



# Core-collapse supernovae as probes of new neutrino physics

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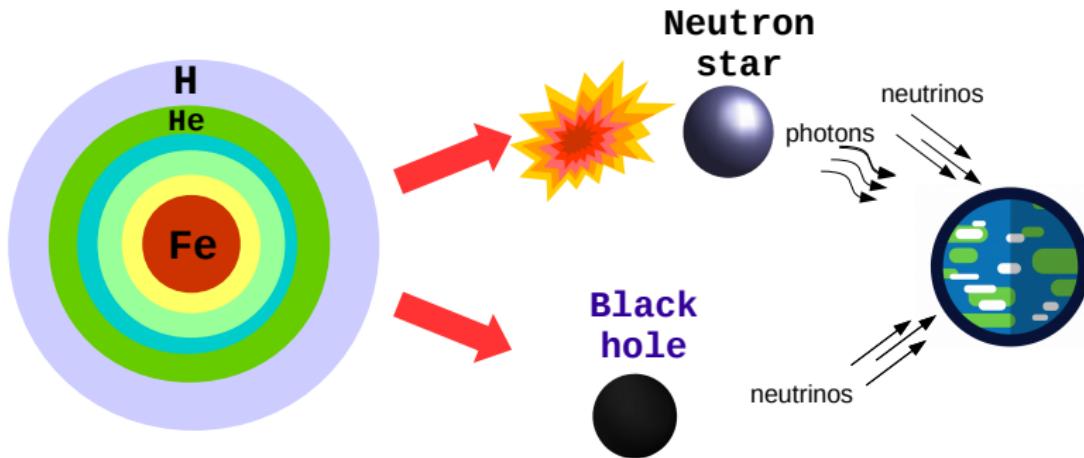
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, San Diego

**Brookhaven Forum**  
**Advancing Searches for New Physics**  
October 4, 2023

# 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  
[H. Bethe & J. Wilson \(1985\),  
T. Fischer et al. \(2011\)...](#)
- yields of heavy elements  
[S. Woosley et al. \(1994\),  
S. Curtis et al. \(2018\)...](#)
- compact object formation  
[M. Warren et al. \(2019\),  
S. Li, J. F. Beacom et al. \(2020\)...](#)
- neutrino mixing  
[H. Duan et al. \(2010\),  
I. Tamborra & S. Shalgar \(2020\)...](#)
- non-standard physics  
[A. de Gouvêa et al. \(2019\),  
S. Shalgar et al. \(2019\)...](#)

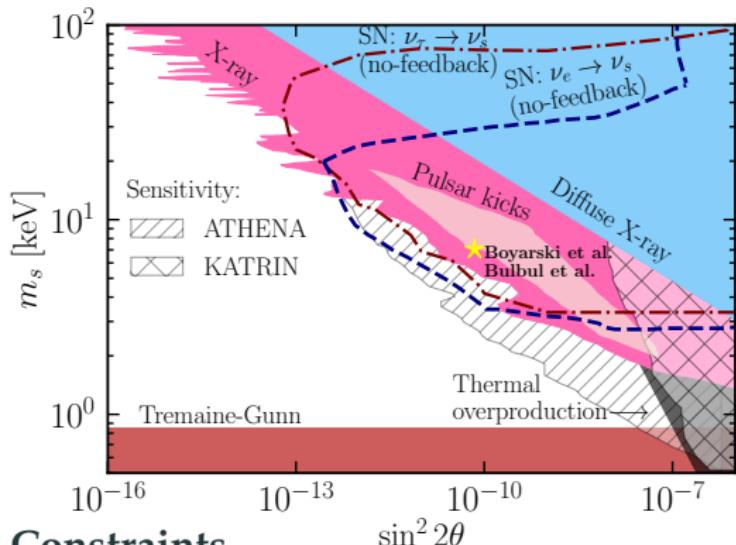
# Sterile neutrinos with keV masses in supernovae

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

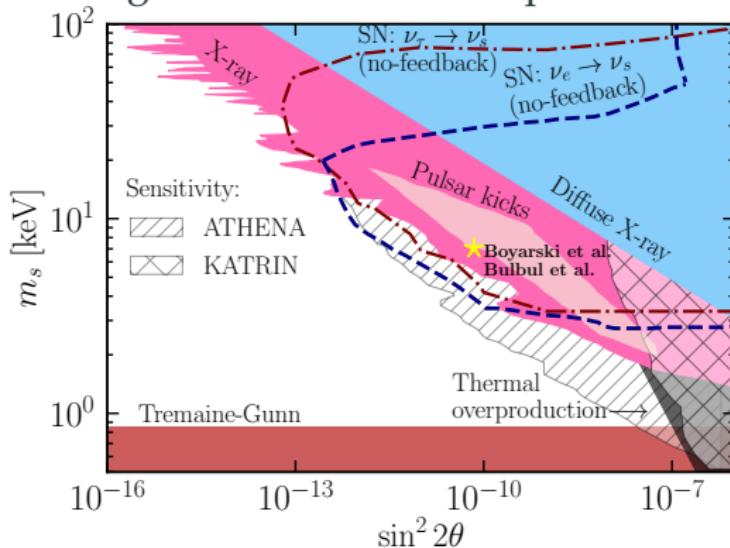
- Supernovae energy bounds ([X. Shi & G.Sigl \(1994\)](#)), ...
- DM overproduction ([S. Dodelson, L. M. Widrow \(1994\)](#), [X. Shi, G. M. Fuller \(1999\)](#))
- Radiative decay (NuSTAR, XMM, Chandra), [K. C. Y. Ng et al. \(2019\)](#), [K. C. Y. Ng et al. \(2015\)](#), [S. Horiuchi et al. \(2013\)](#)...
- 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. \(2014\)](#)

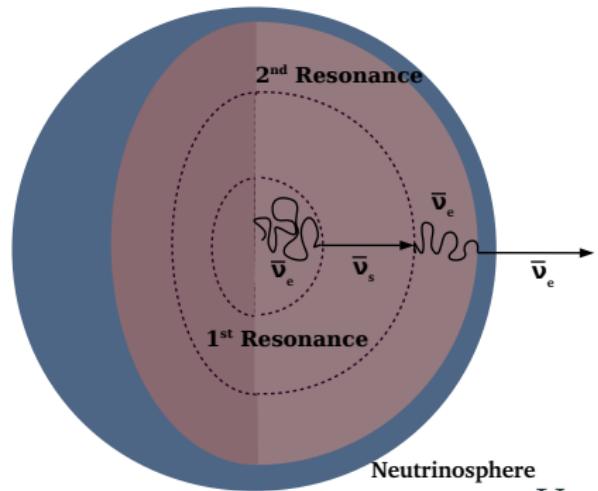
# The role of sterile neutrinos in supernovae; previous studies

- 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 et al. (2019), Syvolap et al. (2019), Suliga et al. (2020)

# 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

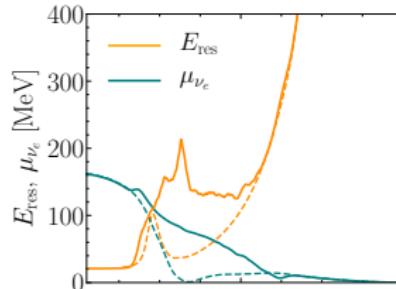
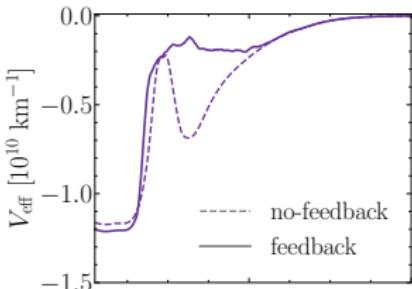
$$P_{\nu_{\text{active}} \rightarrow \nu_s}(E_{\text{res}}) = 1 - \exp\left(-\frac{\pi^2}{2}\gamma\right), \quad \gamma = \Delta_{\text{res}}/l_{\text{osc}}$$

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

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

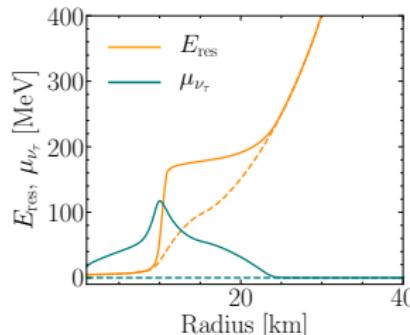
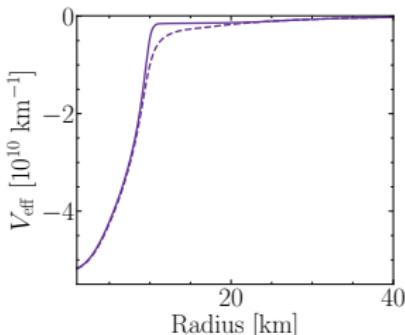
# Sterile neutrino conversions in the stellar core

$\nu_s - \nu_e$  mixing: multiple resonances



1D SN model  
Garching group archive

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



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

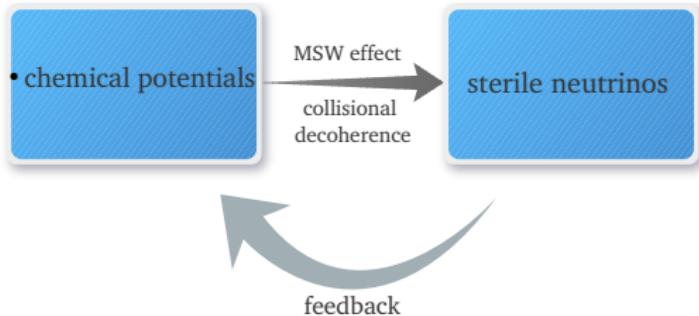
$m_s = 10 \text{ keV},$   
 $\sin^2 2\theta = 10^{-8}$

- 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

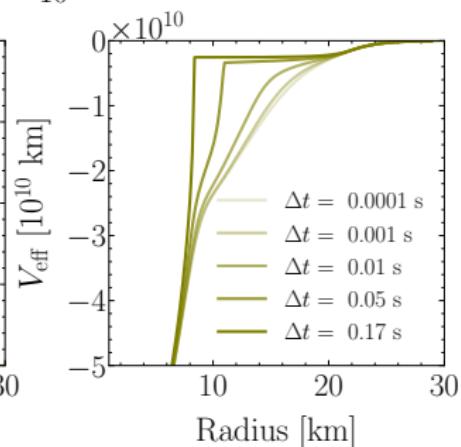
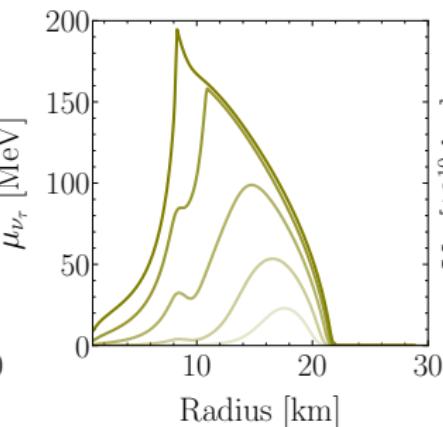
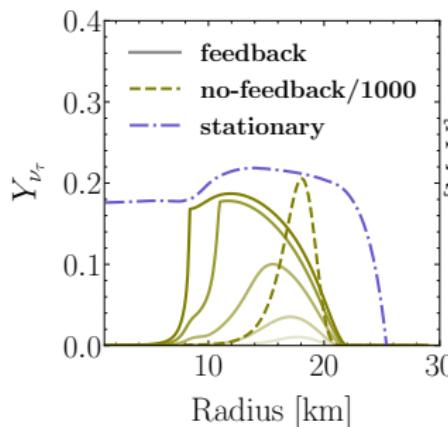
$$Y_{\nu_\tau}(r, t) = \frac{1}{n_b(r)} \int_0^t dt' \frac{d(P_{\nu_\tau \rightarrow \nu_s} n_{\nu_\tau}(r, t') - P_{\bar{\nu}_\tau \rightarrow \bar{\nu}_s} n_{\bar{\nu}_\tau}(r, t'))}{dt'}$$

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

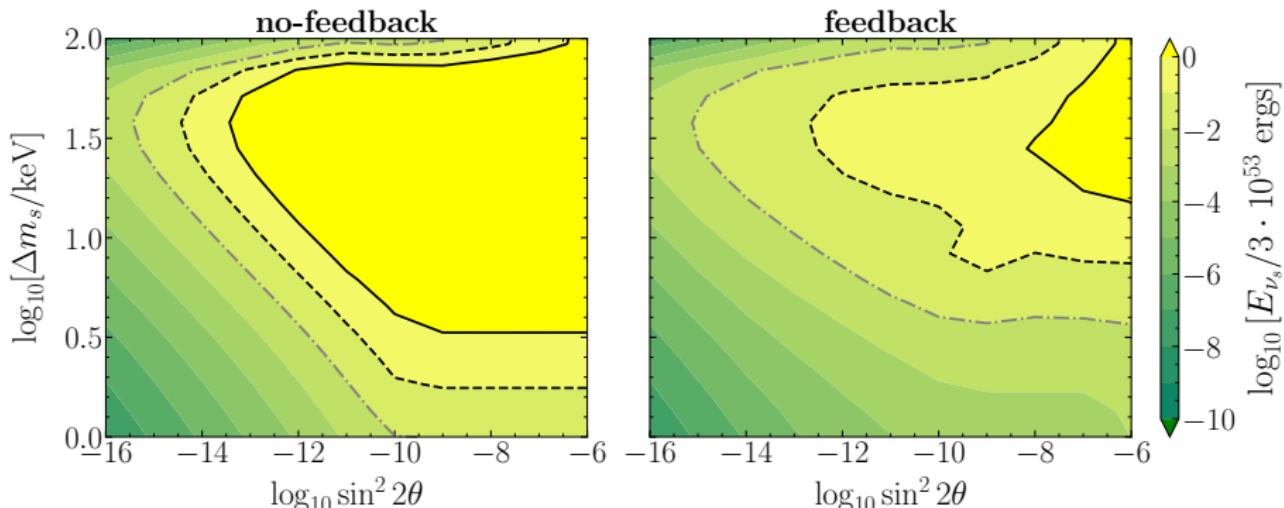
$$t_{\text{pb}} = 0.5 + \Delta t \text{ s}, \Delta m_s = 10 \text{ keV}, \sin^2 2\theta = 10^{-10}$$



- 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

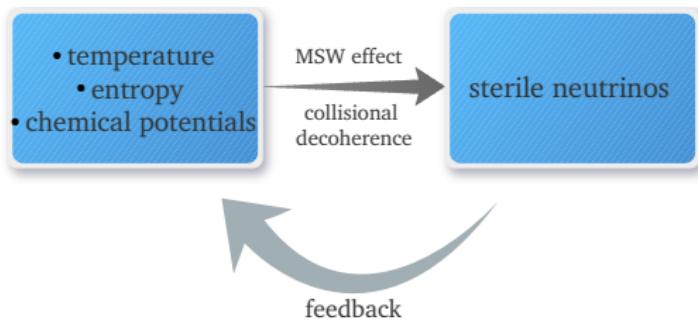
$$Y_p(r, t) + Y_n(r, t) = 1 ,$$

Charge conservation

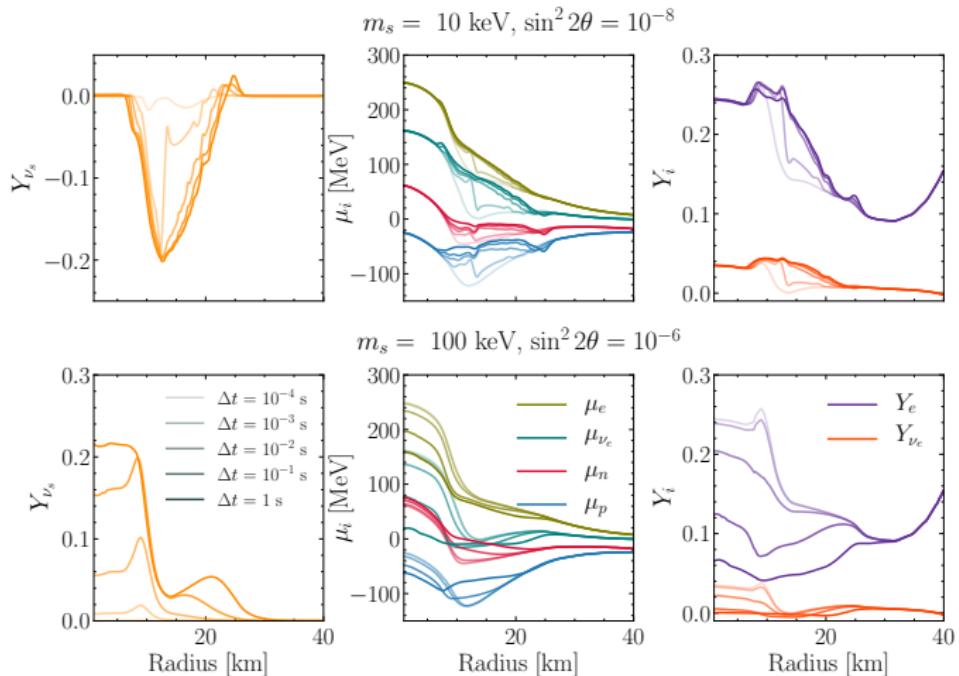
$$Y_p(r, t) = Y_e(r, t) ,$$

Entropy change

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

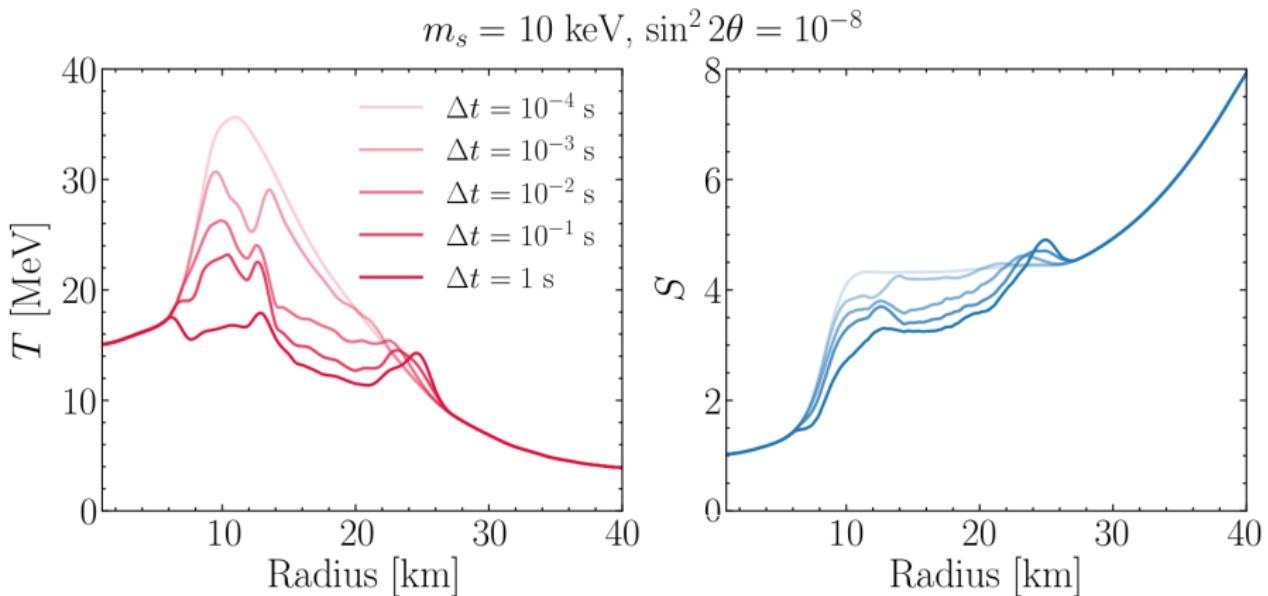


# Radial evolution of the asymmetry



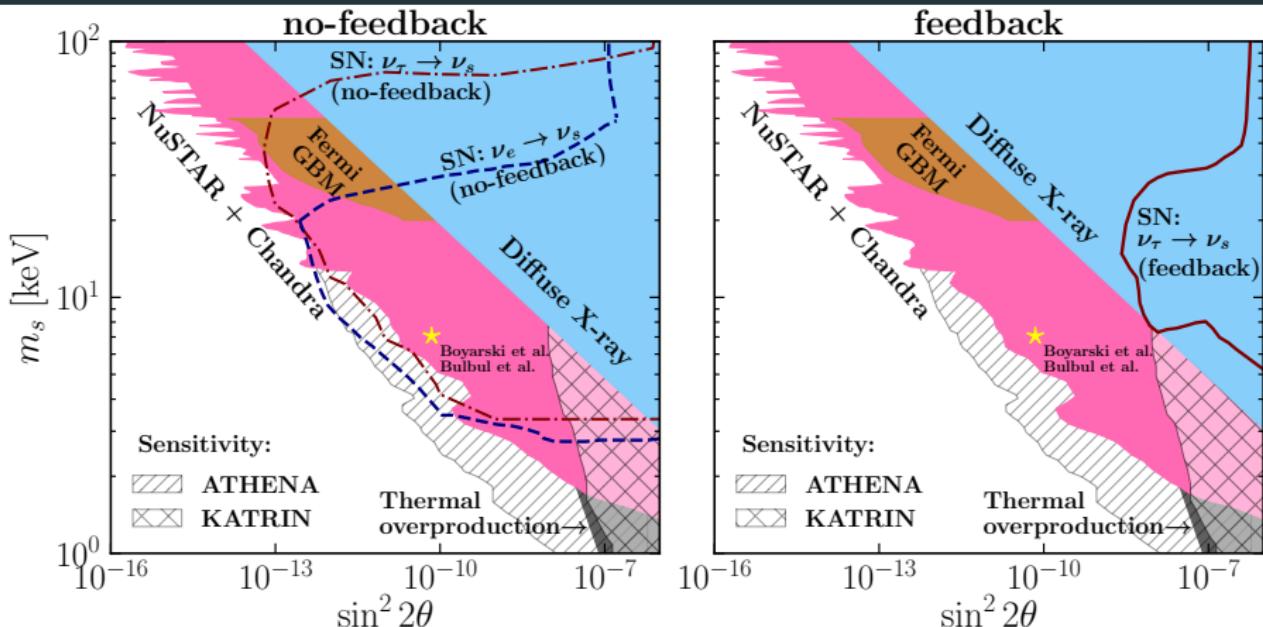
- Sterile neutrinos modify  $Y_e$ ,  $Y_{\nu_e}$ ,  $Y_p$  and  $Y_n$ .
- Feedback on the physical quantities depends greatly on the  $m_s$ .

# Radial evolution of temperature and entropy per baryon



- The  $\nu_s - \nu_e$  mixing induces large variations on
  - the entropy per baryon,
  - the supernova medium temperature.

# 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.

## Conclusions: sterile neutrinos

- Sterile neutrinos with keV mass
  - have a major impact on the SN physics.
  - lead to the growth of  $Y_{\nu_\tau}$  asymmetry.
  - are responsible for the change of  $Y_e$  and  $Y_{\nu_e}$ .
  - might affect the explosion mechanism.
- Feedback is crucial.
- New treatment of active-sterile neutrino mixing in SNe challenges sterile neutrino bounds.

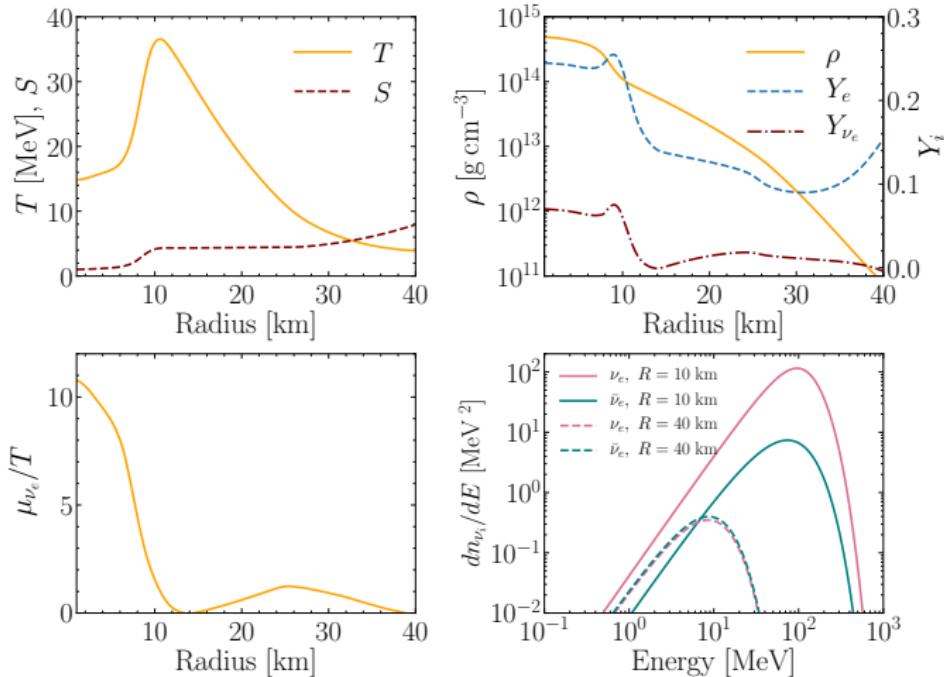
# Conclusions: sterile neutrinos

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  - have a major impact on the SN physics.
  - lead to the growth of  $Y_{\nu_\tau}$  asymmetry.
  - are responsible for the change of  $Y_e$  and  $Y_{\nu_e}$ .
  - might affect the explosion mechanism.
- Feedback is crucial. **Thank you for the attention!**
- New treatment of active-sterile neutrino mixing in SNe challenges sterile neutrino bounds.

## Backup slides

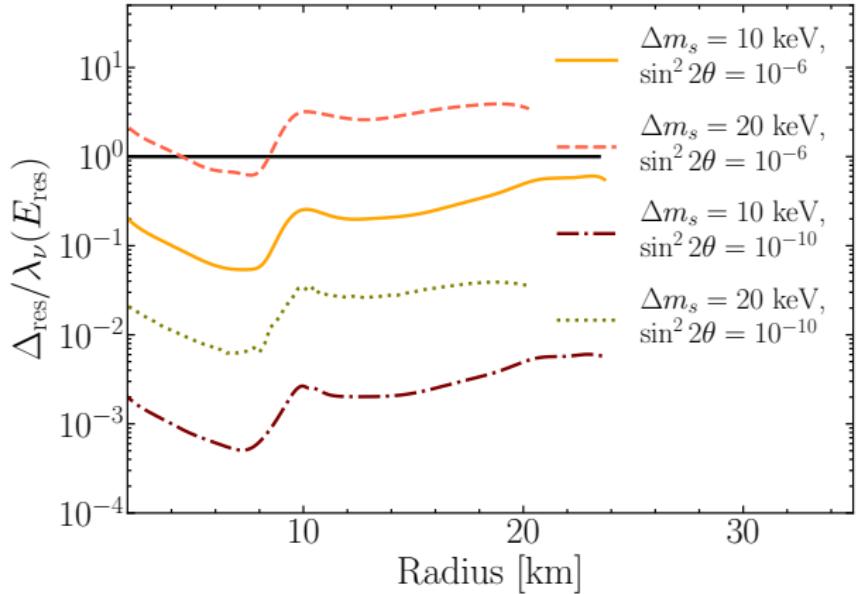
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# Initial conditions



# Will they collide or undergo MSW resonance?

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



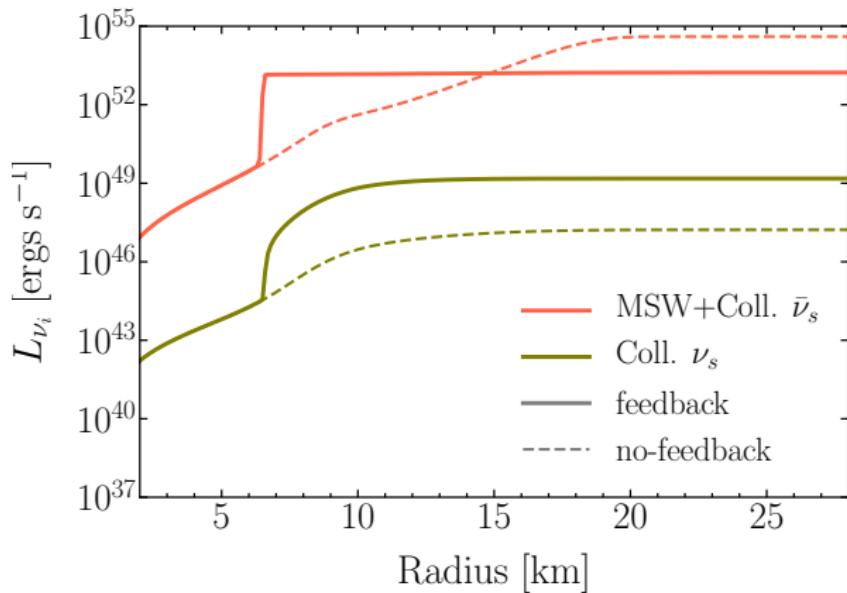
$$\Delta_{\text{res}} = \tan 2\theta \left| \frac{dV/dr}{V} \right|^{-1}$$

$$\lambda_{\nu}(E_{\text{res}}) \simeq \frac{1}{n(r)\sigma(E,r)}$$

$$\Delta_{\text{res}} < \lambda_{\nu}(E_{\text{res}}) ?$$

# Tau-sterile mixing: sterile neutrino luminosity

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

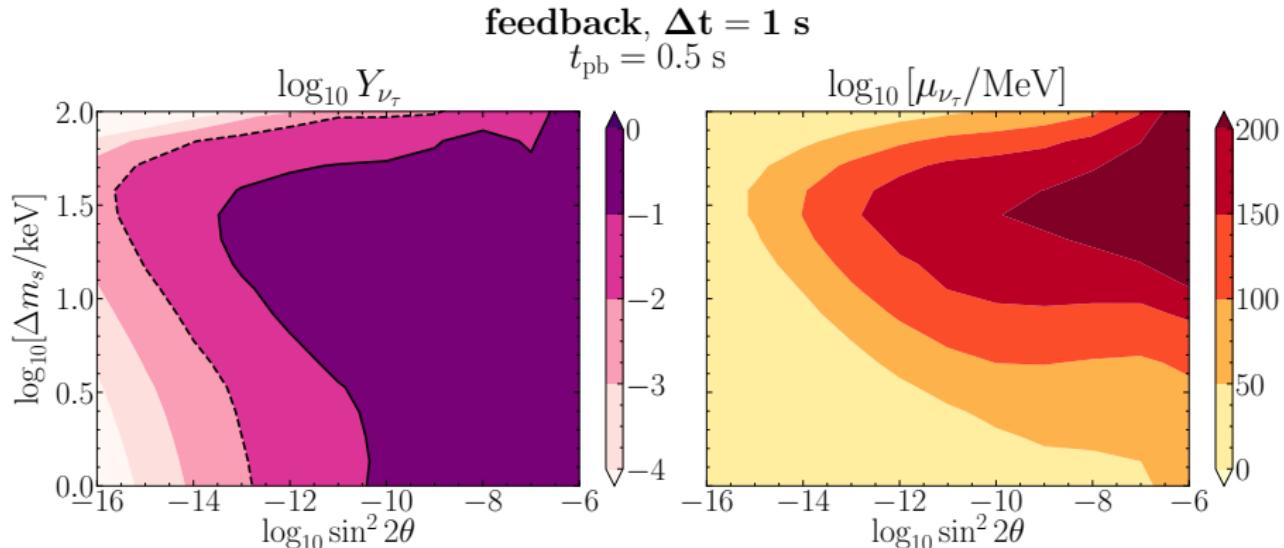


- The total luminosity ( $\nu_s + \bar{\nu}_s$ ) decreases with time.

# Contour plot of tau fraction

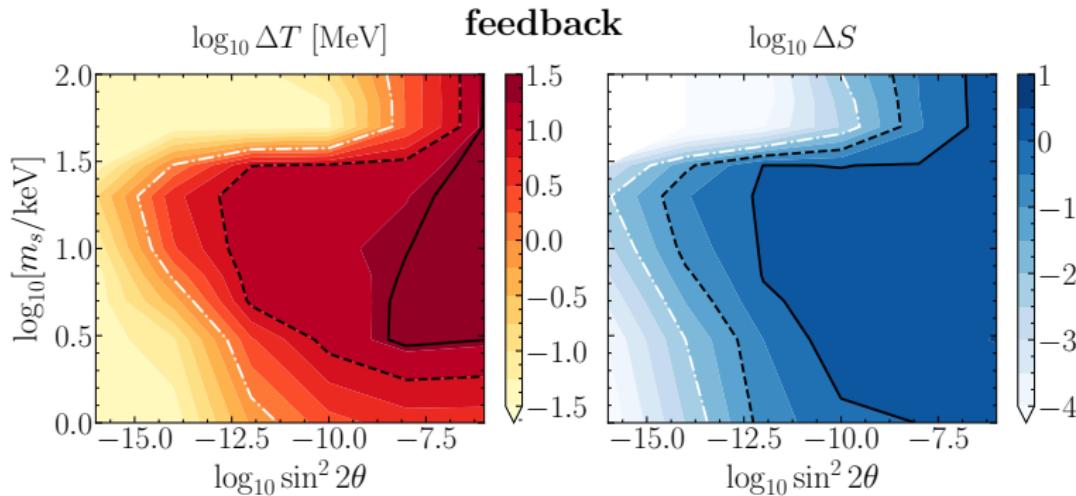
feedback,  $\Delta t = 1$  s

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



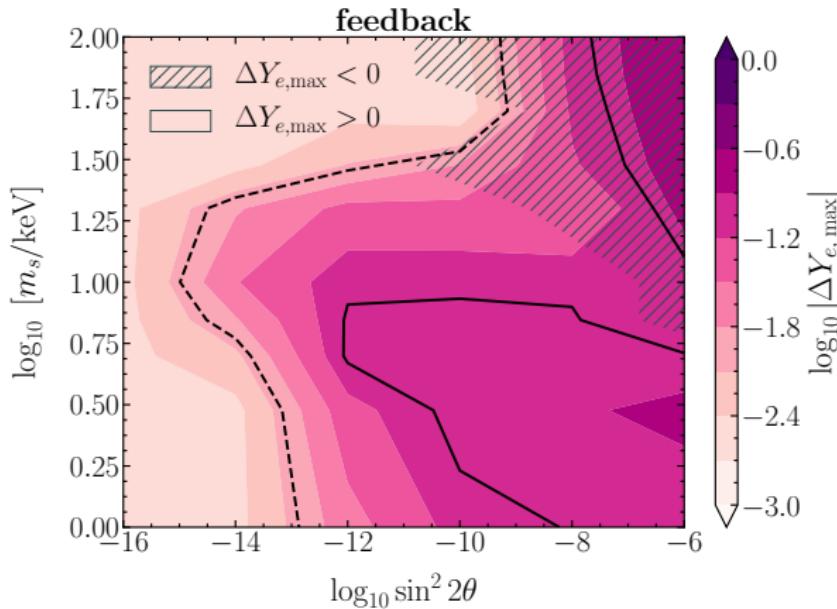
- Higher mixing angles reach the saturation value faster.
- More massive sterile neutrinos reach smaller saturation values, fewer energy modes have enhanced conversion probability.

# Contour plot: temperature and entropy



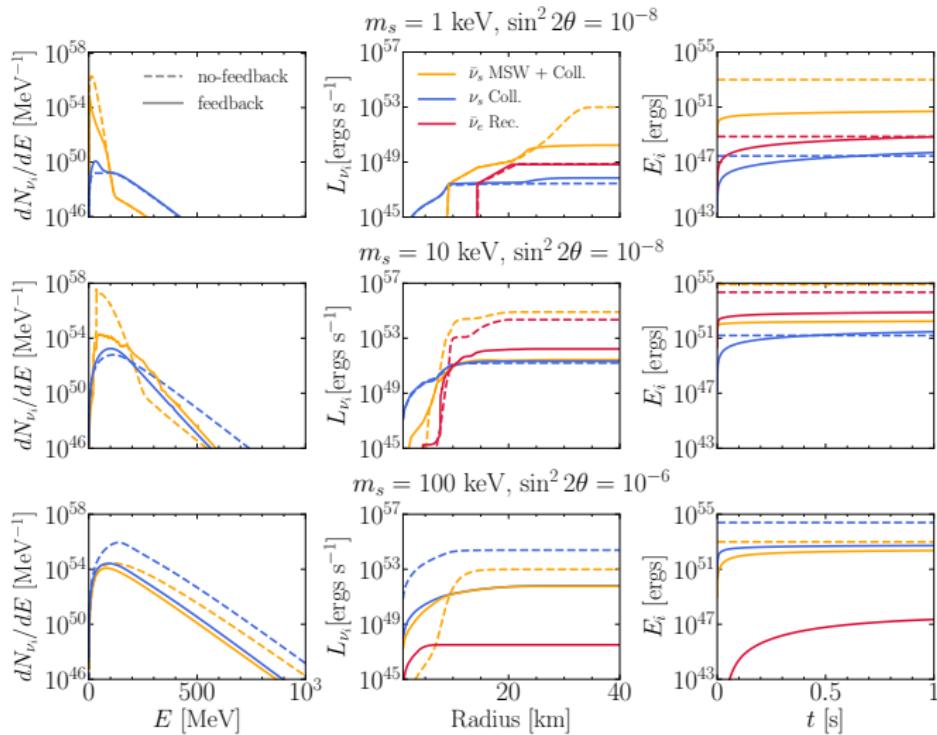
- Large variations for high mixing angles due to
  - adiabatic conversions,
  - high number of sterile neutrinos produced by collisions.

# Contour plot: electron fraction



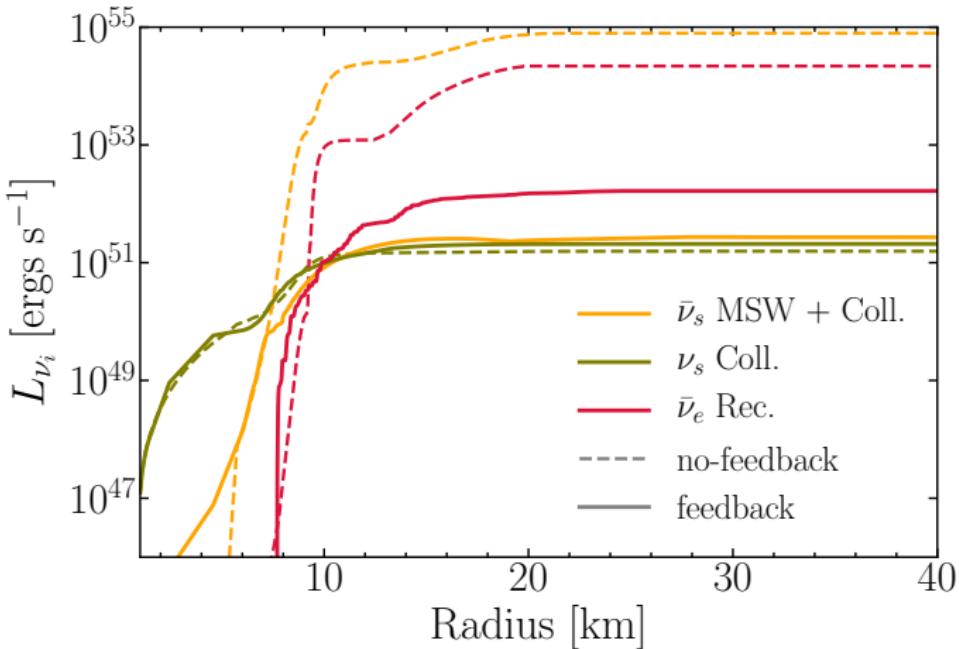
- The change in  $Y_e$  can be negative or positive.
- Might considerably affect the evolution of the proto-neutron star.

# Comparison for different mixing parameters



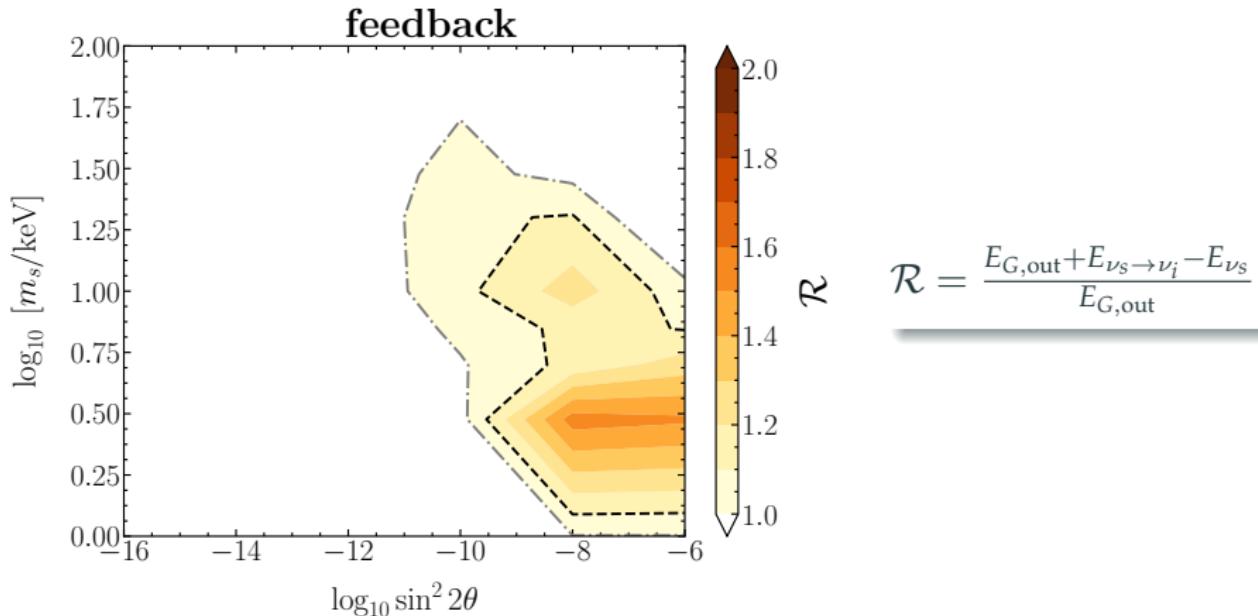
# Electron-sterile mixing: sterile neutrino luminosity

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



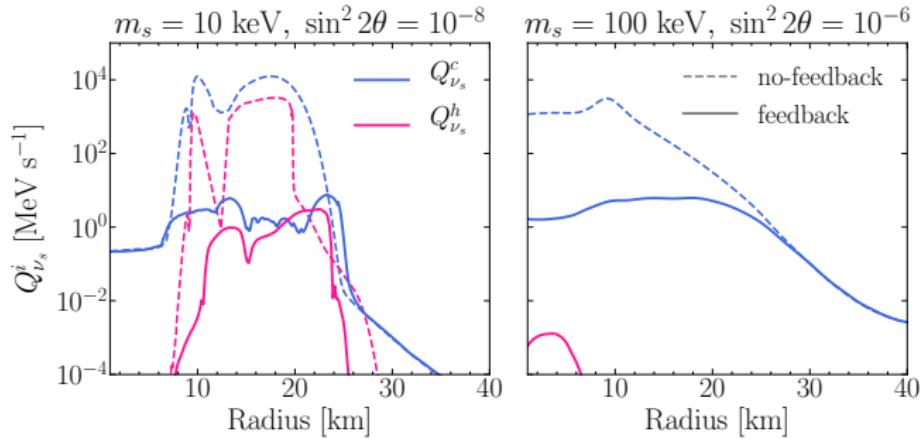
- The total luminosity ( $\nu_s + \bar{\nu}_s$ ) decreases with time.

# The region of a possible supernova explosion enhancement



- Heating of the outer layers → emission of high energy  $\nu_e, \bar{\nu}_e$
- Increased energy deposition in the stalled shock → easier explosion

# Sterile neutrino heating and cooling

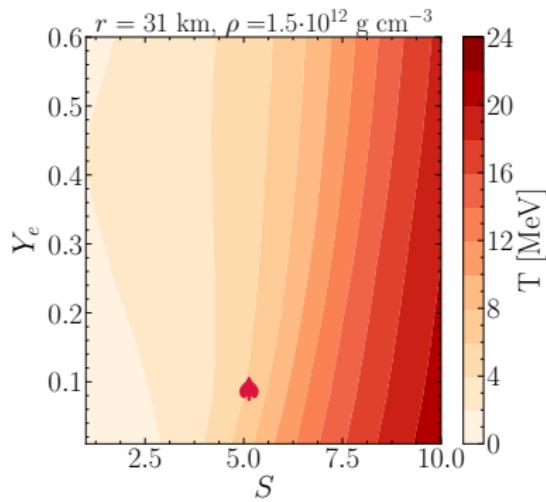
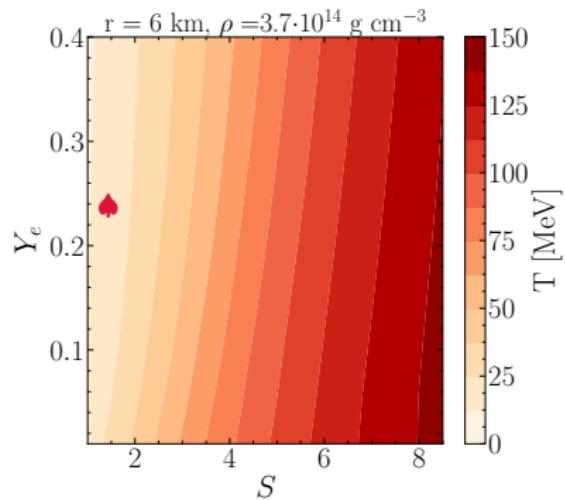


$$\dot{E}_\nu^c(r, t) \sim V(r) \Delta r^{-1} \sum_{k=1}^L P_{\text{es}}(E_k, r, t) \frac{dn_\nu}{dE_k}(r, t) dE_k E_k$$

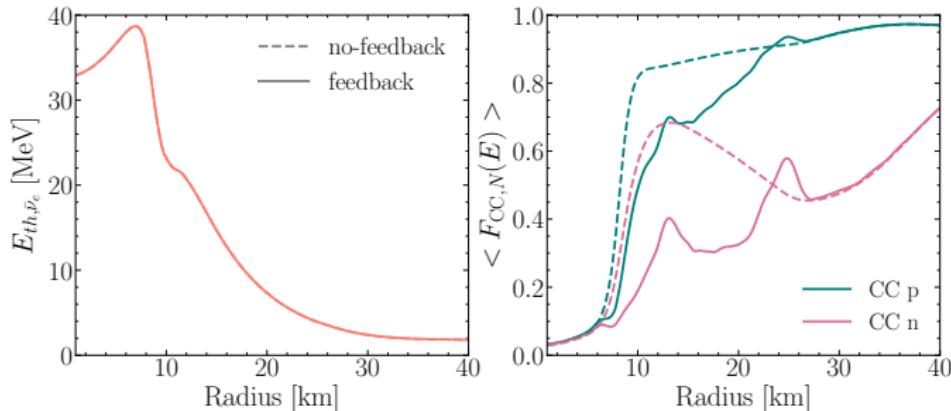
$$\dot{E}_\nu^h(r, t) \sim$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^L \left[ P_{\text{se}}(E_k, r, t) \Theta \left( \frac{\Delta r}{\lambda_\nu(E_k, r)} \right) \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} P_{\text{es}}(E_k, r_j, t) \frac{dn_\nu}{dE}(r_j, t) \frac{r_j^2}{r_i^2} dE_k E_k \right] \times V(r) \Delta r^{-1}$$

# Temperature interpolation



# Pauli blocking



- In the region affected by the sterile neutrino production  $\langle FCC, p(n)(E)_N \rangle$  decreases (increases) following the  $Y_e$  increase (decrease).