

SuperTIGER Abundances of Galactic Cosmic Rays for the Charge Interval Z=41-56

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SuperTIGER (Super Trans-Iron Galactic Element Recorder) is designed to measure ultra-heavy galactic cosmic rays (GCR) and probe their source and acceleration mechanism.



Atomic Number (Z)

A low-energy (left) and a high-energy (right) charge assignment method is used to extrapolate the Z dependence of detector signals to higher signal space, where high-Z events appear but charge bands are not visible.



Elements with Z>40 shows well defined peaks at even-Z elements but very low statistics and lack of clear element resolution at odd-Z elements.





There is good consistency between the newly measured charge range and satellites HEAO-3 & Ariel that did not have individual element resolution and thus measured odd-even charge pairs.

- The GCRS abundances suggest that the preferential acceleration of refractory elements by OB SNe, seen for GCR with Z<40, does not hold for Z>40. Instead, the volatiles are bumped up to the refractory line.
- Binary neutron star mergers (BNSM), are known to produce vast amounts of r-process nuclei in a single event. Interestingly, the BNSM r-process production falls off for Z<40 (A<~90), which is the point where the GCR source model appears to change.