

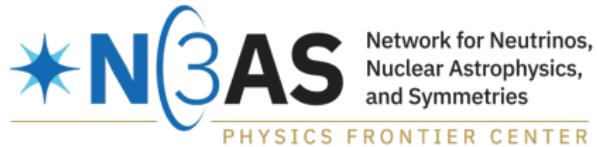
# Probing self-interacting sterile neutrino dark matter with the diffuse supernova neutrino background

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Anna M. Suliga

University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, San Diego

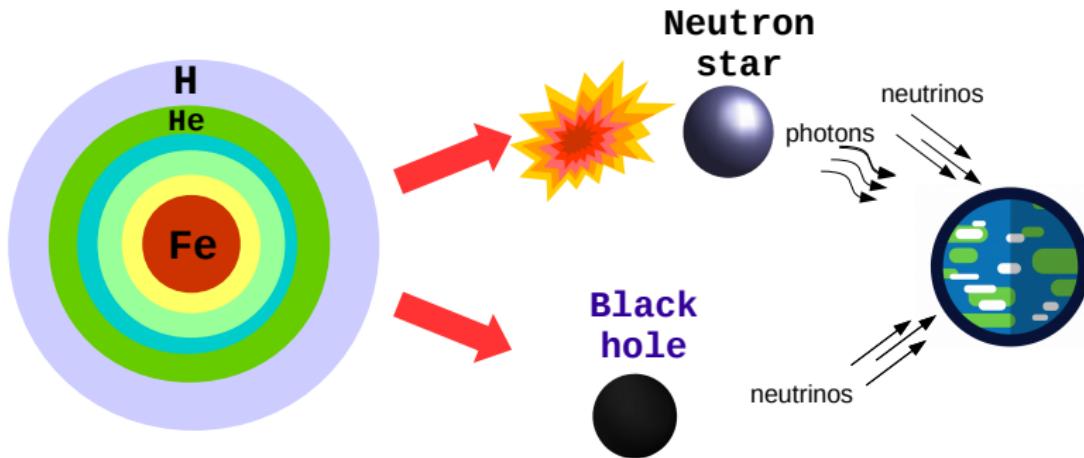
CETUP\* Lead, USA  
July 5, 2024



# Why are neutrinos important for a core-collapse supernova?

## Neutrinos:

- $\sim 10^{58}$  of them emitted from a single core collapse
- only they (+ GW) can reveal the deep interior conditions
- only they (+ GW) are emitted from the collapse to a black hole



# Why core-collapse supernovae are good physics probes?

## Advantages

- extreme physical conditions not accessible on Earth:  
very high densities, long baselines etc.
- within our reach to detect (IC, DUNE, SK, XENON & LZ...)

## What can we learn with a variety of detectors?

- explosion mechanism  
[Bethe & Wilson \(1985\),  
Fischer et al. \(2011\)...](#)
- nucleosynthesis  
[Woosley et al. \(1994\),  
Surman & McLaughlin \(2003\)...](#)
- compact object formation  
[Warren et al. \(2019\),  
Li, Beacom et al. \(2020\)...](#)
- neutrino mixing  
[Balantekin & Fuller \(2013\),  
Tamborra & Shalgar \(2020\)...](#)
- **non-standard physics**  
[McLaughlin et al. \(1999\),  
de Gouv  a et al. \(2019\) ...](#)

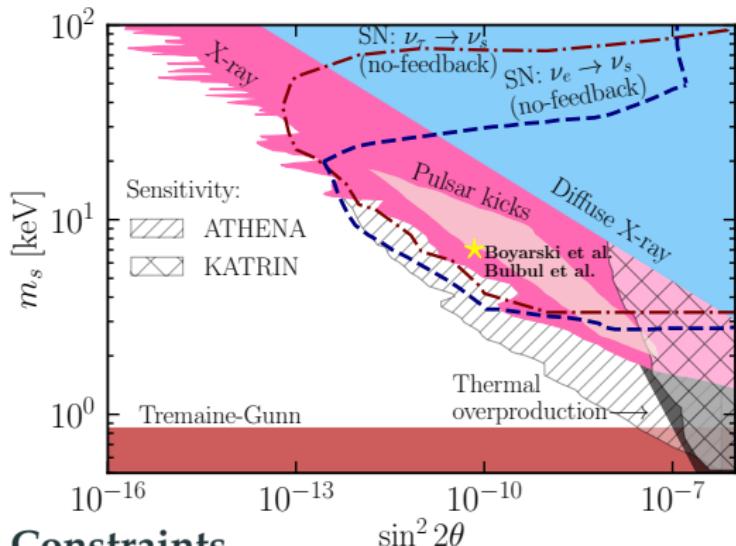
# Sterile neutrinos with keV masses in supernovae

In collaboration with I. Tamborra and M-R. Wu

JCAP 12 (2019) 019 and JCAP 08 (2020) 018

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# Sterile neutrino as dark matter candidate



## Constraints

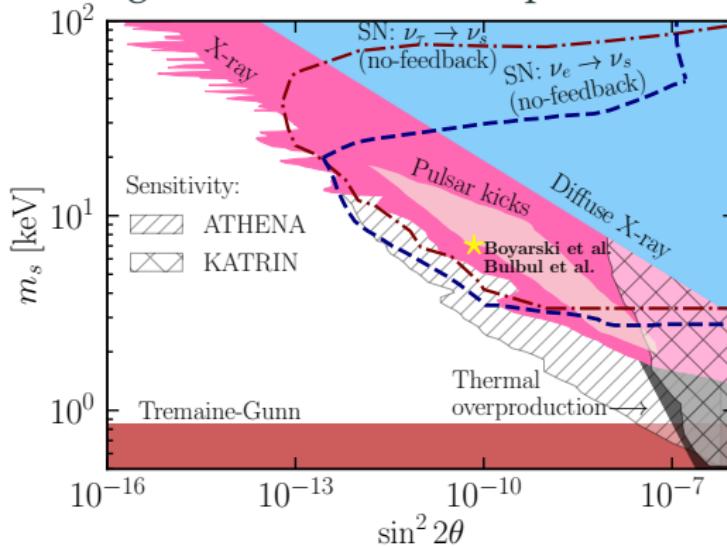
- Supernovae energy bounds ([X. Shi & G.Sigl \(1994\)](#)), ...
- DM overproduction ([S. Dodelson, L. M. Widrow \(1994\)](#), [X. Shi, G. M. Fuller \(1999\)](#))
- Radiative decay (NuSTAR, XMM, Chandra), [K. C. Y. Ng et al. \(2019\)](#), [K. C. Y. Ng et al. \(2015\)](#), [S. Horiuchi et al. \(2013\)](#)...
- Tremaine-Gunn bound ([S. Tremaine, J.E. Gunn \(1979\)](#))

## Favorable regions

- Pulsar kicks  
[A. Kusenko, G. Segrè \(1998\)](#),  
[G. Fuller, A. Kusenko, et al. \(2003\)](#)
- 3.5 keV line  
[A. Boyarsky et al. \(2014\)](#),  
[E. Bulbul et al. \(2014\)](#)

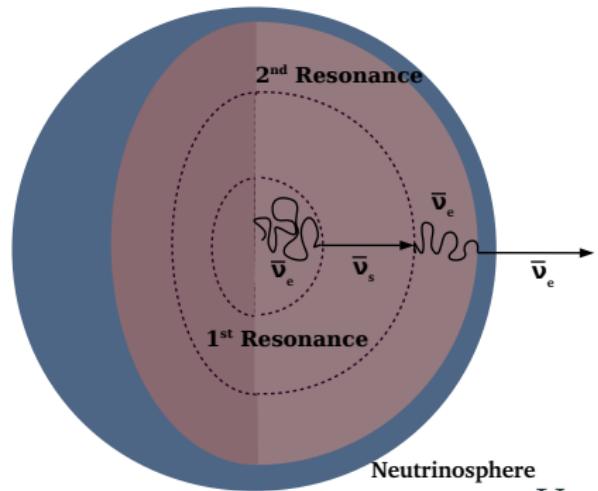
# The role of sterile neutrinos in supernovae; previous studies

- Change of the electron or neutrino ( $\nu_e, \nu_\mu, \nu_\tau$ ) fractions
- Suppression/enhancement of the SN explosion
- Exclusion of a large fraction of the DM parameter space



Raffelt & Sigl (1992), Shi & Sigl (1994), Nunokawa et al. (1997), Hidaka & Fuller (2006), Hidaka & Fuller (2007), Raffelt & Zhou (2011), Warren et al. (2014), Argüelles et al. (2016), Suliga, Tamborra, Wu (2019, 2020), Syvolap et al. (2019), Ray, Qian (2023, 2024)

# Sterile neutrino conversions in the stellar core



1D SN model  
Garching group archive

MSW

$$Y_i = \frac{n_i - n_{\bar{i}}}{n_B}$$

$\nu_\tau - \nu_s$  mixing: only 1 resonance

$$V_{\text{eff}} = \sqrt{2} G_F n_B \left[ \frac{1}{2} Y_e + Y_{\nu_e} + Y_{\nu_\mu} + 2Y_{\nu_\tau} - \frac{1}{2} \right]$$

Collisions

$\nu_e - \nu_s$  mixing: multiple resonances

$$\Gamma_{\nu_s} = \frac{1}{4} \sin^2 2\tilde{\theta} \Gamma_{\nu_{\text{active}}}$$

$$V_{\text{eff}} = \sqrt{2} G_F n_B \left[ \frac{3}{2} Y_e + 2Y_{\nu_e} + Y_{\nu_\mu} + Y_{\nu_\tau} - \frac{1}{2} \right]$$

L. Stodolsky (1987), H. Nunokawa et al. (1997), K. Abazajian et al. (2001)...

# Sterile neutrino conversions in the stellar core

## Collisional production

$$\langle P_{\nu_{\text{active}} \rightarrow \nu_s}(E) \rangle \approx \frac{1}{2} \frac{\sin^2 2\theta}{(\cos 2\theta - 2V_{\text{eff}} E/m_s^2)^2 + \sin 2\theta^2 + D^2}$$

$$\Gamma_{\nu_{\text{active}}}(E) \simeq n(r)\sigma(E, r)$$

$$D = \frac{E\Gamma_{\nu_{\text{active}}}(E)}{m_s^2}$$

# Sterile neutrino conversions in the stellar core

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## MSW production

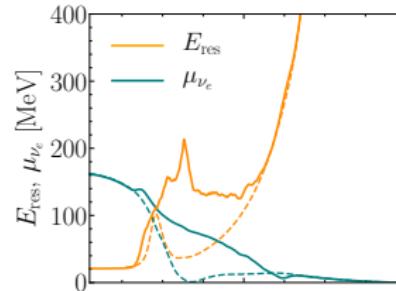
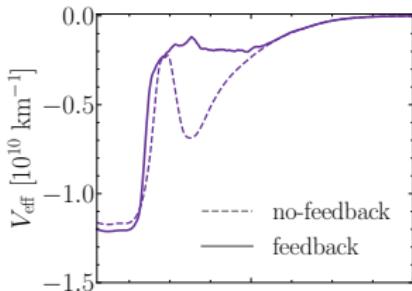
$$P_{\nu_{\text{active}} \rightarrow \nu_s}(E_{\text{res}}) = 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{\pi^2}{2}\gamma\right), \quad \gamma = \Delta_{\text{res}}/l_{\text{osc}}$$

$$\Delta_{\text{res}} = \tan 2\theta \left| \frac{dV_{\text{eff}}/dr}{V_{\text{eff}}} \right|^{-1}$$

$$l_{\text{osc}}(E_{\text{res}}) = (2\pi E_{\text{res}})/(m_s^2 \sin 2\theta)$$

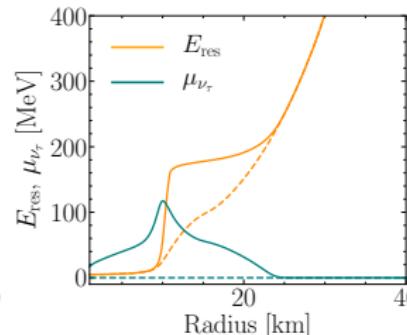
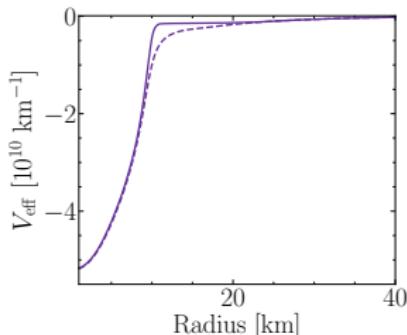
# Sterile neutrino conversions in the stellar core

$\nu_s - \nu_e$  mixing: multiple resonances



1D SN model  
Garching group archive

$\nu_s - \nu_\tau$  mixing: only 1 resonance



$$E_{\text{res}} = \frac{\cos 2\theta \Delta m_s^2}{2V_{\text{eff}}}$$

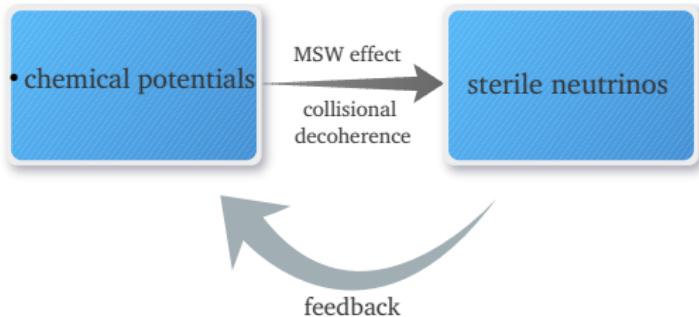
$m_s = 10 \text{ keV},$   
 $\sin^2 2\theta = 10^{-8}$

- Negative  $V_{\text{eff}}$  → MSW resonances only for antineutrinos.
- Growing chemical potential slows down  $\bar{\nu}_s$  production.

# The sterile-tau neutrino mixing: growth of the asymmetry

Only active neutrinos

$$Y_{\nu_\tau}(r, t) \equiv 0$$



Active + sterile neutrinos

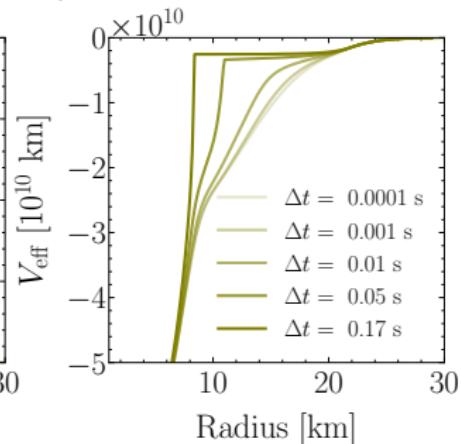
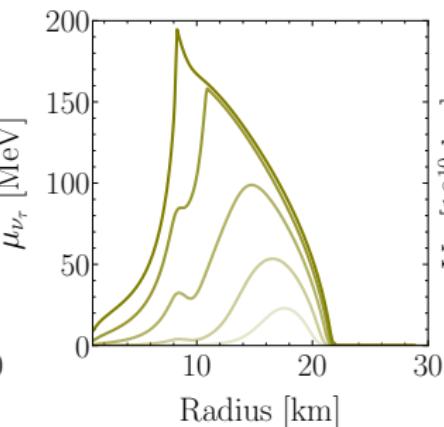
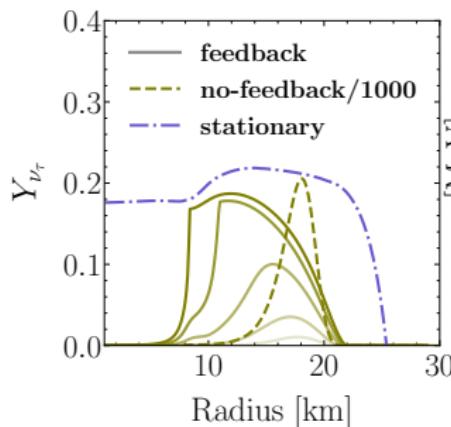
$$Y_{\nu_\tau}(r, t) = \frac{1}{n_b(r)} \int_0^t dt' \frac{d(P_{\nu_\tau \rightarrow \nu_s} n_{\nu_\tau}(r, t') - P_{\bar{\nu}_\tau \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_s} n_{\bar{\nu}_\tau}(r, t'))}{dt'}$$

The active neutrinos after being converted to sterile ones effectively disappear; since they were strongly coupled to the rest of the particles in the medium, a new equilibrium state forms.

The change imposed on the SN medium is referred to as the **dynamical feedback**.

# Radial evolution of the asymmetry w and w/o feedback

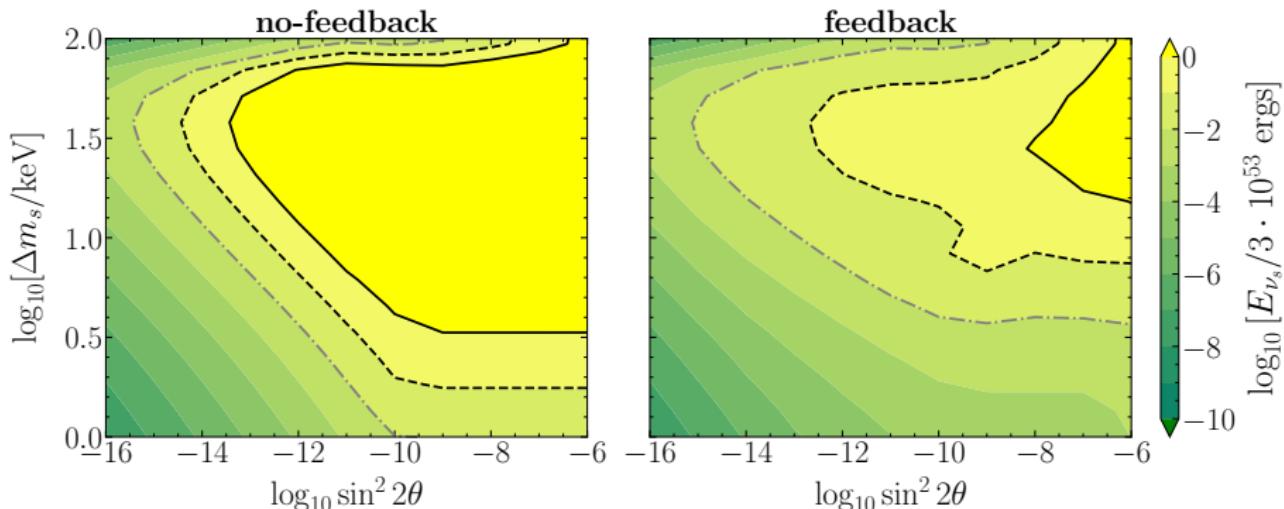
$$t_{\text{pb}} = 0.5 + \Delta t \text{ s}, \Delta m_s = 10 \text{ keV}, \sin^2 2\theta = 10^{-10}$$



- Feedback inhibits  $Y_{\nu_\tau}$  from unphysical growth.
- The  $\nu_\tau$  chemical potential grows significantly.

# Supernova bounds on the mixing parameters

$$t_{\text{pb}} = 0.5 \text{ s}$$



- The inclusion of feedback greatly reduces the excluded region.
- Large region of the parameter space still compatible with SNe

# The sterile-electron neutrino mixing: dynamical feedback

$$e^+ + p \leftrightarrow \nu_e + n \quad \text{and} \quad e^- + n \leftrightarrow \bar{\nu}_e + p .$$

$\beta$  equilibrium

$$\mu_e(r, t) + \mu_p(r, t) + m_p = \mu_{\nu_e}(r, t) + \mu_n(r, t) + m_n ,$$

Lepton number conservation

$$Y_e(r, t) + Y_{\nu_e}(r, t) + Y_{\nu_s}(r, t) = \text{const.} ,$$

Baryon number conservation

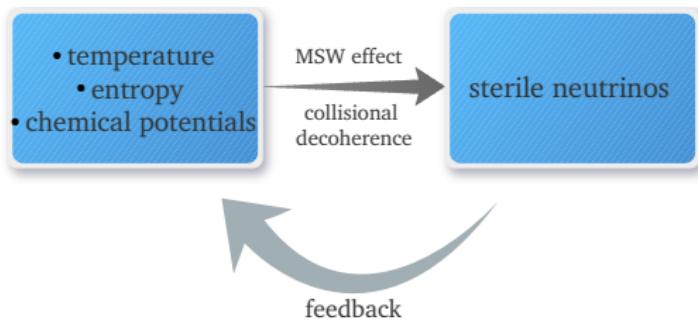
$$Y_p(r, t) + Y_n(r, t) = 1 ,$$

Charge conservation

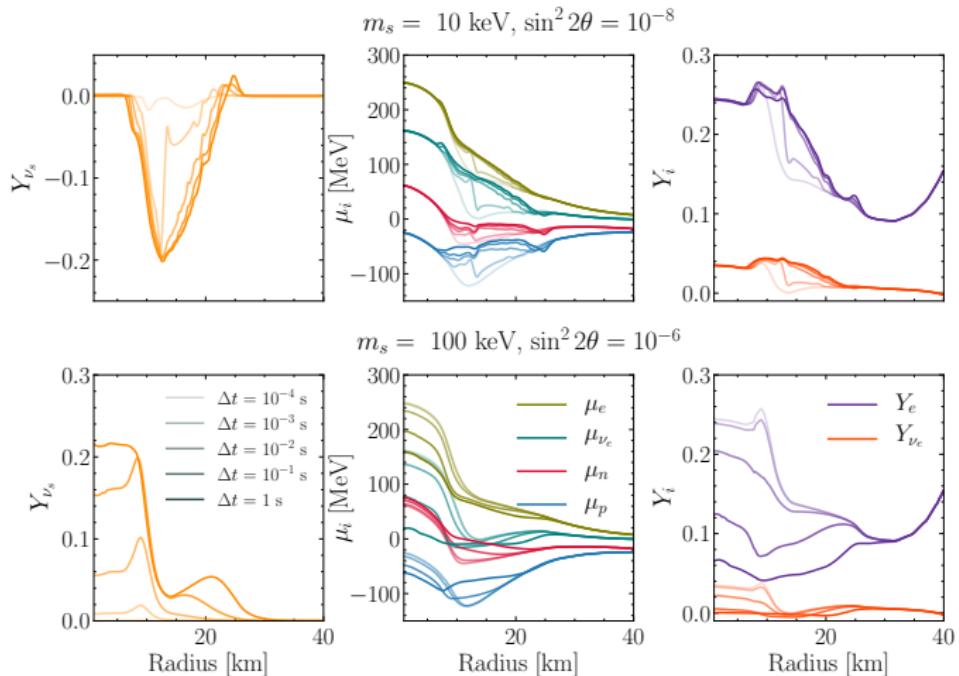
$$Y_p(r, t) = Y_e(r, t) ,$$

Entropy change

$$dS = \frac{dQ}{T} + \frac{P}{T} dV - \sum_i \frac{\mu_i}{T} dY_i .$$

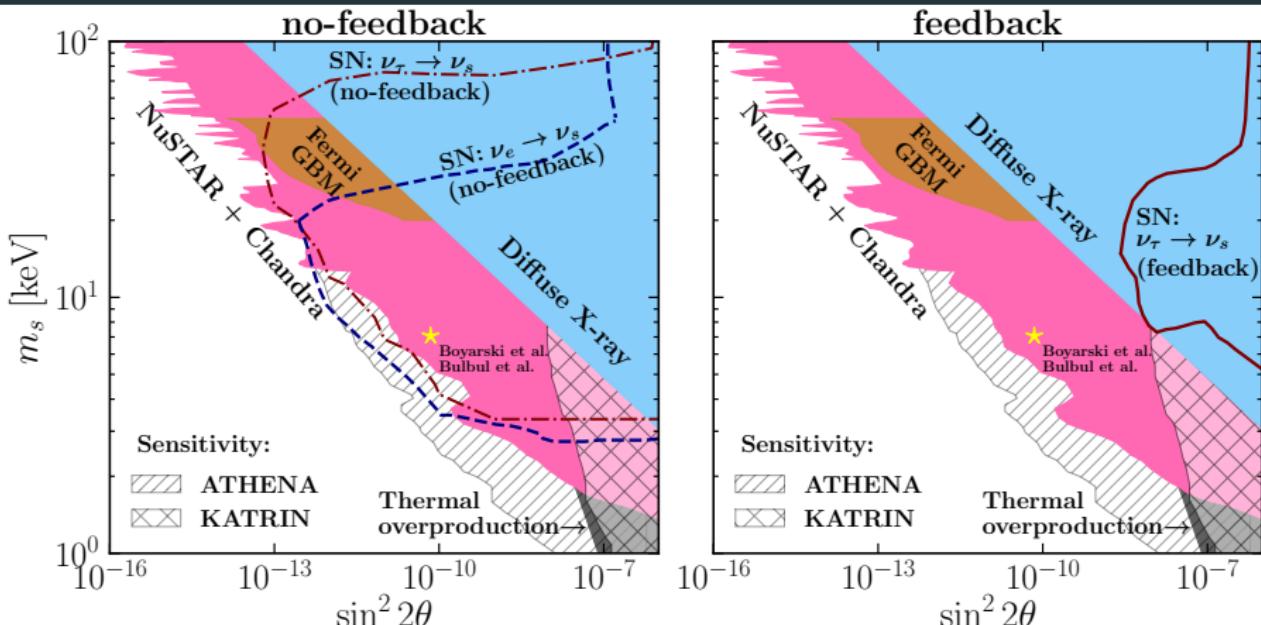


# Radial evolution of the asymmetry



- Sterile neutrinos modify  $Y_e$ ,  $Y_{\nu_e}$ ,  $Y_p$  and  $Y_n$ .
- Feedback on the physical quantities depends greatly on the  $m_s$ .

# Supernova bounds on the mixing parameters



- The inclusion of feedback greatly reduces the excluded region.
- CC-SNe cannot exclude any region of the DM parameter space.

# **Probing self-interacting sterile neutrino dark matter with the DSNB**

In collaboration with B. Balantekin, G. Fuller, and A. Ray

Phys.Rev.D in 108 (2023) 12, 123011

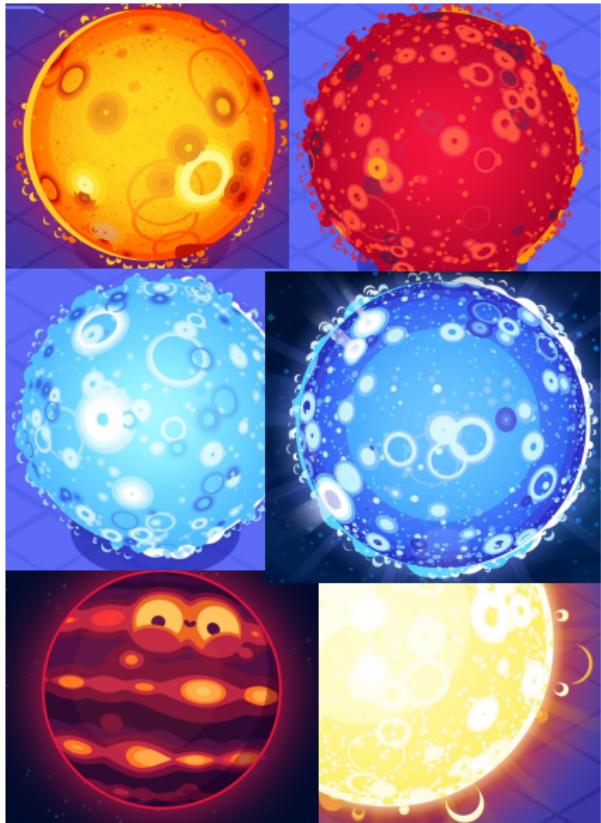
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# Why focus only on a single rare event?



## Single galactic SN event

- rare event
- precise information about one star



## Multiple SN events (larger distances)

- accumulation of events
- will detect in coming years

# Diffuse supernova neutrino background

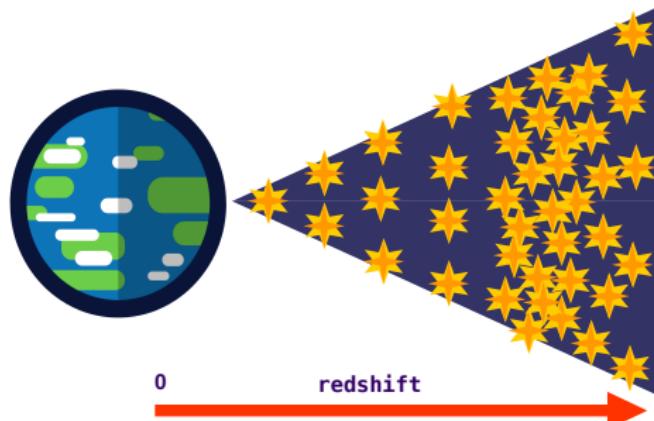
$$\Phi_{\nu_\beta}(E) = \frac{c}{H_0} \int dM \int dz \frac{R_{\text{SN}}(z, M)}{\sqrt{\Omega_M(1+z)^3 + \Omega_\Lambda}} [f_{\text{CC-SN}} F_{\nu_\beta, \text{CC-SN}}(E', M) + f_{\text{BH-SN}} F_{\nu_\beta, \text{BH-SN}}(E', M)]$$

Diagram illustrating the components of the diffuse supernova neutrino background flux:

- cosmological supernovae rate**: Represented by a pink arrow pointing to the term  $\frac{R_{\text{SN}}(z, M)}{\sqrt{\Omega_M(1+z)^3 + \Omega_\Lambda}}$ .
- fraction of neutron-star-forming progenitors**: Represented by a red arrow pointing to the term  $f_{\text{CC-SN}}$ .
- neutrino flux from a single star**: Represented by a magenta arrow pointing to the term  $F_{\nu_\beta, \text{CC-SN}}(E', M)$ .
- fraction of black-hole-forming progenitors**: Represented by a blue arrow pointing to the term  $f_{\text{BH-SN}}$ .

The DSNB is sensitive to:

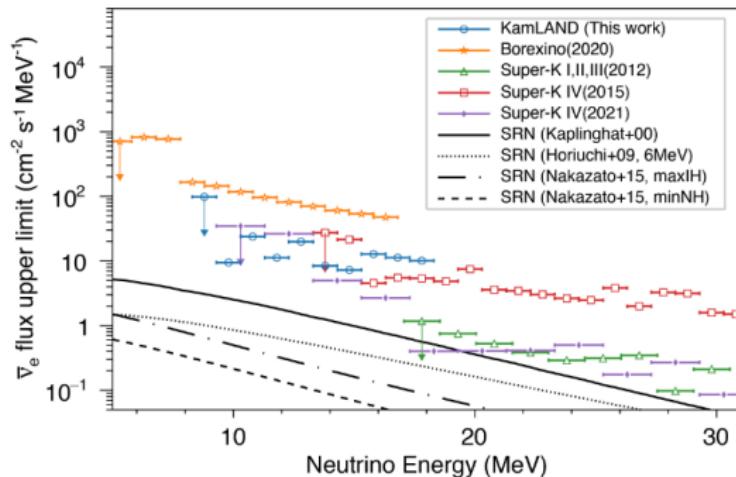
- $R_{\text{SN}}, f_{\text{BH-SN}}$
- neutrino flavor evolution
- equation of state
- mass accretion rate in BH-SN
- non-standard physics



Guseinov (1967), Totani et al. (2009), Ando, Sato (2004), Lunardini (2009), Beacom (2010),...  
Recent reviews: Kresse et al. (2020), AMS (2022), Ando et al. (2023), ...

# Diffuse supernova neutrino background: current limits

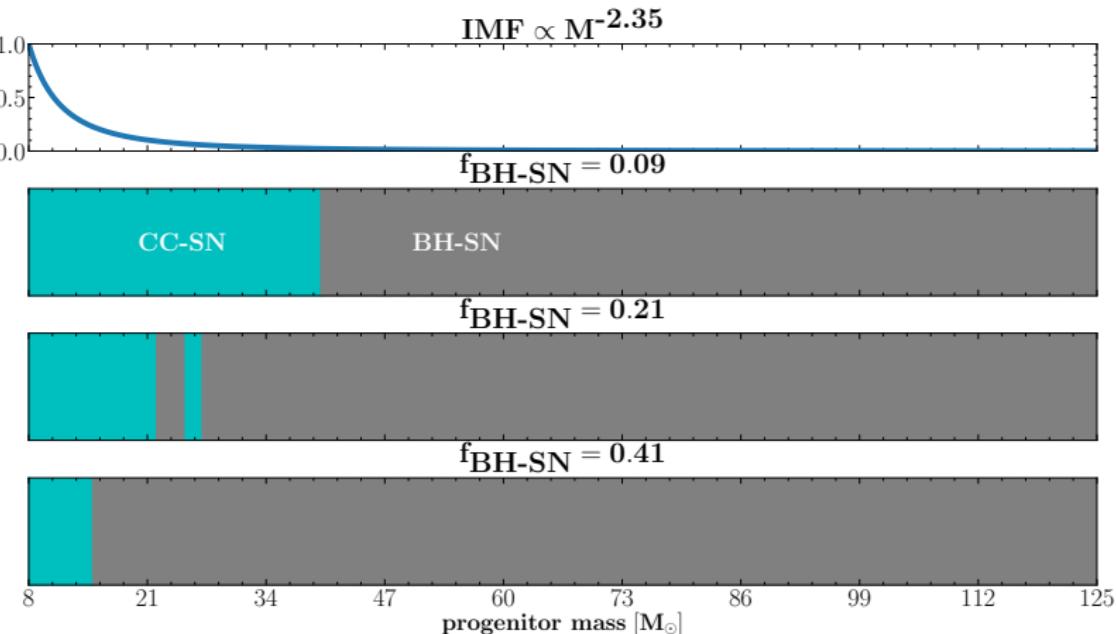
SK collab. (2021)



## DSNB limits:

- $\bar{\nu}_e \approx 3 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  for  $E_\nu > 17.3 \text{ MeV}$  SK collab. (2021), SK collab. (2023)  
soon detected by SK (Gd) Beacom, Vagins (2004) and JUNO JUNO collab. (2021)
- $\nu_e \approx 19 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  for  $E_\nu \in [22.9, 36.9 \text{ MeV}]$  SNO collab. (2020)  
possibly detectable by DUNE Møller, AMS, Tamborra, Denton (2018), Zhu et al. (2019)

# The fraction of black-hole-forming progenitors



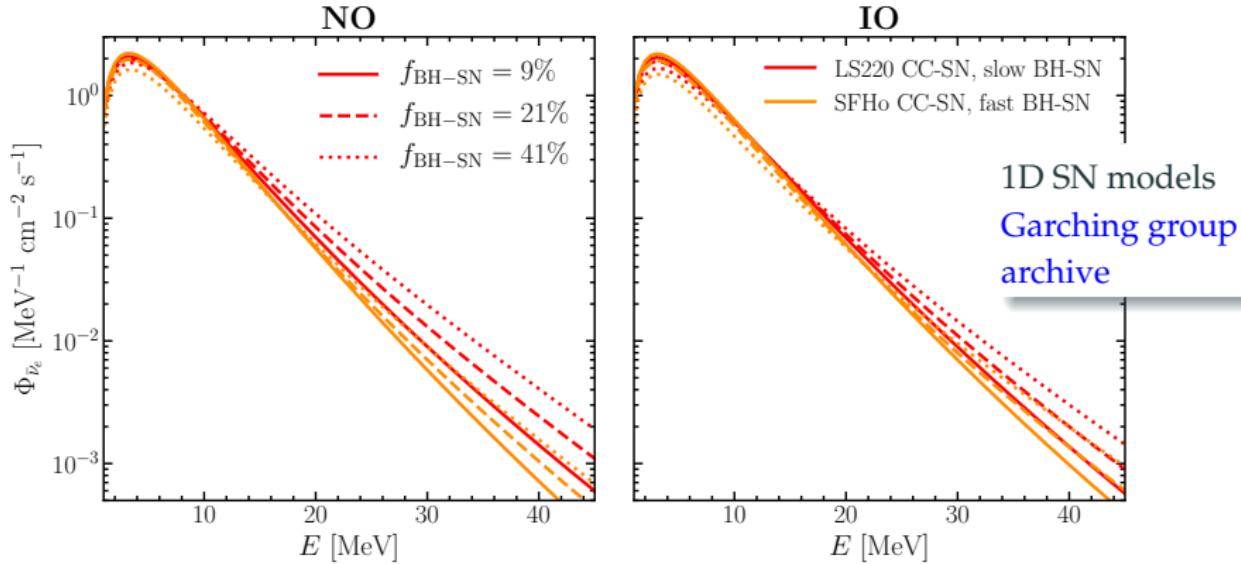
Fraction of black-hole-forming progenitors influences the highly energetic part of the DSNB, above  $\sim 15$  MeV.

C. Lunardini (2009)

Ertl et al. 2015, Sukhbold et al. 2015, Adams et al. 2016, Heger et al. 2001,

Kochanek et al. 2001, Basinger et al. 2020, ...

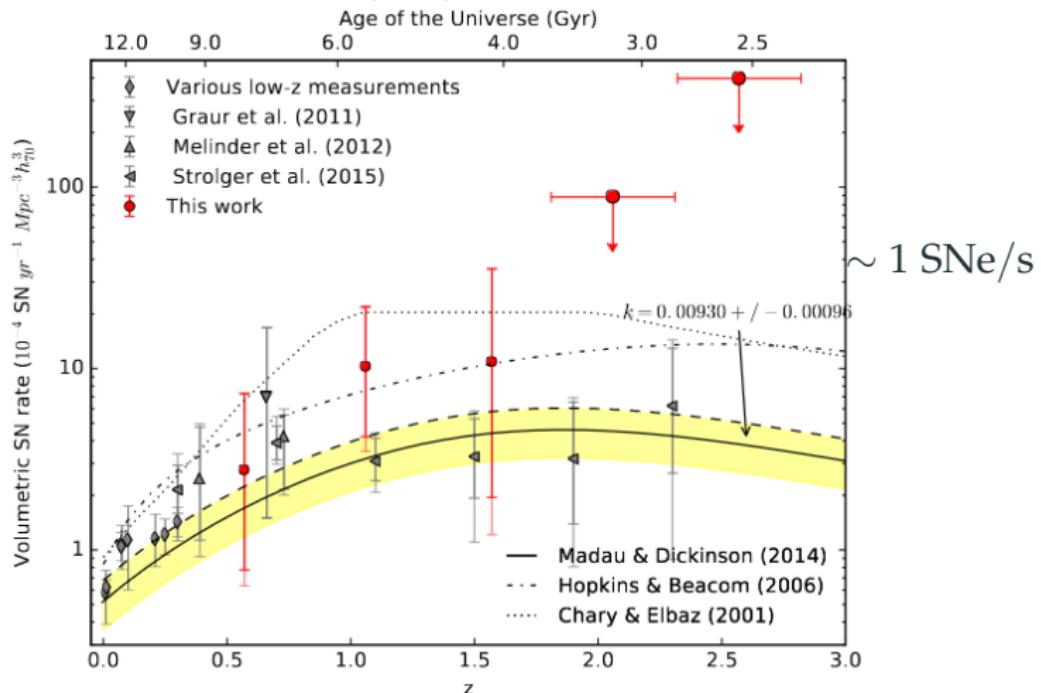
# The fraction of black-hole-forming progenitors



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# Cosmological supernovae rate

Petrushevska et al (2016)

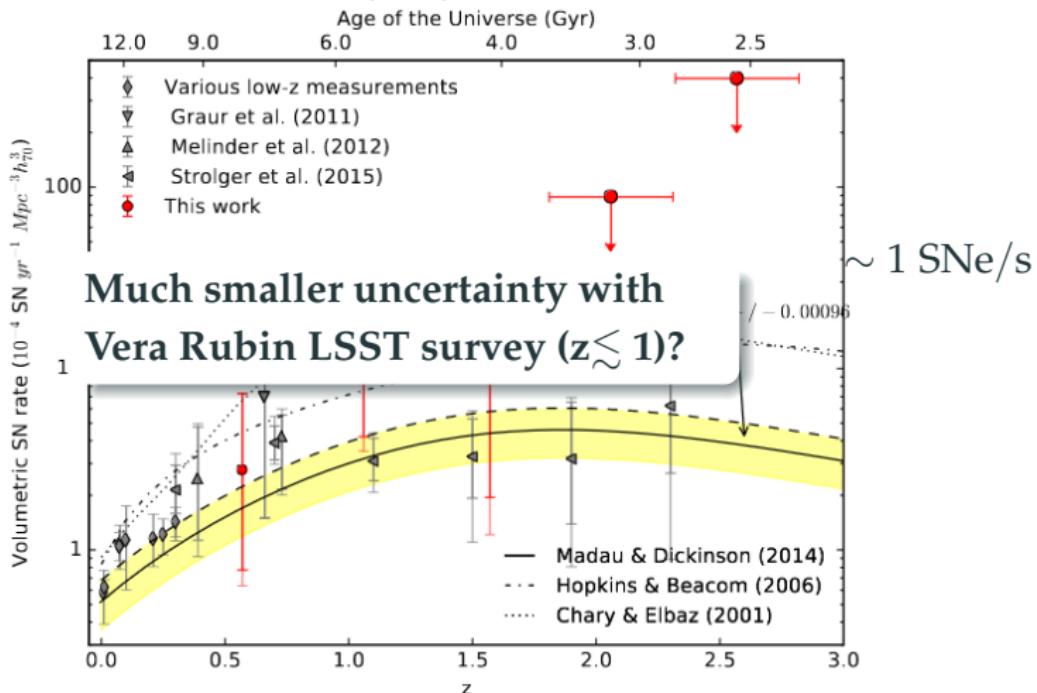


The supernovae rate influences the normalization of the DSNB.

Ando, Sato (2004), Beacom (2010), Horiuchi et al. (2011), Møller, AMS, Tamborra, Denton (2018), Nakazato et al. (2018), ...

# Cosmological supernovae rate

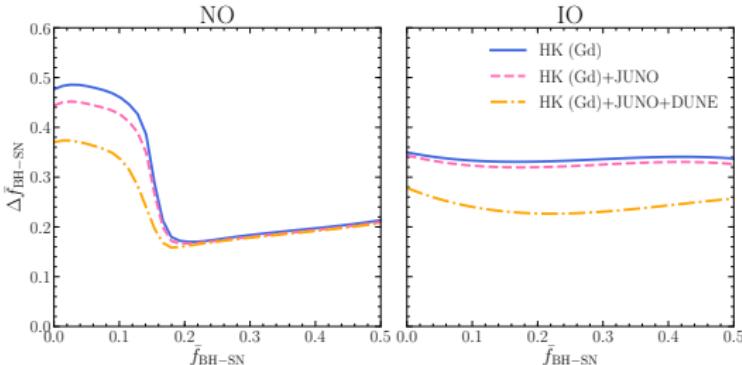
Petrushevska et al (2016)



The supernovae rate influences the normalization of the DSNB.

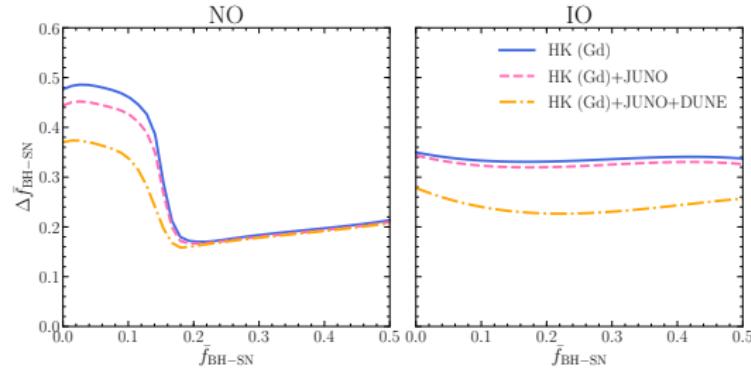
Ando, Sato (2004), Beacom (2010), Horiuchi et al. (2011), Møller, AMS, Tamborra, Denton (2018), Nakazato et al. (2018), ...

# Expected $1\sigma$ uncertainty: fraction of BH forming progenitors



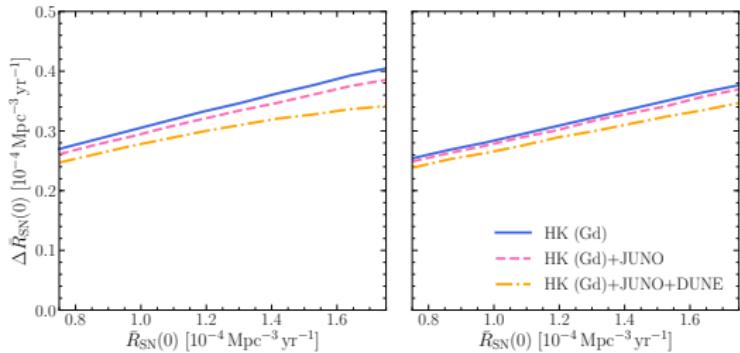
- The high uncertainty comes from  $f_{\text{BH-SN}}$ –mass accretion rate degeneracy
- DUNE is sensitive to neutrinos → helps to reduce the uncertainty

# Expected $1\sigma$ uncertainty: local supernova rate



- The high uncertainty comes from  $f_{\text{BH-SN}}$ -mass accretion rate degeneracy
- DUNE is sensitive to neutrinos → helps to reduce the uncertainty

- Relative error of 20%-33% independent of the mass ordering.

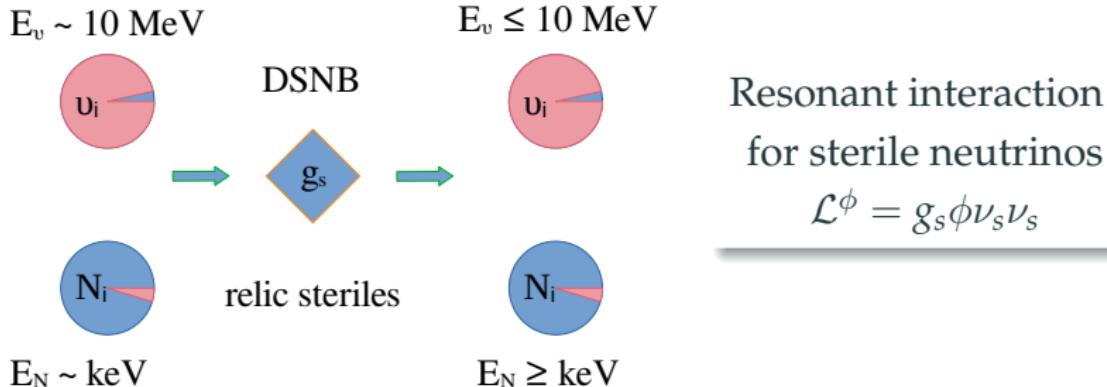


# Astrophysical uncertainties affecting the DSNB

- Neutrino Flux from an "Average Supernova"  
Lunardini (2009), Lunardini & Tamborra (2012), Horiuchi et al. (2018), Kresse et al. (2018), ...
- Cosmological Supernovae Rate  
Beacom (2010), Horiuchi et al. (2011), Ando et al. (2023), ...
- Initial Mass Function  
Ziegler, Edwards, **AMS**, Tamborra, Horiuchi, Ando, Freese (2022)
- Fraction of Black-Hole-Forming Progenitors  
Lunardini (2009), Lien et al. (2010), Keehn & Lunardini (2012), Priya & Lunardini (2017), Møller, **AMS**, Tamborra, Denton (2018), Horiuchi et al. (2018), Kresse et al. (2018), ...
- Binary Interactions  
Horiuchi, Kinugawa, Takiwaki, Takahashi (2021)

Non exhaustive list of references

# KeV-mass sterile neutrino self-interactions



$$\sigma(E_\nu) = \frac{g_s^4}{4\pi} \frac{s}{(s - m_\phi^2)^2 + m_\phi^4 \Gamma_\phi^2} \approx \frac{\pi g_s^2}{m_\phi^2} E_\nu \delta(E_R - E_\nu), \text{ where } E_R = m_\phi^2 / 2m_s$$

- sterile component in the DSNB  $\nu_i$  interacts with the mostly sterile relic background of  $N_i$

bigger parameter space for keV serile neutrino dark matter with self-interactions:

Maria D. Astros and S. Vogl (2023), T. Bringmann et al. (2022)

# Modeling secret neutrino interactions in DSNB

## Modified DSNB flux

$$\phi_\alpha(E_\nu) \simeq \sum_{i=1}^3 |U_{\alpha i}|^2 \int_0^{z_{\max}} dz \frac{P_i(E_\nu, z)}{H(z)} \times R_{\text{SN}}(z) F_{\text{SN}}^i(E_\nu(1+z))$$

## Probability of interaction

$$P_i(E_\nu, z) = e^{-\tau_i(E_\nu, z)}$$

$$\tau_i(E_\nu, z) \simeq \tau_R \Theta(z - z_R) = \frac{\Gamma_R(z_R)}{(1 + z_R) H(z_R)} \Theta(z - z_R)$$

where  $z_R = E_R/E_\nu - 1$ ,

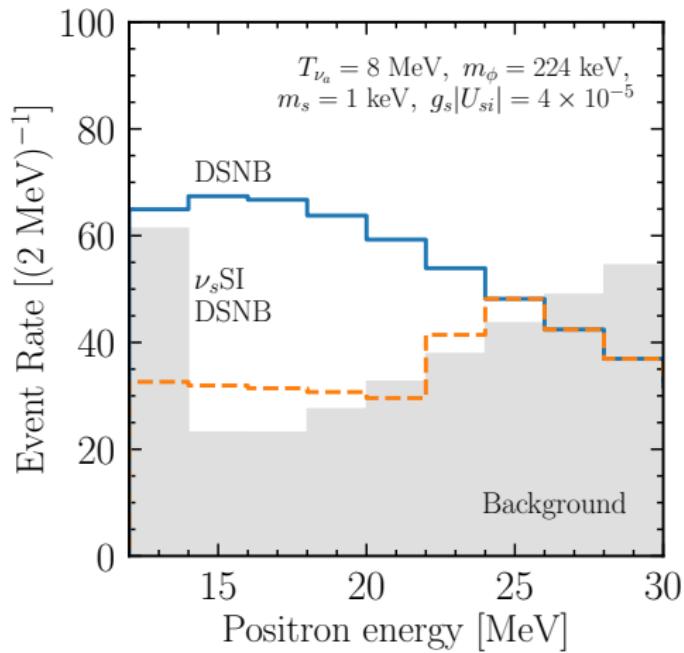
interaction rate  $\Gamma_R(z_R) \simeq |U_{si}|^2 n_{\nu_s}(z_R) \sigma_R$ ,

and sterile neutrino number density  $n_{\nu_s}(z_R) = n_{\nu_s}(1 + z_R)^3$

similar studies for active neutrino self-interactions and eV-mass sterile neutrinos:

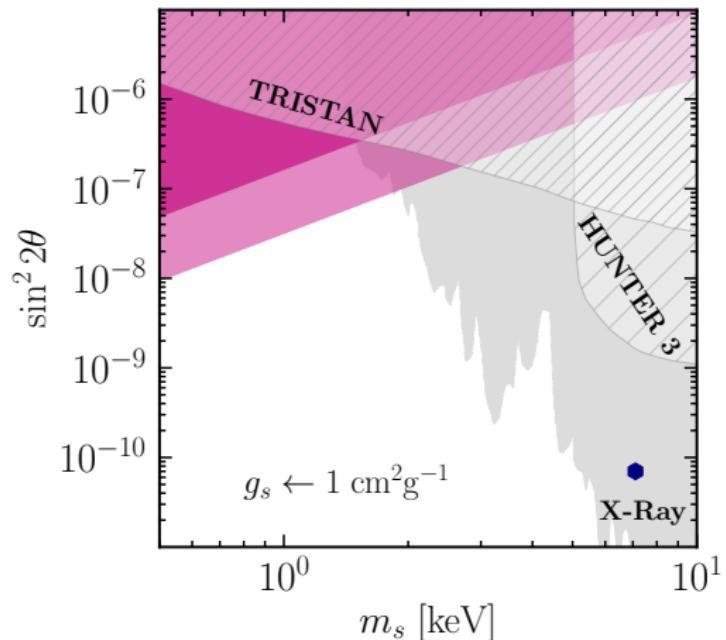
Goldberg et al. (2005), Baker et al. (2007), Farzan, Palomares-Ruiz (2014), Reno et al. (2018), Creque-Sarbinowski et al. (2021) 23/34

# Secret neutrino interactions: DSNB



- Sterile neutrino self-interactions may result in features in DSNB

# Sensitivity limits



- Overlap with the TRISTAN experiment parameter space
- Reduction of the astrophysical uncertainties helps but not by a lot

# **Towards probing the DSNB in all flavors**

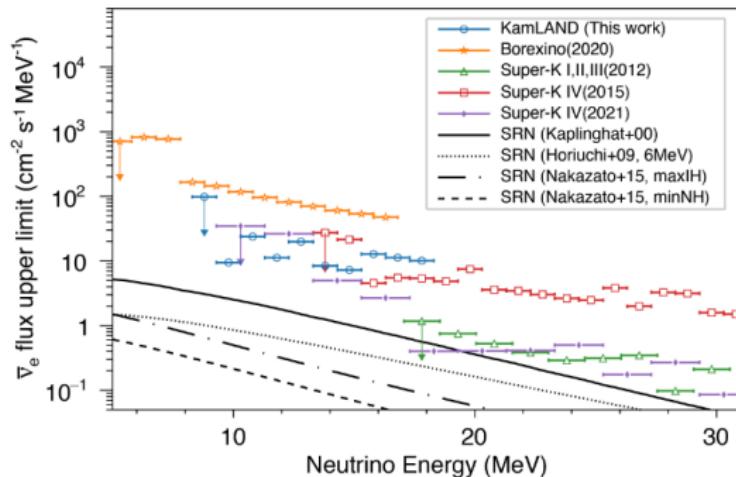
In collaboration with J. Beacom, and I. Tamborra

Phys.Rev.D 105 (2022) 4, 043008

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# Diffuse supernova neutrino background: current limits

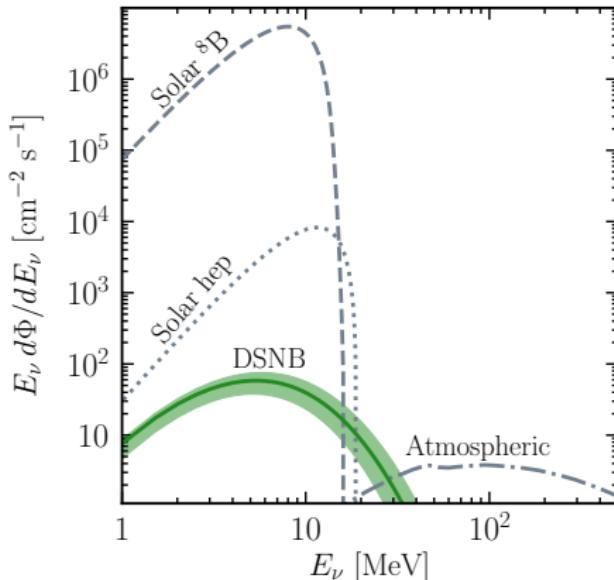
SK collab. (2021)



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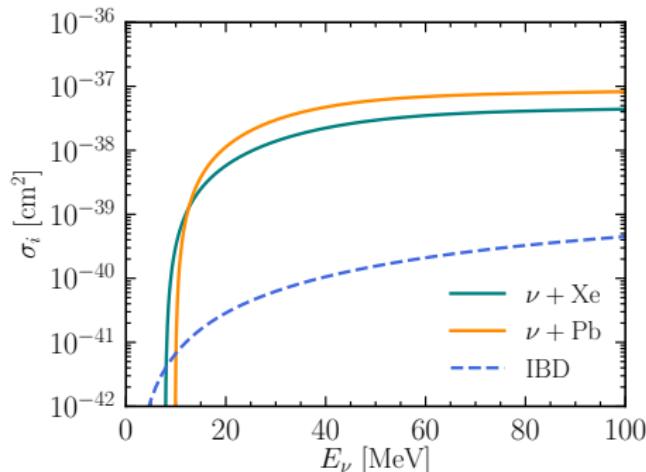
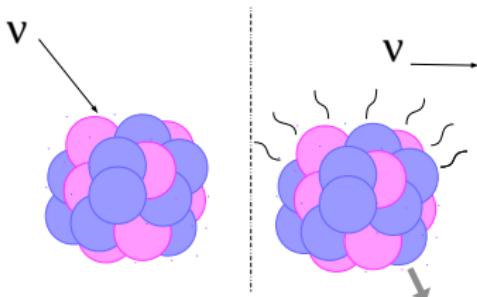
# Can we detect the $\chi$ -flavor DSNB? Maybe



DSNB modeling:  
Møller, AMS,  
Tamborra, Denton  
(2018)

- Flavor-blind channel: potential detection window  $\sim 18 - 30$
- Current limit:  $\nu_x \approx 750 \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  for  $E_\nu > 19.3 \text{ MeV}$  Lunardini, Peres (2008)

# Maybe: Coherent elastic neutrino-nucleus scatterings (CE $\nu$ NS)



## Cross section

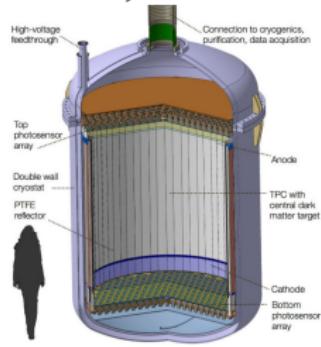
$$\frac{d\sigma_{\text{SM}}}{dE_r} = \frac{G_F^2 m_T}{4\pi} Q_w^2 \left(1 - \frac{m_T E_r}{2 E_\nu^2}\right) F^2(Q), \quad Q_w = [N - Z(1 - 4 \sin^2 \theta_W)]$$

- coherently enhanced by the square of the neutron number
- flavor insensitive
- coherent up to  $\sim 50$  MeV

Freedman (1974),  
Strigari (2009)

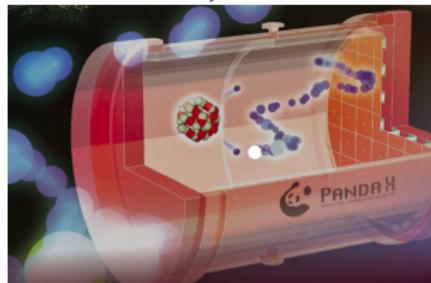
# Current and future CE $\nu$ NS detectors

## XENONnT, DARWIN



Aalbers et al. 2016

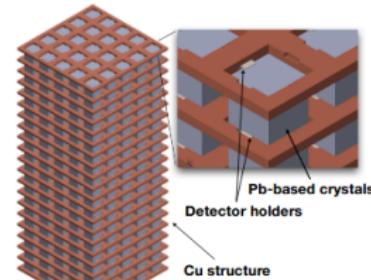
## PandaX-4T, PandaX-xT



Menget al. 2021

Total Pb volume (60 cm)<sup>3</sup>

## RES-NOVA



Pattavina et al. 2020

**fiducial volumes:** few - hundreds ton

**target materials:** Xe, Pb

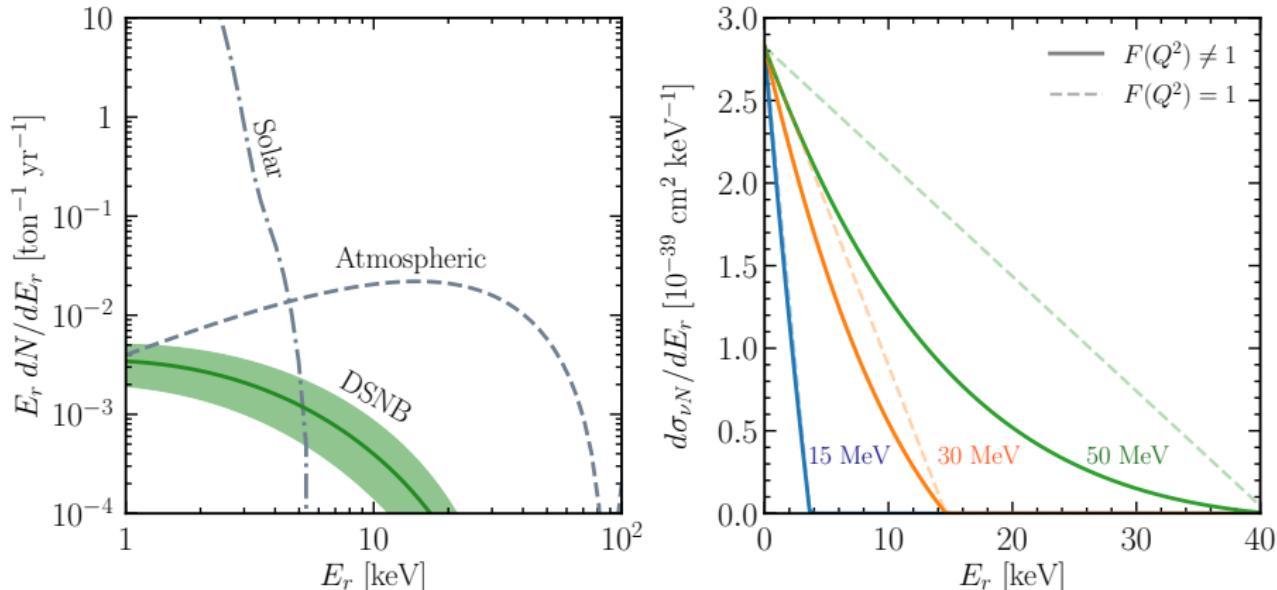
**thresholds:**  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  keV

**efficiency:**  $\sim 80\text{-}100\%$

## Scattering rate

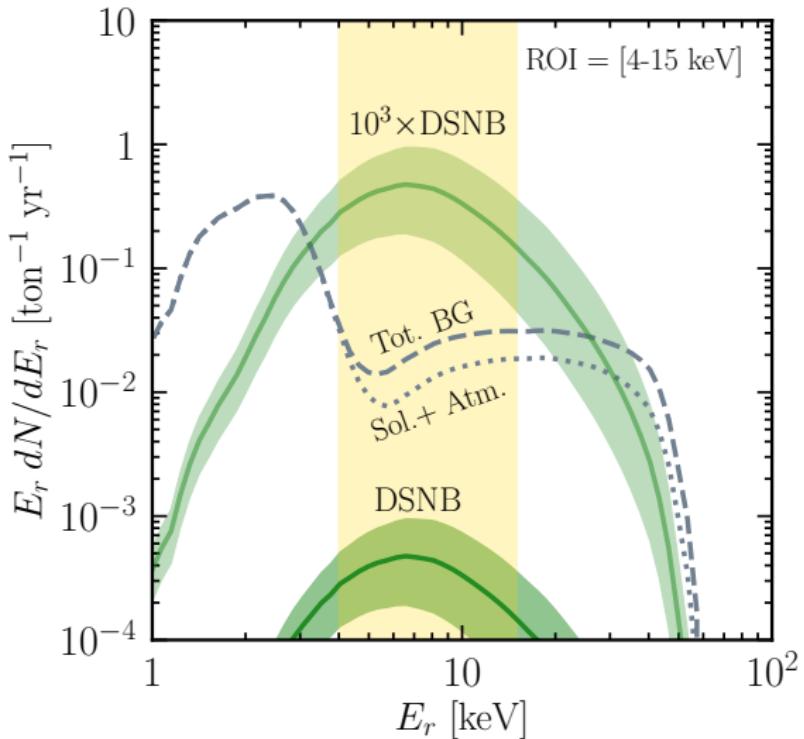
$$\frac{dR_{\nu N}}{dE_r dt} = N_T \epsilon(E_r) \int dE_\nu \frac{d\sigma_{\nu N}}{dE_r} \psi(E_\nu, t) \Theta(E_r^{\max} - E_r), \quad E_r^{\max} = \frac{2E_\nu^2}{m_T + 2E_\nu}$$

# Event rate in the xenon-based detector



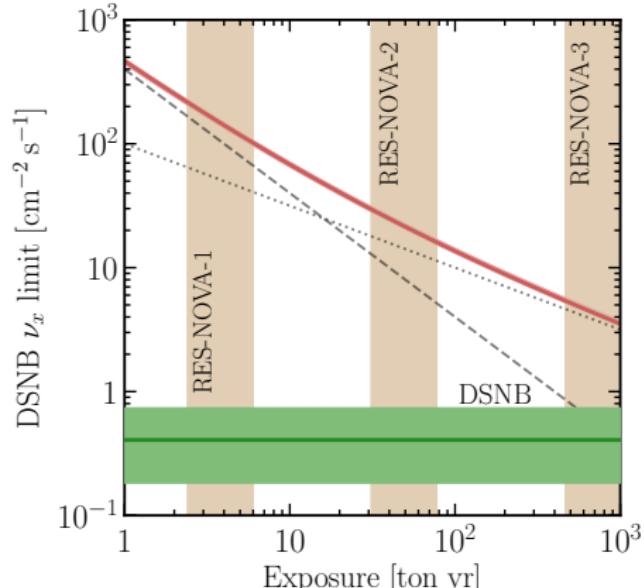
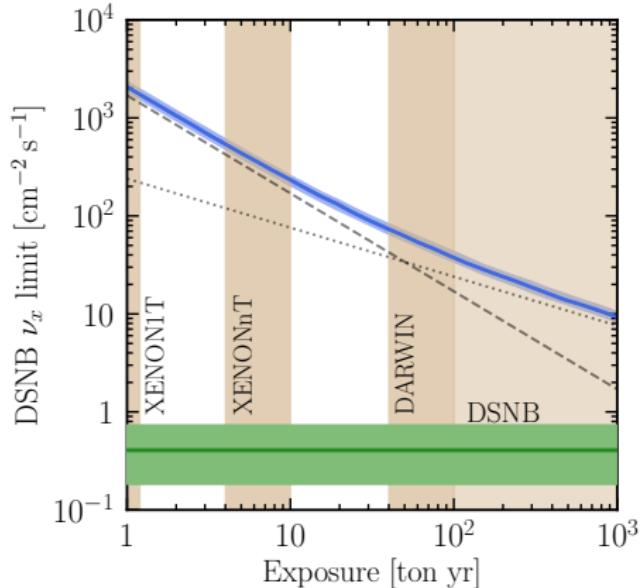
- The potential energy window displayed by the bare fluxes disappears
- Reason: Low energy recoils are most probable for all neutrino energies
- Detection of the  $x$ -flavor DSNB seems out of reach, BUT...

# Can we improve the limits on the $\chi$ -flavor DSNB? Yes



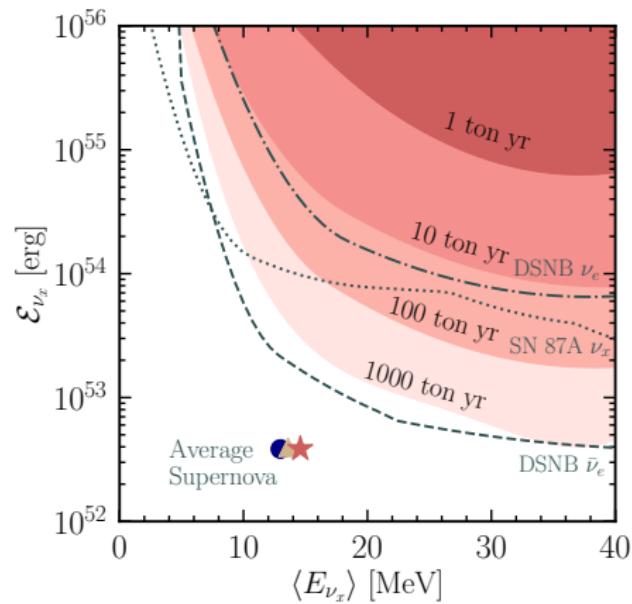
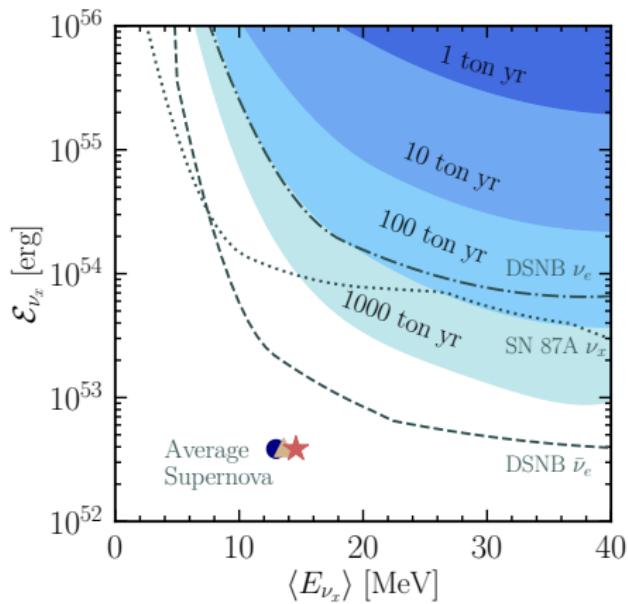
- Potential for an improvement by  $\gtrsim 1 - 2$  orders of magnitude

# Sensitivity bounds on the normalization of the x-flavor DSNB



- XENON1T, PandaX-4T: limits comparable to the SK  $\nu_x$  DSNB limit
- Constant energy window: limits can improve  $\mathcal{O}(10\%)$  for wider windows at small exposures and narrower windows at large exposures

# Sensitivity bounds on the x-flavor DSNB



- Simple DSNB: all supernovae emit the same Fermi-Dirac  $\nu_x$  spectrum
- Potential handle on the normalization and mean energy of the SN  $\nu_x$
- 1000 ton yr: limits comparable with current SK limit on  $\bar{\nu}_e$  DSNB

# Conclusions

## Astrophysical sources of MeV neutrinos

- can serve as powerful testing grounds in constraining new physics
- reliable limits, only when the sources are accurately modeled

## Detection of astrophysical neutrino fluxes

- brings us closer to fully understanding the physics inside the sources
- help us to rule out potential new physics scenarios

Exciting times ahead, a truly high statistic era of neutrino physics!

Thank you for the attention!