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Abstract for an Invited Paper for the APR17 Meeting of the American Physical Society

Edward A. Bouchet Award: Heavy element synthesis in the Universe

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The source of about half of the heaviest elements in the Universe has been a mystery for a long time. Although the general picture of element formation is well understood, many questions about the nuclear physics processes and particularly the astrophysical details remain to be answered. Here I focus on advances in our understanding of the origin of the heaviest and rarest elements in the Universe.