

45th IAA SYMPOSIUM ON THE SEARCH FOR EXTRATERRESTRIAL INTELLIGENCE (SETI) –  
The Next Steps (A4)  
Interactive Presentations (IP)

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NEUTRON STAR COLLISIONS - GALACTIC STAKING RUSH?

**Abstract**

The search for manifestations of extraterrestrial resource extraction technology should target two catastrophic events; supernova and the collision of two neutron stars. These rare astronomical phenomena create the heavy elements in the universe. An advanced extraterrestrial civilization could use machines to harvest the elements synthesized during these events. In the near future humanity will step out into the solar system to begin exploitation of available mineral, metal, and elemental resources on asteroids and other bodies. In humanity's far future, there may be galactic "staking rushes" when supernova or neutron star collision events occur and valuable rare elements are dispersed into the surrounding area.