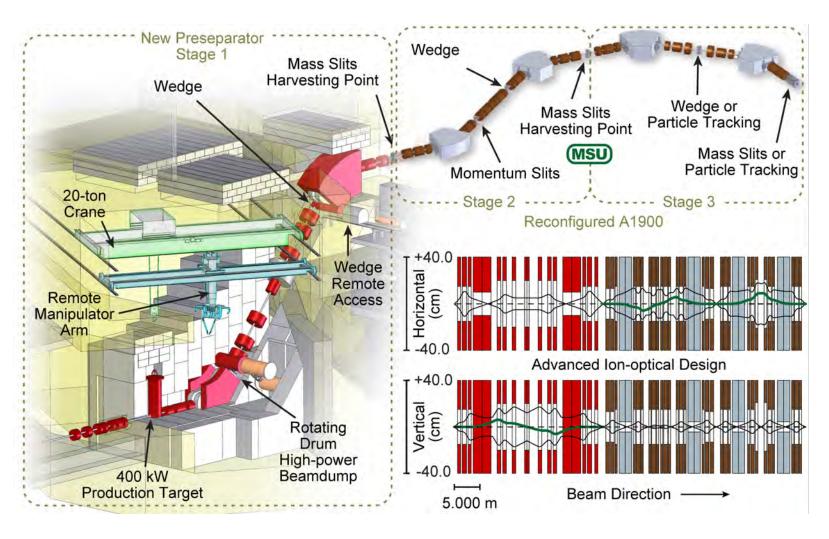


#### **FRIB: Proposed Experiment Areas**





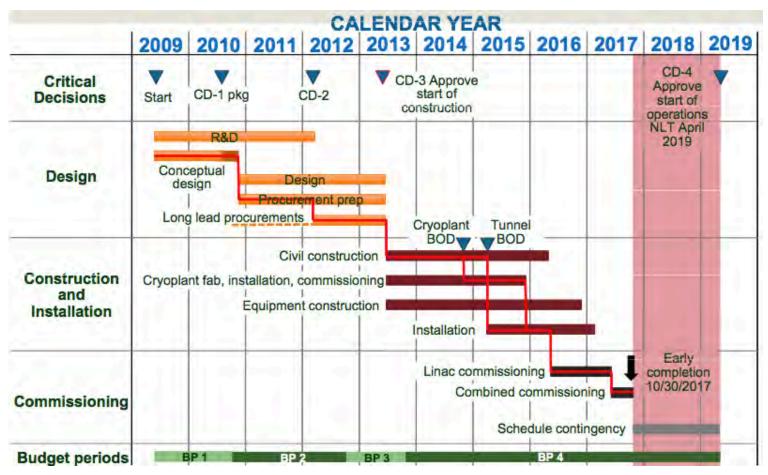
#### **FRIB 3-Stage Fragment Separator**





#### **Timeline for FRIB**

 FRIB timeline is dependent on funding by Congress and approval by Department of Energy





#### **Construction Status**





#### **Construction Status**





#### **Construction Status**





#### **Industrial Partners**

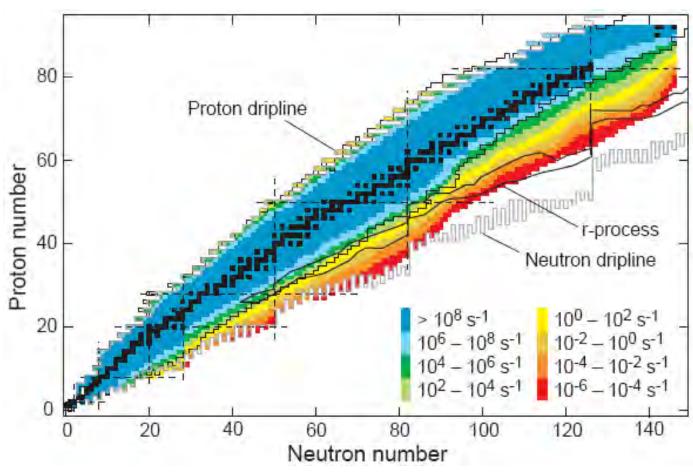
- Industry-built superconducting RF cavity
  - Successfully tested at JLAB
  - March 4, 2012





## What New Nuclides Will FRIB Produce? Key: All Produced are Available for Study

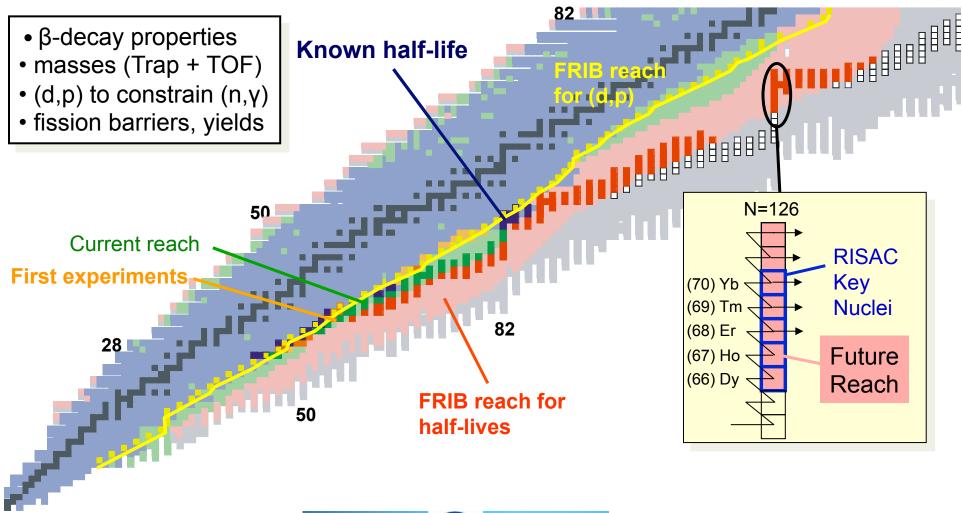
- FRIB will produce more than 1000 NEW isotopes at useful rates
- Interaction with Theory is key to making the right measurements
- Exciting prospects for study of the drip line to mass 120 (compared to 24)
- Production of most of the key nuclei for astrophysical modeling
- Harvesting prospects near stability



Rates are available at http://groups.nscl.msu.edu/frib/rates/



# Reach of FRIB: Will Allow Modeling of the r-Process; We will understand the Origin of our Elements!





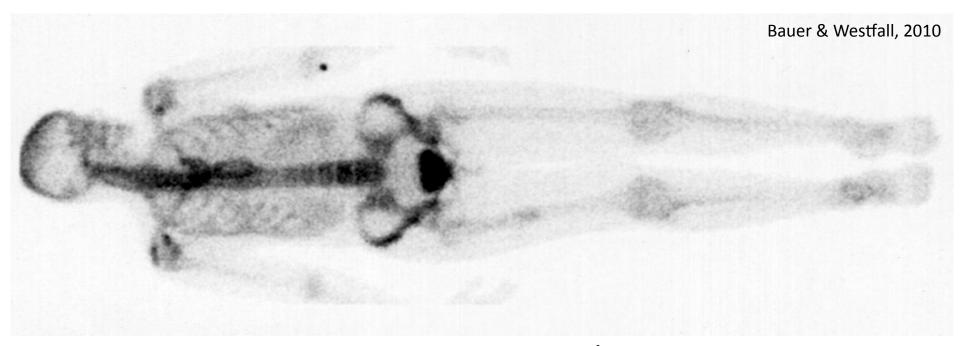
#### **Rare Isotopes For Society**

- Isotopes for medical research
  - Examples: <sup>47</sup>Sc, <sup>62</sup>Zn, <sup>64</sup>Cu, <sup>67</sup>Cu, <sup>68</sup>Ge, <sup>149</sup>Tb, <sup>153</sup>Gd, <sup>168</sup>Ho, <sup>177</sup>Lu, <sup>188</sup>Re, <sup>211</sup>At, <sup>212</sup>Bi, <sup>213</sup>Bi, <sup>223</sup>Ra (DOE Isotope Workshop)
  - $-\gamma$ -emitters <sup>149</sup>Tb, <sup>211</sup>At: potential treatment of metastatic cancer
  - Example: Ca-isotopes for bone research
- Reaction rates for stockpile stewardship non-classified research
  - Determination of extremely high neutron fluxes by activation analysis
  - -Rare isotope samples for  $(n,\gamma)$ , (n,n'), (n,2n), (n,f) e.g. <sup>88,89</sup>Zr
    - Same technique important for astrophysics
  - -More difficult cases studied via surrogate reactions (d,p), ...
- Tracers for Geology, Condensed Matter Physics (<sup>8</sup>Li), Material Science, Biology ...

#### Isotope harvesting is included in the FRIB scope



#### **Example: Technetium Scan**



- Rare isotopes for medical imaging / treatment
- Future isotope use will allow to focus on particular element and allow study of biological processes on different time scales, from milliseconds to years



# Summary

- Atoms in our bodies are immortal
- We constantly exchange atoms with the environment
- "trillions of atoms in our bodies have been in those of historical figures
- We have achieved the alchemists' ultimate goal and can trans-mutate atoms
- Designer isotopes can be used for fundamental studies and for medical and technical applications
- FRIB will be Mid-Michigan's world-leading entry into this field



# **Final Word**

- You can follow my musings on Twitter: http://twitter.com/BauerWestfall
- Email: bauer@pa.msu.edu
- Bring your friends & families
  - NSCL /FRIB tours
    - (Planetarium is next door, too)

