# Thermodynamics of oscillating neutrinos 

Luke Johns

NASA Einstein Fellow
UC Berkeley


Ehring, Abbar, Janka, Raffelt, \& Tamborra, 2305.11207

Flavor mixing is estimated to significantly alter CCSN heating rates-and thus the explosion dynamics.

Also see:
Ehring et al., PRD (2023)
Nagakura, PRL (2023)

Neutrino mass raises fundamental questions for particle physics.

Neutrino mass raises fundamental questions for particle physics.
and statistical

Every neutrino is a superposition of wave packets:


Kinematic decoherence


Every neutrino is a superposition of wave packets:


Kinematic decoherence


There's a term for superposed Gaussians...

Every neutrino is a superposition of wave packets:


Kinematic decoherence

There's a term for superposed Gaussians...

## Schrödinger cat states


S. Haroche via Science et Vie Junior

Rundle, Mills, Tilma, Samson, Everitt, PRA 2017


When neutrinos forward scatter on background particles, they acquire in-medium effective masses.


Neutrinos contribute to their own background. As a result, forward scattering changes oscillations in a nonlinear way.


Collective oscillations


Absorption and momentum-changing scattering cause collisional decoherence.

## Schrödinger's clowder



## Schrödinger's clowder



Statistical mechanics of superpositions of particles


## Quantum kinetic equation for density matrix $\rho(t, r, p)$ :

## $i\left(\partial_{t}+\hat{\mathbf{p}} \cdot \partial_{\mathbf{r}}\right) \rho=[H, \rho]+i C$ <br> Particle advection <br> Flavor mixing <br>  <br> Collisions

Dolgov, SJNP (1981); Stodolsky, PRD (1987); Nötzold \& Raffelt, NPB (1988); Pantaleone, PLB (1992); Sigl \& Raffelt, NPB (1993);
Raffelt, Sigl, \& Stodolsky, PRL (1993); Raffelt \& Sigl, AP (1993); Loreti \& Balantekin, PRD (1994); Yamada, PRD (2000);
Friedland \& Lunardini, PRD (2003); Strack \& Burrows, PRD (2005); Cardall, PRD (2008); Volpe, Väänänen, \& Espinoza, PRD (2013);
Vlasenko, Fuller, \& Cirigliano, PRD (2014); Kartavtsev, Raffelt, \& Vogel, PRD (2015); Stirner, Sigl, \& Raffelt, JCAP (2018);
Nagakura, PRD (2022); Johns, 2305.04916; plus many others

Compare to climate modeling...


NOAA Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory

Without hydrodynamics, this field would not have gotten far.



## Varieties of equilibration

Systems relax through information loss. Where does the information go?

## Varieties of equilibration

Systems relax through information loss. Where does the information go?

* The environment

Classical: Particles bouncing off container walls. Blackbody radiation. Quantum: Decoherence (in the word's most common usage).

## Varieties of equilibration

Systems relax through information loss. Where does the information go?

* The environment

Classical: Particles bouncing off container walls. Blackbody radiation. Quantum: Decoherence (in the word's most common usage).

* Many-body correlations

Classical: H-theorem in Boltzmann gases.
Quantum: Thermalization in ultracold atomic gases.

## Varieties of equilibration

Systems relax through information loss. Where does the information go?

* The environment

Classical: Particles bouncing off container walls. Blackbody radiation.
Quantum: Decoherence (in the word's most common usage).

* Many-body correlations

Classical: H-theorem in Boltzmann gases.
Quantum: Thermalization in ultracold atomic gases.

* Small scales

Classical: Collisionless relaxation in galaxies \& plasmas. Turbulence.
Quantum: Mixing equilibration.

To formulate the thermodynamics of oscillating neutrinos, we need to define an appropriate entropy:

$$
S=-\int d \mathbf{p} \operatorname{Tr}\left[\overline{\rho_{\mathbf{p}}} \log \overline{\rho_{\mathbf{p}}}+\left(1-\overline{\rho_{\mathbf{p}}}\right) \log \left(1-\overline{\rho_{\mathbf{p}}}\right)\right]
$$

To formulate the thermodynamics of oscillating neutrinos, we need to define an appropriate entropy:

$$
S=-\int d \mathbf{p} \operatorname{Tr}\left[\overline{\rho_{\mathbf{p}}} \log \overline{\rho_{\mathbf{p}}}+\left(1-\overline{\rho_{\mathbf{p}}}\right) \log \left(1-\overline{\rho_{\mathbf{p}}}\right)\right]
$$

## Second law of thermodynamics

$S$ is maximal at equilibrium, subject to conservation laws.

We then appeal to two physical principles: scale separation \& ergodicity.

## Equilibrium distribution of collisionless

 neutrino matter:$$
\rho_{\mathbf{p}}^{\mathrm{eq}}=\frac{1}{e^{\beta\left(H_{\mathbf{p}}^{\mathrm{eq}}-\mu_{\mathbf{p}}\right)}+1}
$$

## Equilibrium distribution of collisionless

 neutrino matter:$$
\rho_{\mathbf{p}}^{\mathrm{eq}}=\frac{1}{e^{\beta\left(H_{\mathbf{p}}^{\mathrm{eq}}-\mu_{\mathbf{p}}\right)}+1}
$$

The system's coarse-grained variables are in thermal contact with its unresolved fluctuations.

Equilibrium distribution of collisionless neutrino matter:

$$
\rho_{\mathbf{p}}^{\mathrm{eq}}=\frac{1}{e^{\beta\left(H_{\mathbf{p}}^{\mathrm{eq}}-\mu_{\mathbf{p}}\right)}+1}
$$

The system's coarse-grained variables are in thermal contact with its unresolved fluctuations.

Third law of thermodynamics
The unique $(S=0)$ ground state:

$$
\left(\rho_{\mathbf{p}}^{\mathrm{eq}}\right)_{I J} \xrightarrow{T \rightarrow 0} \begin{cases}\delta_{I J} & \left(H_{\mathbf{p}}^{\mathrm{eq}}\right)_{I J} \leq \mu_{\mathbf{p}} \\ 0 & \left(H_{\mathbf{p}}^{\mathrm{eq}}\right)_{I J}>\mu_{\mathbf{p}}\end{cases}
$$

## First law of thermodynamics

$$
\Delta U=W+Q
$$

with $W$ and $Q$ appropriately defined.

$$
\begin{array}{r}
\Delta U=\overbrace{\frac{1}{N_{f}} H_{0} \Delta P_{0}+\frac{1}{2} \vec{H} \cdot \Delta|\vec{P}| \hat{P}}^{\equiv Q^{\text {env }}}+\overbrace{\frac{1}{2}|\vec{H}||\vec{P}| \Delta(\hat{H} \cdot \hat{P})}^{\equiv Q^{\text {kin }}} \\
\quad+\underbrace{\frac{1}{N_{f}} \Delta H_{0} P_{0}+\frac{1}{2} \Delta|\vec{H}||\vec{P}| \hat{H} \cdot \hat{P}}_{\equiv W}
\end{array}
$$

## First law of thermodynamics

$$
\Delta U=W+Q
$$

with $W$ and $Q$ appropriately defined.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \Delta U=\overbrace{\frac{1}{N_{f}} H_{0} \Delta P_{0}+\frac{1}{2} \vec{H} \cdot \Delta|\vec{P}| \hat{P}}+\overbrace{\frac{1}{2}|\vec{H}||\vec{P}| \Delta(\hat{H} \cdot \hat{P})}^{\equiv Q^{\text {env }}} \\
& \rho=\frac{1}{N_{f}} P_{0}+\frac{1}{2} \vec{P} \cdot \vec{\Lambda}+\underbrace{\frac{1}{N_{f}} \Delta H_{0} P_{0}+\frac{1}{2} \Delta|\vec{H}||\vec{P}| \hat{H} \cdot \hat{P}}_{\equiv W}
\end{aligned}
$$

Quasi-steady states are the numerically observed outcomes of collisionless instabilities:

Sawyer, PRD (2005)


Mangano, Mirizzi, \& Saviano, PRD (2014)

Raffelt \& Sigl, PRD (2007)



+ many more papers on fast instabilities

Bhattacharyya \& Dasgupta, PRD (2020) Richers, Willcox, \& Ford, PRD (2021)
Nagakura \& Zaizen, PRL (2022) \& others

Thermodynamics predicts the mean asymptotic distributions.

## Thermodynamics also explains the association between fast instabilities and angular crossings.



Sawyer, PRL (2016); Chakraborty, Hansen, Izaguirre, \& Raffelt, JCAP (2016); Dasgupta, Mirizzi, \& Sen, JCAP (2017) [figure];
Izaguirre, Raffelt, \& Tamborra, PRL (2017); Capozzi, Dasgupta, Lisi, Marrone, \& Mirizzi, PRD (2017);
Abbar \& Duan, PRD (2018); Capozzi, Dasgupta, Mirizzi, Sen, \& Sigl, PRL (2019); Martin, Yi, \& Duan, PLB (2020);
Johns, Nagakura, Fuller, \& Burrows, PRD (2020a); Johns \& Nagakura, PRD (2021); Nagakura, Burrows, Johns, \& Fuller, PRD (2021);
Morinaga, PRD (2022); Dasgupta, PRL (2022); \& many others

# Non-collective neutrino oscillations 

Work The MSW effect<br>Wolfenstein, PRD (1978)<br>Mikheyev \& Smirnov, SJNP (1985)<br>Bethe, PRL (1986)

## Non-collective neutrino oscillations

## Work The MSW effect

Wolfenstein, PRD (1978)<br>Mikheyev \& Smirnov, SJNP (1985)<br>Bethe, PRL (1986)

Heat
(internal)

Kinematic decoherence<br>Nussinov, PLB (1976)<br>Kayser, PRD (1981)<br>Kiers, Nussinov, \& Weiss, PRD (1996)

## Non-collective neutrino oscillations

## Work The MSW effect

Wolfenstein, PRD (1978)
Mikheyev \& Smirnov, SJNP (1985)
Bethe, PRL (1986)

Heat Kinematic decoherence


Nussinov, PLB (1976)
Kayser, PRD (1981)
Kiers, Nussinov, \& Weiss, PRD (1996)

Heat Collisional decoherence
(external)
Harris \& Stodolsky, PLB (1978)
Thomson, PRA (1992)
Raffelt, Sigl, \& Stodolsky, PRL (1993)

## Collective neutrino oscillations

Work MSW-like effects Spectral swaps. Matter-neutrino resonances.
Duan, Fuller, Carlson, \& Qian, PRD (2006)
Raffelt \& Smirnov, PRD (2007)
Malkus, Friedland, \& McLaughlin, 1403.5797

## Collective neutrino oscillations

Work MSW-like effects Spectral swaps. Matter-neutrino resonances.
Duan, Fuller, Carlson, \& Qian, PRD (2006)
Raffelt \& Smirnov, PRD (2007)
Malkus, Friedland, \& McLaughlin, 1403.5797

Collisionless instabilities Slow instabilities. Fast instabilities.
Kostelecký \& Samuel, PLB (1993)
Sawyer, PRD (2005)
Duan, Fuller, \& Qian, PRD (2006)

## Collective neutrino oscillations

Work MSW-like effects Spectral swaps. Matter-neutrino resonances.
Duan, Fuller, Carlson, \& Qian, PRD (2006)
Raffelt \& Smirnov, PRD (2007)
Malkus, Friedland, \& McLaughlin, 1403.5797

Collisionless instabilities slow instabilities. Fast instabilities.
Kostelecký \& Samuel, PLB (1993)
Sawyer, PRD (2005)
Duan, Fuller, \& Qian, PRD (2006)

Heat Collisional instabilities<br>Johns, PRL (2023)<br>Xiong, Johns, Wu, \& Duan, 2212.03750<br>Liu, Zaizen, \& Yamada, PRD (2023)

## Local mixing equilibrium

$$
\rho \longrightarrow \rho^{\mathrm{eq}}
$$

The miscidynamic equation

$$
i\left(\partial_{t}+\hat{\mathbf{p}} \cdot \partial_{\mathbf{x}}\right) \rho^{\mathrm{eq}}=i C^{\mathrm{eq}}
$$

## Local mixing equilibrium



What changes need to be made to current simulations?
(1) Distribution functions $\longrightarrow$ Density matrices.
(2) Add off-diagonals to collision terms.
(3) Re-equilibrate $\rho$ after each step.

## Summary

Main idea \#1: Supernova neutrinos are a natural experiment in the statistical mechanics of particle superpositions.

## Summary

Main idea \#1: Supernova neutrinos are a natural experiment in the statistical mechanics of particle superpositions.

Main idea \#2. We've outlined the thermodynamic theory of oscillating neutrinos. The primary equilibration mechanism is collisionless phase-space transfer.

## Summary

Main idea \#1: Supernova neutrinos are a natural experiment in the statistical mechanics of particle superpositions.

Main idea \#2. We've outlined the thermodynamic theory of oscillating neutrinos. The primary equilibration mechanism is collisionless phase-space transfer.

Main idea \#3. A transport theory - miscidynamics-follows from the assumption of local equilibrium. It might enable the accurate incorporation of neutrino mixing into simulations.

