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CHEMICAL EVOLUTION OF GALAXIES

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ABSTRACT. A short review of the H, He, C, N and O enrichment of the interstellar medium is given. The following results are stressed: a) intermediate mass stars in the 1 to 8 M_O are the main producers of C, b) the predicted secondary N production by massive stars is roughly consistent with the observed He and N enrichment in extragalactic H II regions, c) for oxygen poor galaxies there is an excess of N relative to He which could imply an additional source of N or that infall has been important during the history of these systems, d) the contribution to the He and N enrichment of the ISM by planetary nebulae of Types II and III is negligible in comparison to that provided by planetary nebulae of Type I, e) the observed $\Delta Y/\Delta Z$ value is in contradiction with simple models of galactic chemical evolution and/or conventional models of stellar evolution.

Key words: ABUNDANCES — GALAXIES-EVOLUTION

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