Phosphorus enrichment over the Milky Way disk observed with near-infrared spectra of Cepheids

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- Introduction to stellar phosphorus abundances
- Objectives of our study
 - Cepheids are ideal targets for measuring phosphorus abundances
- Data and analysis with Subaru/IRD and Magellan/WINERED
- Some preliminary results

Phosphorus

- One of the main elements building up life, but measurements in astronomical objects have been limited.
- Nucleosynthesis process and responsible sites haven't been established well.

DNA's structure

- Mainly in massive stars: hydrostatic C, Ne burning and/or core-collapse supernovae ۲
- Contribution of la-type supernovae and classical novae? ۲

Maciá et al. (2005)

Table 1 Main biochemical roles of different phosphorus compounds in living systems

COMPOUND	BIOCHEMICAL ROLE
Nucleic acids	Storage and transmission of genetic information
Nucleotides	Coenzymes; carriers of P; precursors in DNA and RNA synthesis
Phospholipids	Main characteristic components of cellular membranes
Sugar phosphates	Intermediate molecules in carbohydrates metabolism
HPO ₄ ²⁻	Intracellular buffer; ionic carrier; bone metabolism



Observational limitation

- No neutral phosphorus line in optical spectra.
 - Ionic P lines in hot stars and chemically peculiar stars are observed, but not simple to use them.
- Found in late-type stars only in UV (2100~2600 Å, only from space) and near-IR (Y and H bands).



Number of stars with each element measured in Hypatia Catalog 2.0 (FGK stars within 150 pc; Hinkel+14)

P evolution – not established

- Previous data were limited to stars in the solar neighborhood
- Failure in explaining the [Fe/H]-[P/Fe] trend
 - Uncertainty in the yield of CCSN
 - Hard to explain high P in low-metal stars ([Fe/H] around -1).
- How to explain P-rich stars ([P/Fe]>1)?
- Brauner et al. (2023, 2024):
 - Main P synthesis C burning shell in massive stars
 - Minor or no contribution from explosive synthesis in CCSN (Woosley & Weaver 1995), SN Ia (Leung & Nomoto 2018), or AGB stars (Karakas & Lugaro 2016)
 - Possible sites for fixing the inconsistency Shell merger in massive stars (Ritter et al. 2018), i-process and/or s-process in rotating massive stars (Brauner et al. 2024).



Contribution of classical novae

 Bekki & Tsujimoto (2024) proposed the P evolution model with the contribution from ONe novae, which can reproduce the trend including very metal-poor stars from UV spectra.



Bekki & Tsujimoto (2024, ApJL, 967, L1)



Aims of our observations

- Identify the nucleosynthesis sites and establish the chemical enrichment model by measuring phosphorus in various samples
- Stellar systems
 - The Galactic disk over a wide range of R(GC)
 - The Galactic bulge
 - Magellanic Clouds
- Tracers
 - Cepheids (young)
 - RR Lyrs (old)
 - Dwarfs/Giants (various ages)

Thousands of Cepheids in the MW and LMC/SMC



Cepheids as phosphorus tracers

- Neutral P lines in NIR get strongest around (T_{eff} , log g) of Cepheids.
- We can measure Cepheids' P in almost the entire MW and nearby galaxies.
 - Most previous P measurements limited to within ~200 pc.
- FGK dwarfs and clump giants are good targets but with a smaller reach.

Contour of the strength of a P line (10529 Å) and the Cepehid instability strip



Application of Cepheids as chemical tracers

- Clear and tight metallicity gradient traced by >400 Cepheids and almost no variation in [alpha/Fe] (Genovali et al. 2015), but significant slopes for neutron-capture elements (da Silva et al. 2016) and some other elements including sulfur [S/Fe] show the slope (da Silva+23).
- Almost no previous measurements of phosphorus



IRD@Subaru

- YJH-band high-resolution spectrograph (PI: Tamura & Kotani)
 - R=70,000
 - Very stable and accurate wavelength calibration with laser frequency comb



InfraRed Doppler (IRD)

IRD observations for P and other elements

ID	Targets	Night(s)	Data
S22B-104	Ceps in the outer Disk	10/10+11 (2n)	8 outer-disk Ceps, but S/N too low for P
S23A-021	Ceps in the inner Disk	3/23+6/16 (1n)	~30 inner-disk Ceps with good quality
S24A-024	Metal-rich RR Lyrs	3/7+6/8 (1n)	~20 RR Lyrs with good quality

Phosphorus in metal-rich RR Lyrs from S24A

Part of order 140 (Y-band)

Part of order 139 (Y-band)



 Generally speaking, RR Lyrs are ~10 Gyr old, but some recent studies claim metal-rich RR Lyrs ([Fe/H]>-1) are younger (a few Gyr).

WINERED

- Near-IR: 0.91—1.35 μm (zYJ bands)
- Resolution: **28,000** (WIDE) or **~70,000** (HIRES)
- High S/N ratio: ~500, routinely for bright targets
- High efficiency: 50 %



- We started observations with Magellan 6.5m at LCO
- Limits (expected): J=14.2 (S/N=100) or 15.8 (S/N=30) with 1hr for WIDE mode w. Magellan 6.5m

Home Page	https://merlot.kyoto-su.ac.jp/LIH/WINERED/
ETC	https://merlot.kyoto-su.ac.jp/WINERED/ETC/

Current sample of Cepheids in the MW disk

- Covering a wide range of R(GC), 3.5—21 kpc.
 - So far, we used Subaru/IRD for nearby bright Cepheids.



Work in progress: checking measurements…

- IRD and WINERED measurements look both good and consistent as we see on [Fe/H]-[X/Fe] diagrams (in next slides).
 - Precision: Fe 0.05~0.09 dex (30-40 lines), P 0.06—0.12 dex (3—4 lines)



Work in progress: metallicity gradient

- Consistent with previous works
 - Linear including the innermost region (Matsunaga+23)
 - Sample in the outer disk is still small.



Work in progress: abundance-ratio gradient

- Almost flat in [X/Fe] except for Y; i.e. [X/H] shows the same slope as [Fe/H]
 - Consistent with previous results for $5.5 < R_{GC} < 15$ kpc. Tilted in [Y/Fe]



Summary

- Phosphorus measurements have been limited to small samples in the solar neighborhood.
- We are extending the measurements:
 - Cepheids over a wide range of the Galactic disk
 - Cepheids in the Magellanic Clouds
 - And various other tracers including RR Lyrs, P-rich stars, and solar twins.
- Trying to establish the nucleosynthesis sites of phosphorus and models of galactic chemical evolution.
 - Calculation of galactic evolution being updated by Takuji Tsujimoto (NAOJ)