



Widowed stars

and how to use them to investigate their
former companion's death

Mathieu Renzo, E. Zapartas, S. E. de Mink, Y. Götberg, S. Justham, R. J. Farmer,
R. G. Izzard, S. Toonen, D. J. Lennon, H. Sana, E. Laplace, S. N. Shore, ...

21



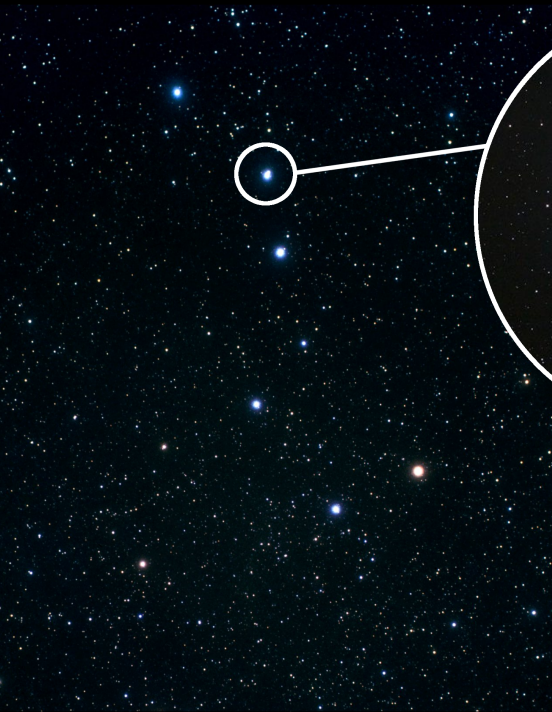
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The big dipper



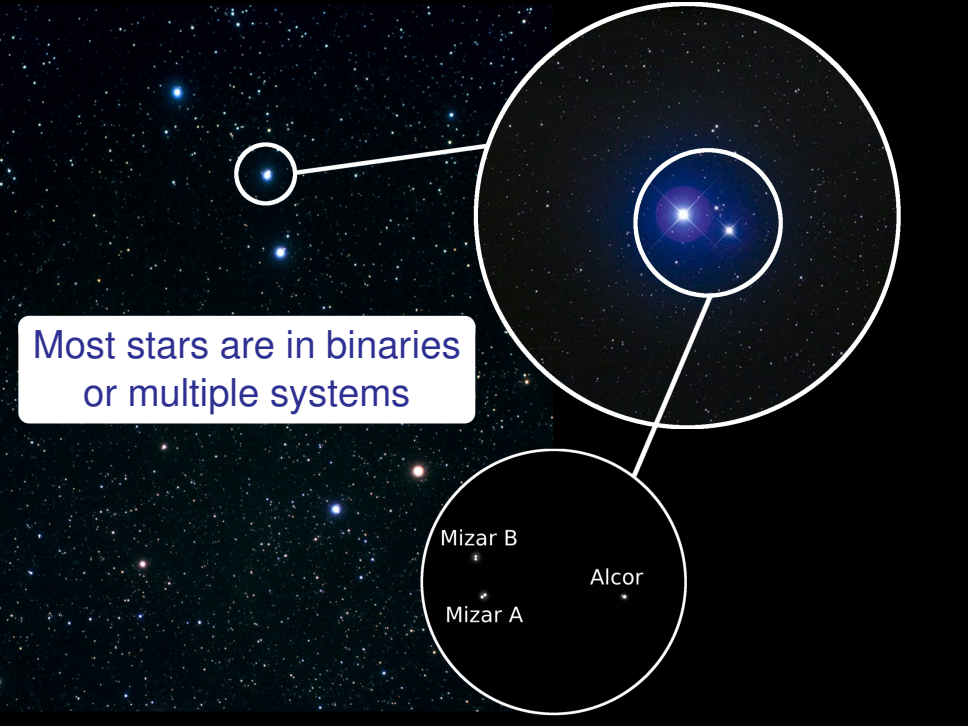
Mizar & Alcor

Most stars are in binaries
or multiple systems

Mizar B

Mizar A

Alcor

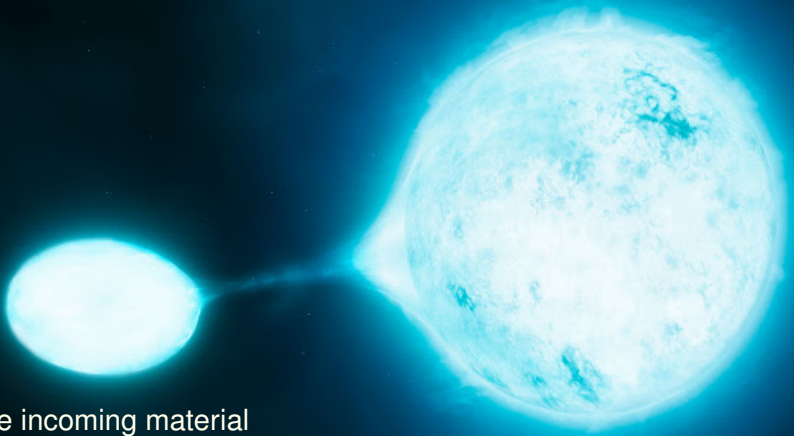


Massive stars shape the Universe



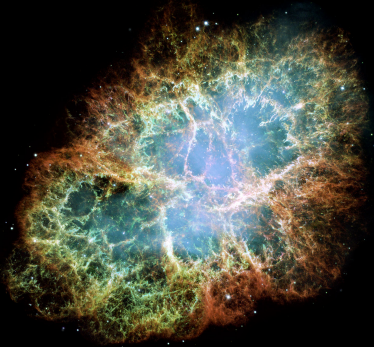
What happens to massive stars in binaries?

Mass transfer is very common!



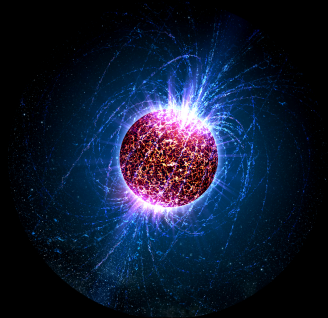
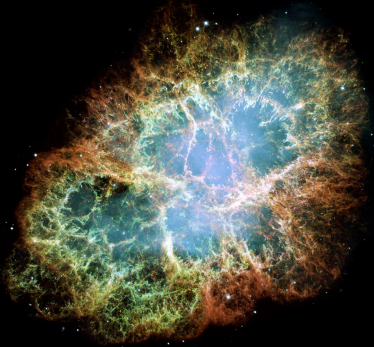
The incoming material
changes the star to-become
“widow”

Supernovae: explosive death of massive stars

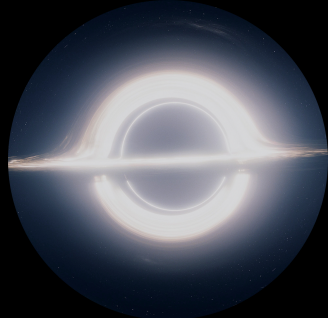


We see them, but don't fully understand them

Supernovae: explosive death of massive stars



Neutron stars



Black holes

We see them, but don't fully understand them

How do stars explode?

Theoretical model

+



Dutch national supercomputer Cartesius

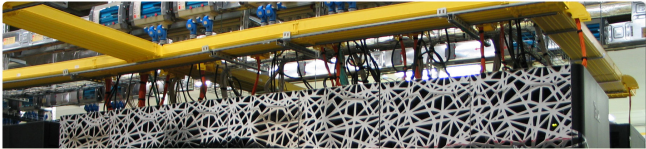
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Numerical Simulations

How do stars explode?

Theoretical model

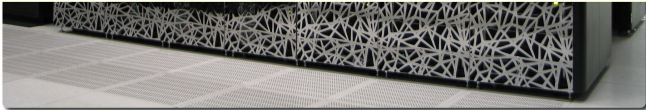
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Nature does not need to do this



Comparing with observations is
crucial not to fool ourselves!



Dutch national supercomputer Cartesius

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Numerical Simulations

What can we observe to understand stellar deaths?

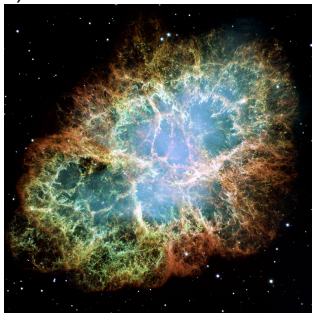


The explosions
(typically in other galaxies)

What can we observe to understand stellar deaths?



The explosions
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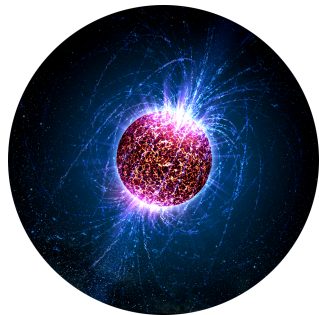


“Ashes”: supernova remnants

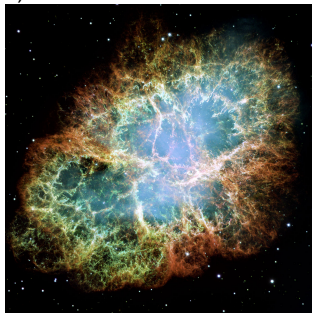
What can we observe to understand stellar deaths?



The explosions
(typically in other galaxies)



Neutron stars,
both single or
with companion(s)

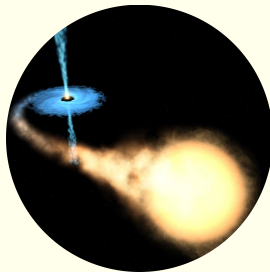
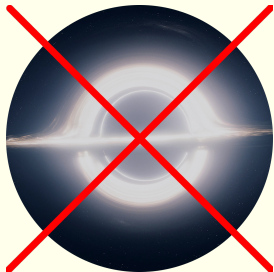


“Ashes”: supernova remnants

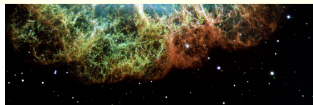
What can we observe to understand stellar deaths?



We cannot see black holes...



...but we can see matter falling into them!



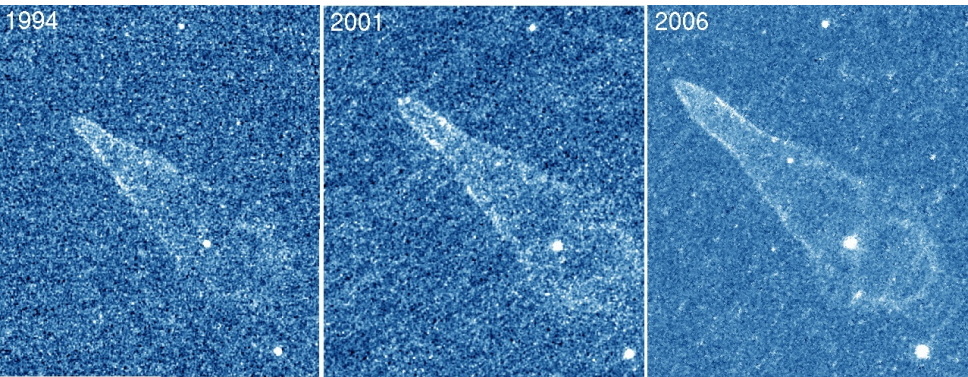
“Ashes”: supernova remnants

(typical

(s)

What do neutron stars teach us about supernovae?

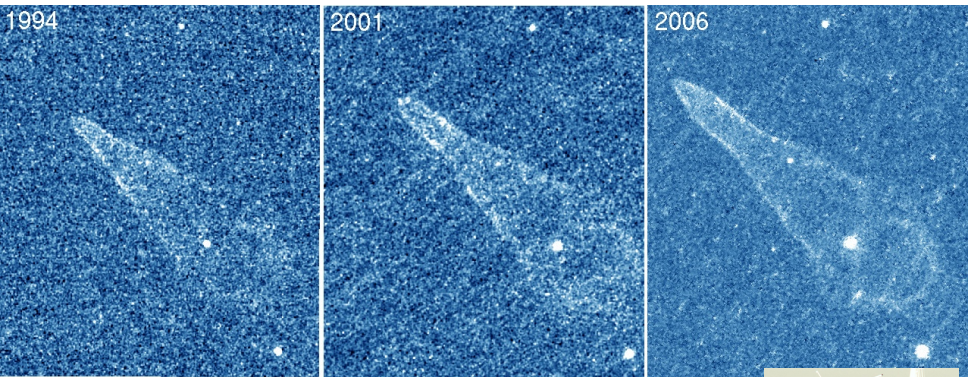
Neutron stars that we can see are typically fast
(especially if single)



“Guitar nebula”: $v_{\text{NS}} \simeq 1000 \text{ km s}^{-1}$

What do neutron stars teach us about supernovae?

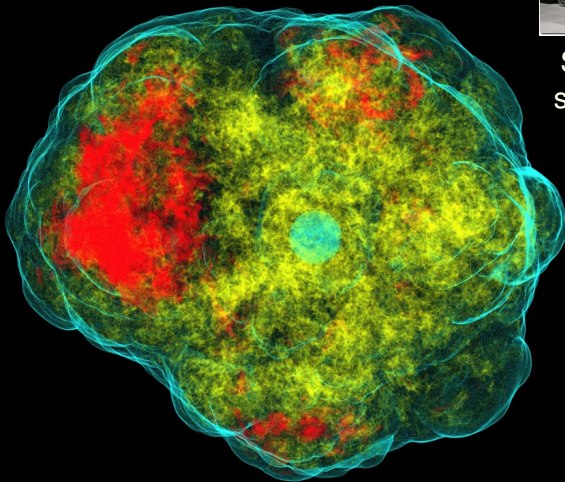
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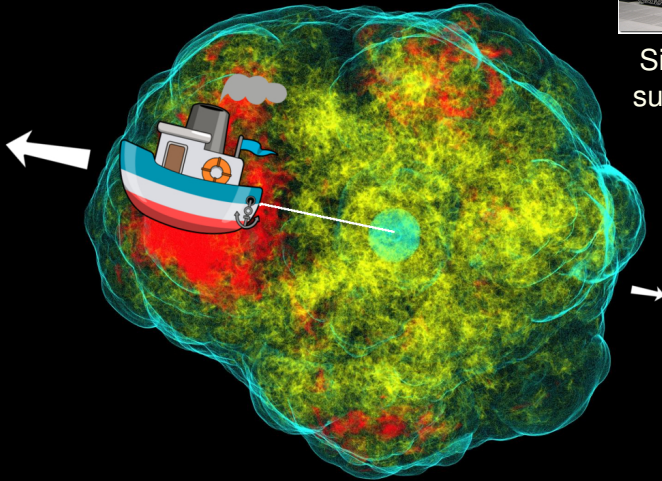


Supernova natal kick



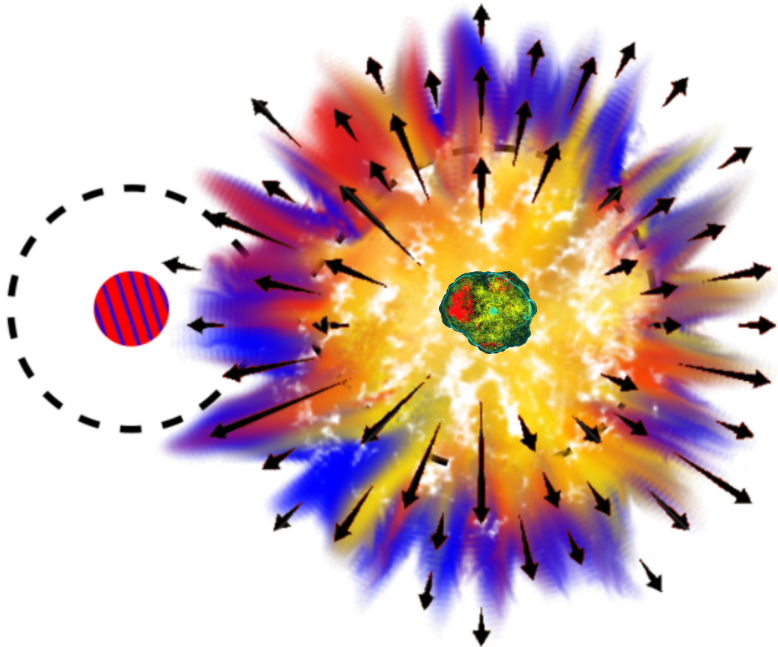
Simulations on
super-computer

Supernova natal kick

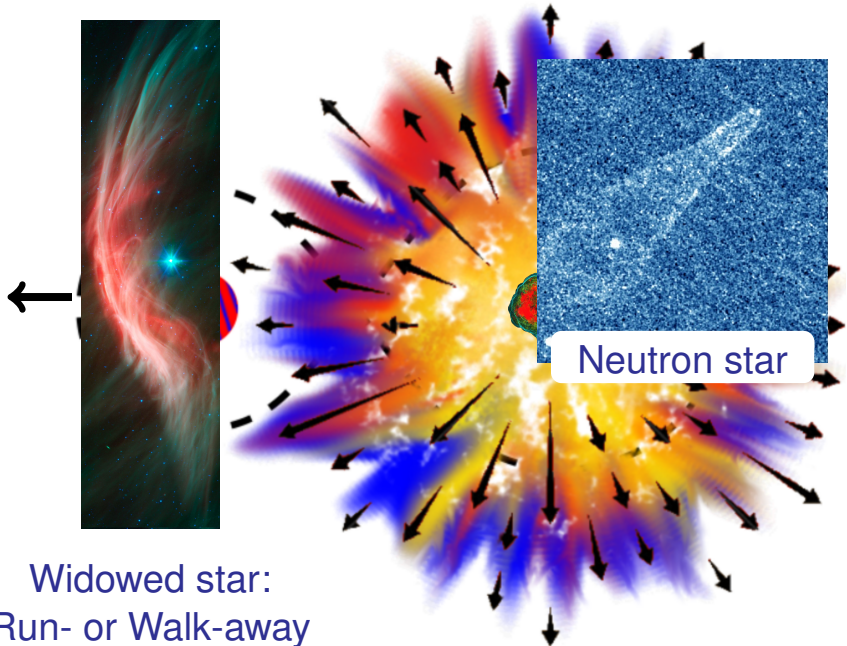


Simulations on super-computer

Supernova kicks cause the disruption of most binaries



Supernova kicks cause the disruption of most binaries



Widowed star:
Run- or Walk-away

Do black holes receive kicks?

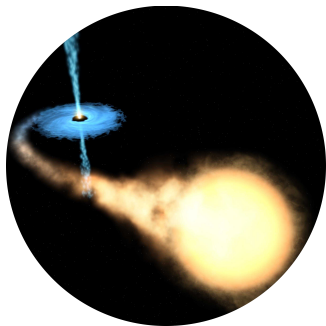
YES

⇒ most are single and we can't see them...



NO

⇒ most remain together with their widowed companion



Do black holes receive kicks?

YES

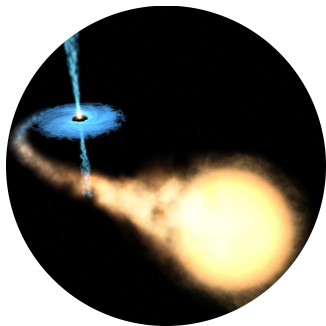
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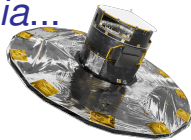
...but we can see their widow!

NO

⇒ most remain together with their widowed companion



We can measure stellar velocities with *Gaia*...



gaia

If many very
massive
widowed stars



Black holes do
receive kicks!

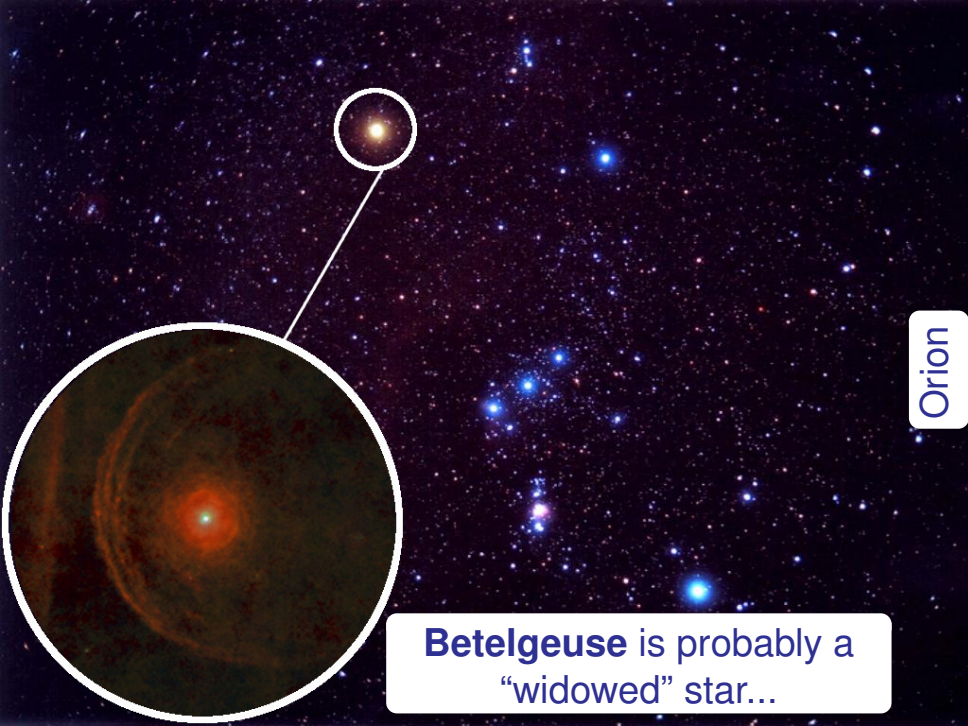


...and use other telescopes to find signatures
of mass transfer!



Orion

Orion

The image shows a vast field of stars in the Orion constellation. A white circle highlights a specific star, which is then magnified in a larger circular inset on the left. This inset shows a detailed view of the star's surface, characterized by a bright central core and concentric, swirling layers of gas in shades of orange and red, representing the star's outer atmosphere or a protoplanetary disk.

Betelgeuse is probably a
“widowed” star...

Outline

Backup slides

Not all fast stars are widows!

Dynamical Interactions

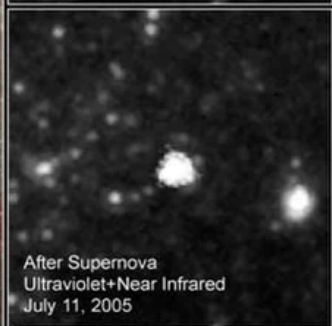
- Happen early on, before SNe
- Can produce faster stars
- (Typically) least massive thrown out

...Binaries are still important! but might not leave signature

Binary SN disruption

- Ejects initially less massive star
- Requires SN kick
- Final $v \simeq v_2^{\text{orb}}$
- Leaves **binary signature** (fast rotation, He/N enhancement, lower apparent age)





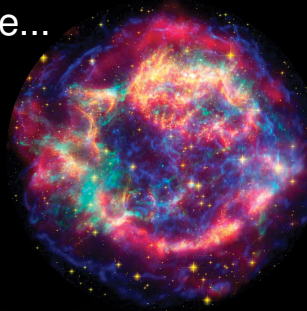
Elements in the Universe...







...without stars



Elements in the Universe...

...with stars



1 H	big bang fusion 																cosmic ray fission 										2 He
3 Li	4 Be	merging neutron stars 										exploding massive stars 										5 B	6 C	7 N	8 O	9 F	10 Ne
11 Na	12 Mg	dying low mass stars 										exploding white dwarfs 										13 Al	14 Si	15 P	16 S	17 Cl	18 Ar
19 K	20 Ca	21 Sc	22 Ti	23 V	24 Cr	25 Mn	26 Fe	27 Co	28 Ni	29 Cu	30 Zn	31 Ga	32 Ge	33 As	34 Se	35 Br	36 Kr										
37 Rb	38 Sr	39 Y	40 Zr	41 Nb	42 Mo	43 Tc	44 Ru	45 Rh	46 Pd	47 Ag	48 Cd	49 In	50 Sn	51 Sb	52 Te	53 I	54 Xe										
55 Cs	56 Ba	72 Hf	73 Ta	74 W	75 Re	76 Os	77 Ir	78 Pt	79 Au	80 Hg	81 Tl	82 Pb	83 Bi	84 Po	85 At	86 Rn											
87 Fr	88 Ra																										
57 La	58 Ce	59 Pr	60 Nd	61 Pm	62 Sm	63 Eu	64 Gd	65 Tb	66 Dy	67 Ho	68 Er	69 Tm	70 Yb	71 Lu													
89 Ac	90 Th	91 Pa	92 U																								