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Kilonova AT2017gfo: which evidence of heavy r-process elements?

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The spectra of the optical/near-IR counterpart of the GW2017 binary neutron star merger show broad absorption features overimposed onto the continuum, that were interpreted as due to heavy elements formed through r-process nucleosynthesis. However, it is very arduous to identify individually the atomic species, owing essentially to the enormous amount of atomic transitions and to substantial line blending. I will review our present understanding of the available spectroscopic information.

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