

The Niels Bohr  
International Academy



# Supernova Neutrinos

Irene Tamborra (Niels Bohr Institute)

International Neutrino Summer School, August 2-13, 2021

VILLUM FONDEN



  
Sapere Aude

CARLSBERG FOUNDATION

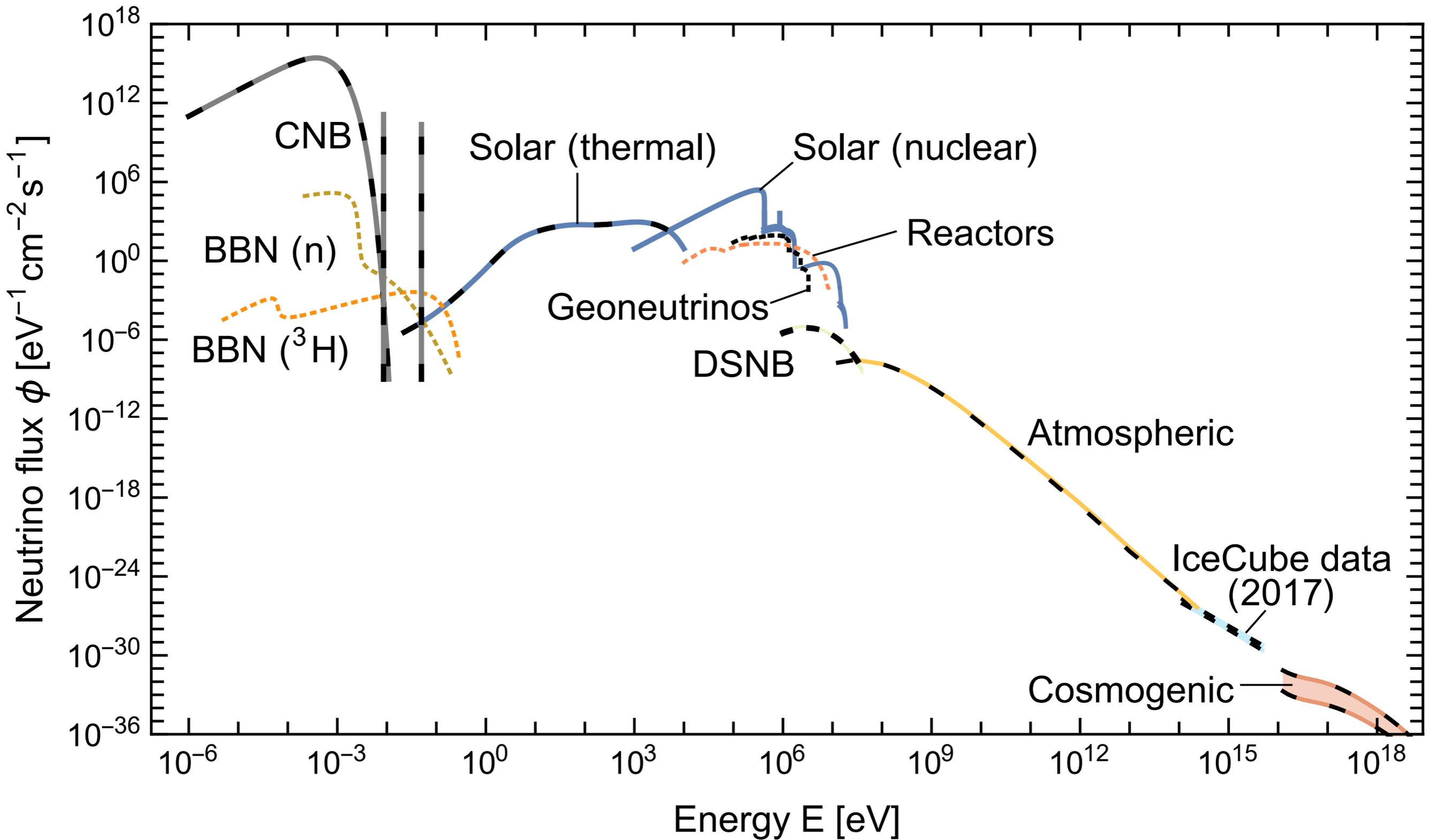
SFB 1258

Neutrinos  
Dark Matter  
Messengers

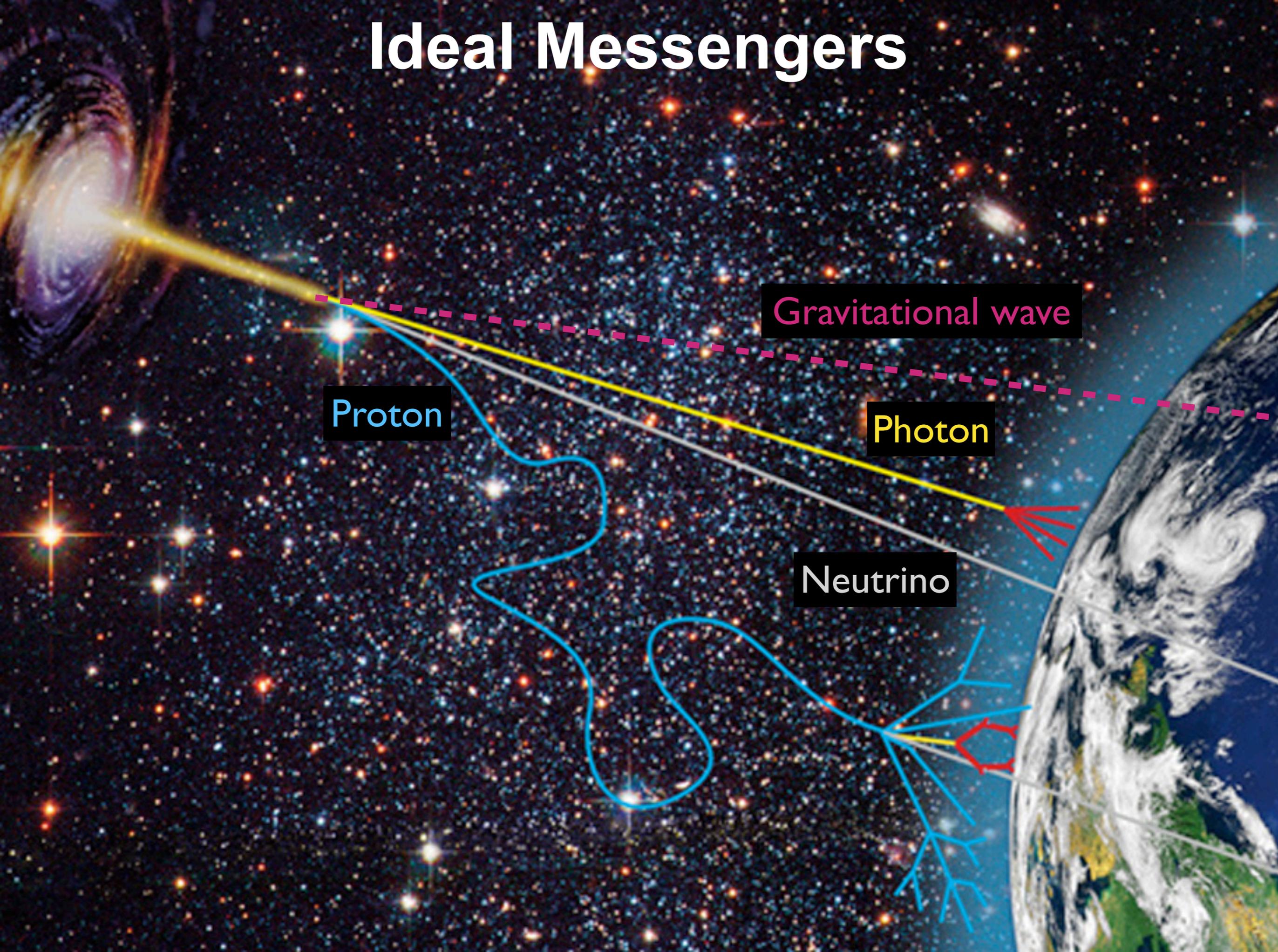


# The Cosmos in Neutrinos

## Grand Unified Neutrino Spectrum



# Ideal Messengers



Gravitational wave

Proton

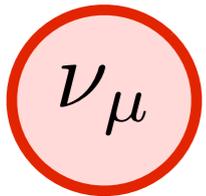
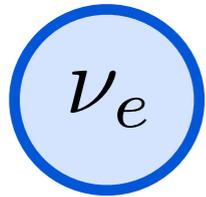
Photon

Neutrino

# Neutrino Mixing

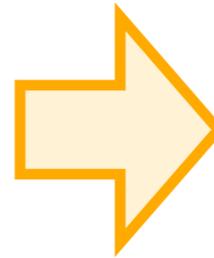
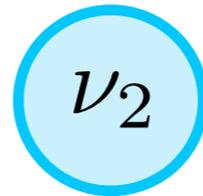
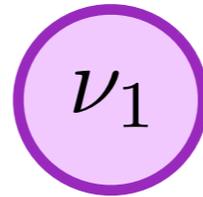
Neutrinos **oscillate** into each other by flavor mixing, because of their tiny non-vanishing mass.

## Flavor states



= Linear combination

## Mass states



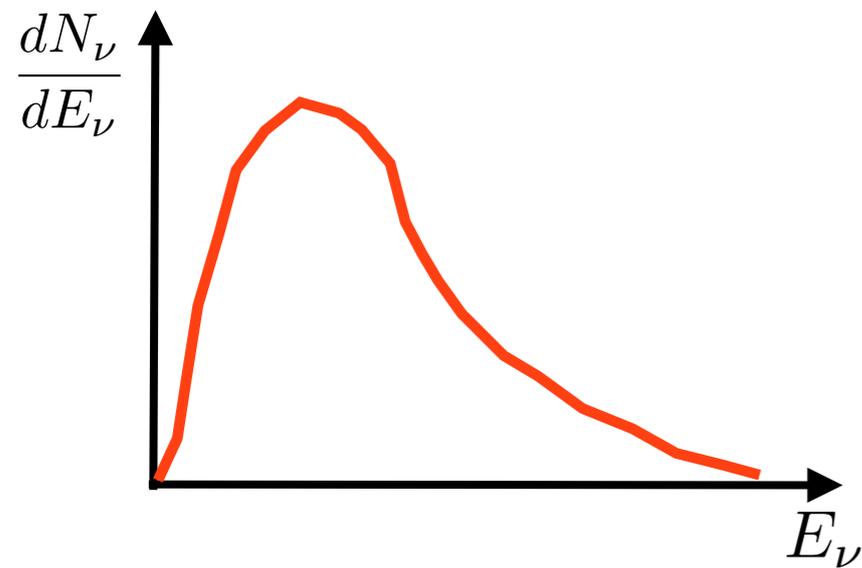
## Flavor Oscillations



- Neutrino flavor ratio provides information about **neutrino properties**.
- Flavor conversions are affected by background fermion distribution.
- In turn, flavor conversions can affect source dynamics.  
➡ Study of flavor evolution allows to learn about **source properties**.

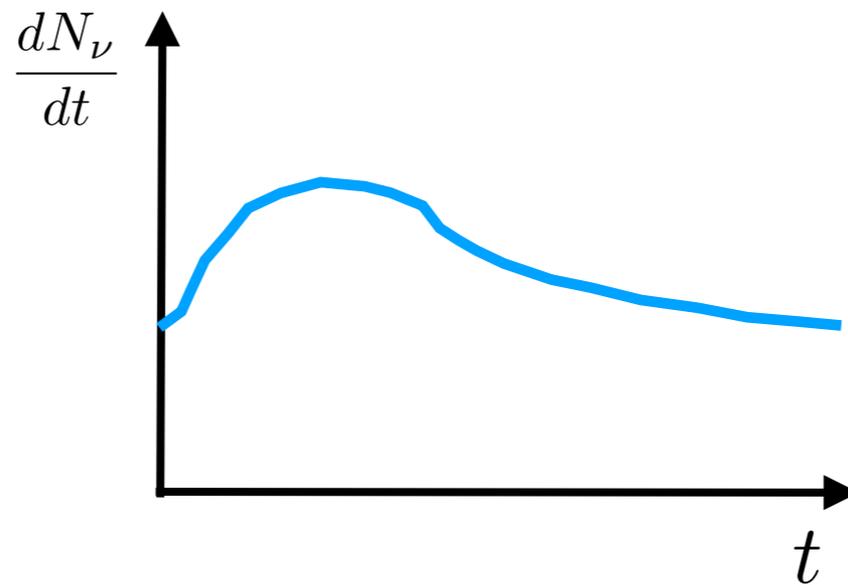
# Powerful Probes in Astrophysics

Energy distribution



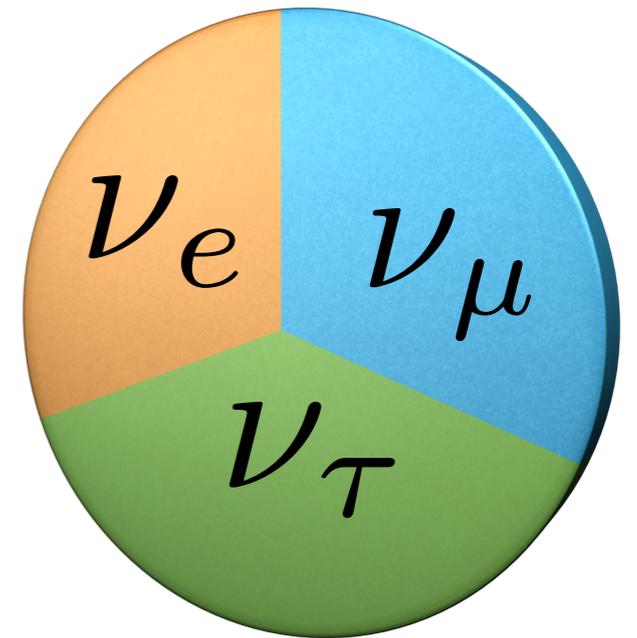
Similar to photons

Neutrino curve



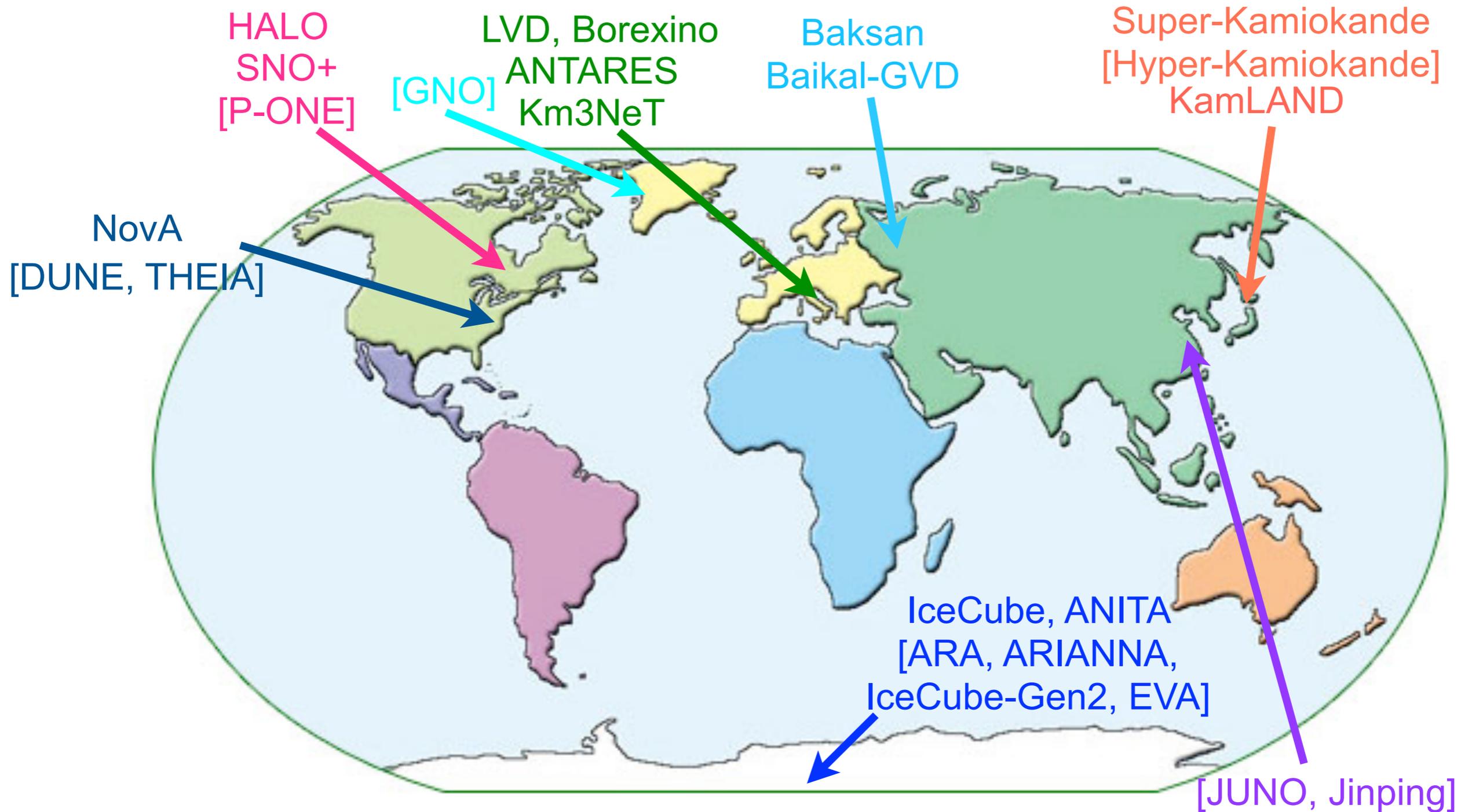
Similar to photons

Flavor ratio



Neutrinos only!

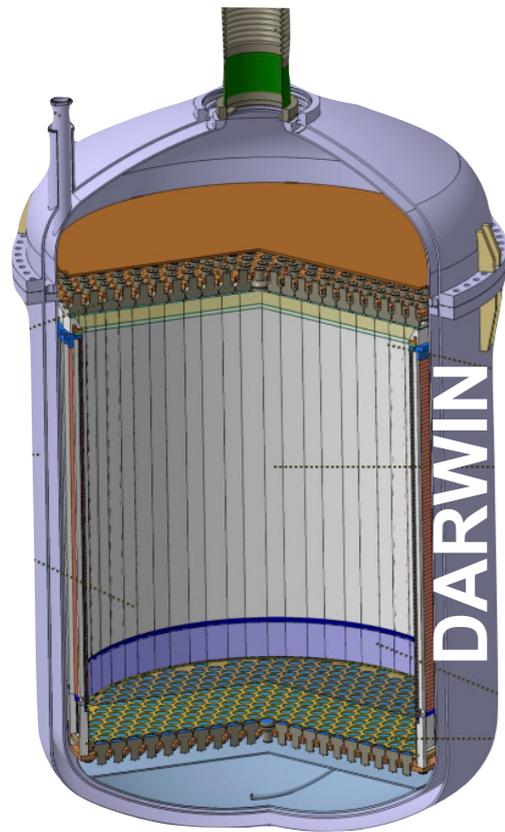
# Neutrino “Telescopes”



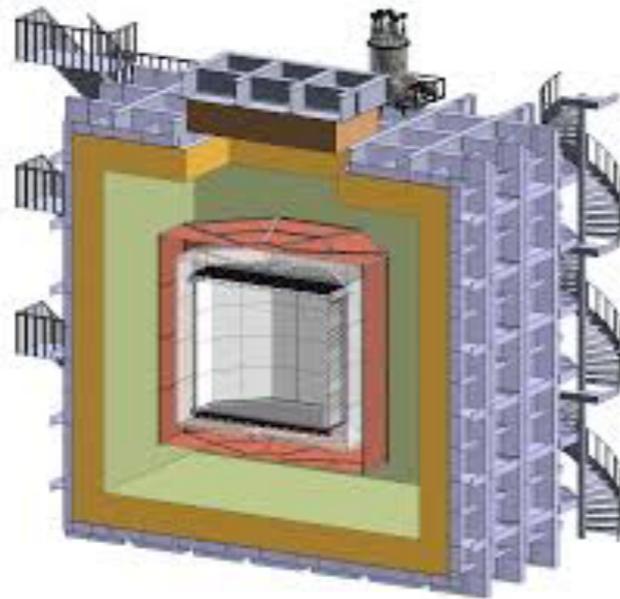
Fundamental to combine astrophysical signals from detectors employing different technologies (e.g., Cherenkov and liquid scintillator detectors).

# Neutrino “Telescopes”

## Neutrino Telescopes Based on Coherent Scattering



DarkSide-20k & ARGO



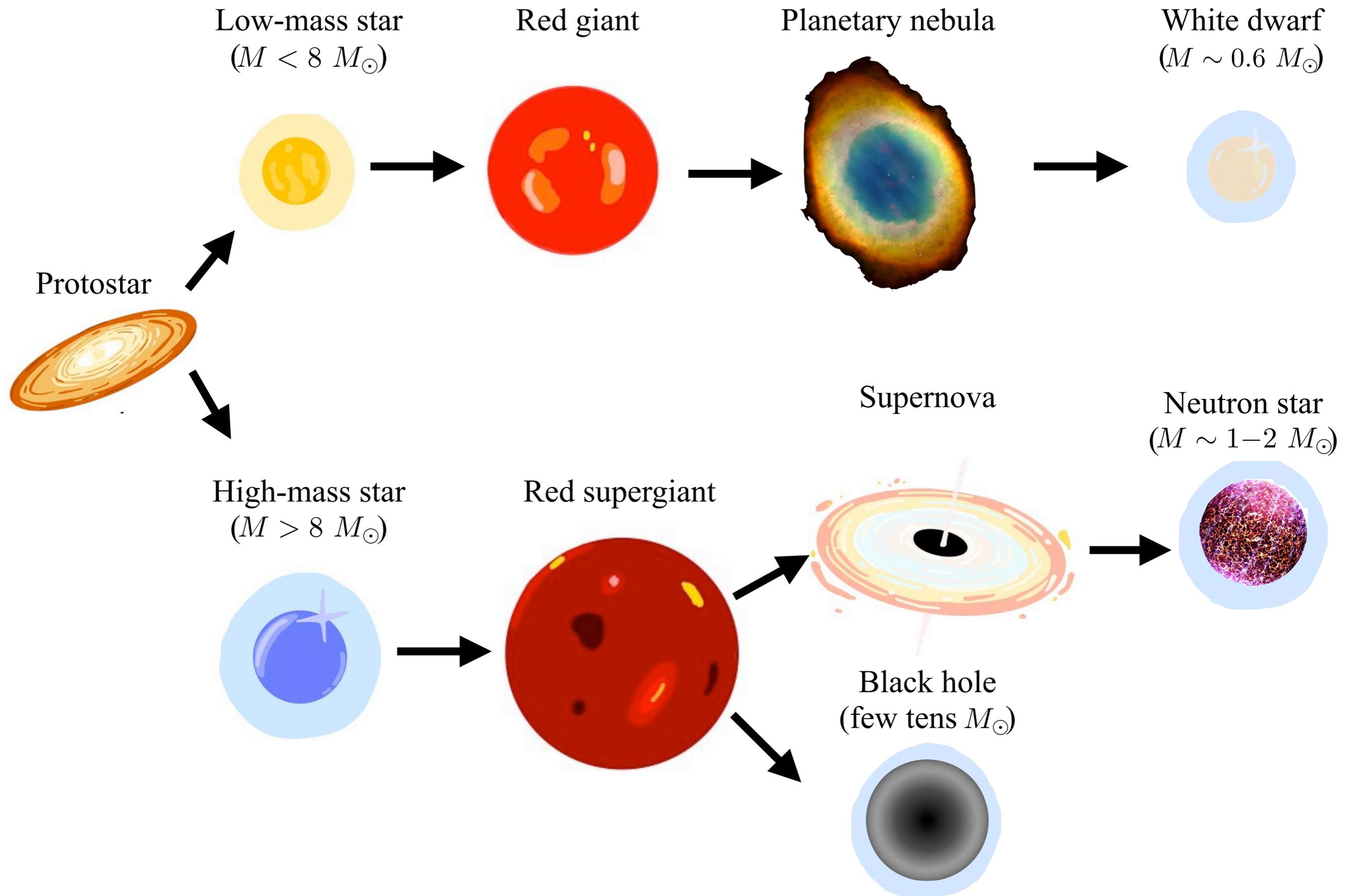
- Flavor insensitive (complementary to other neutrino telescopes).
- Compact size and excellent time resolution.

# Lecture 1: Neutrinos as Astrophysical Probes

## Intended Learning Objectives

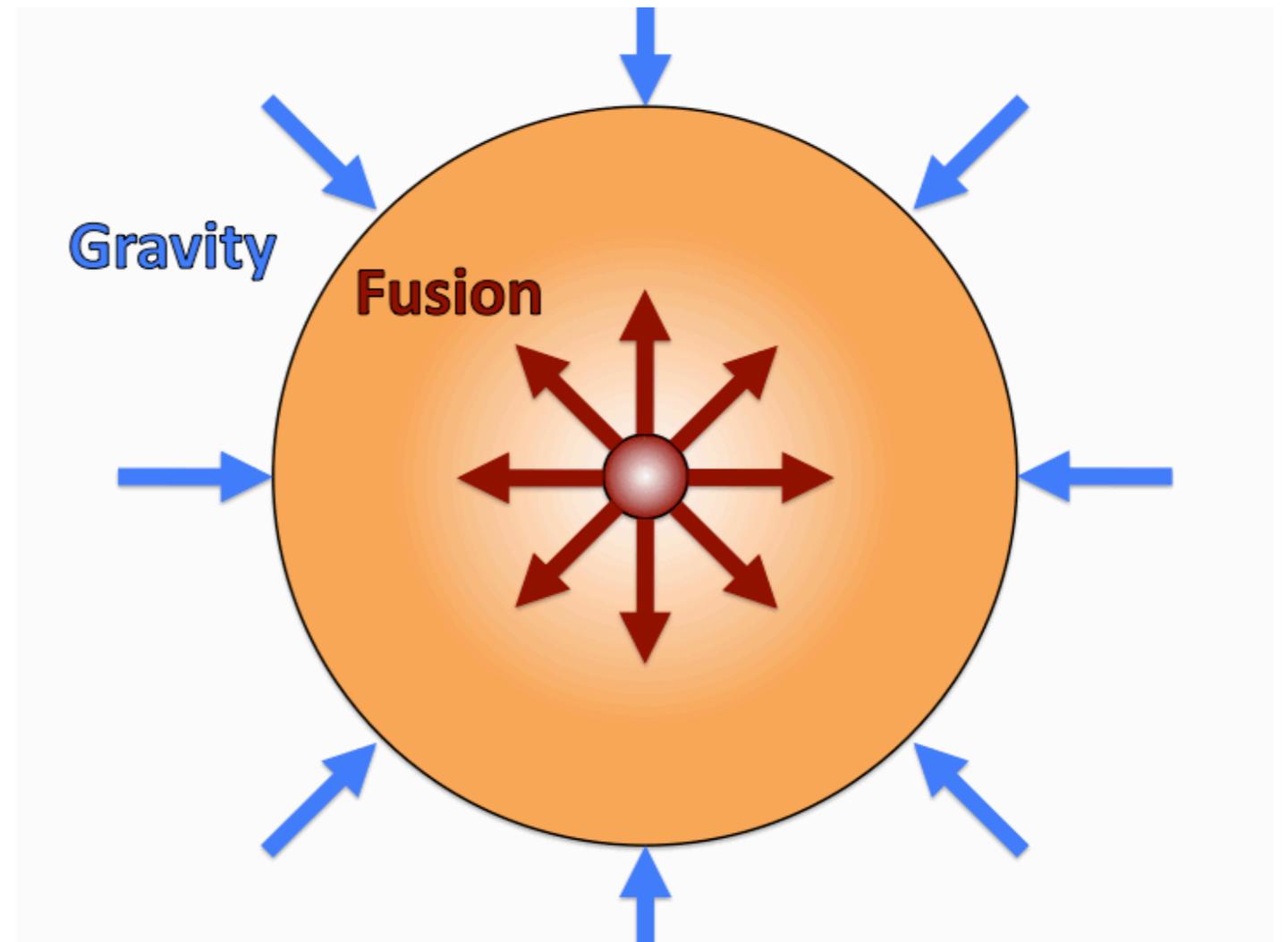
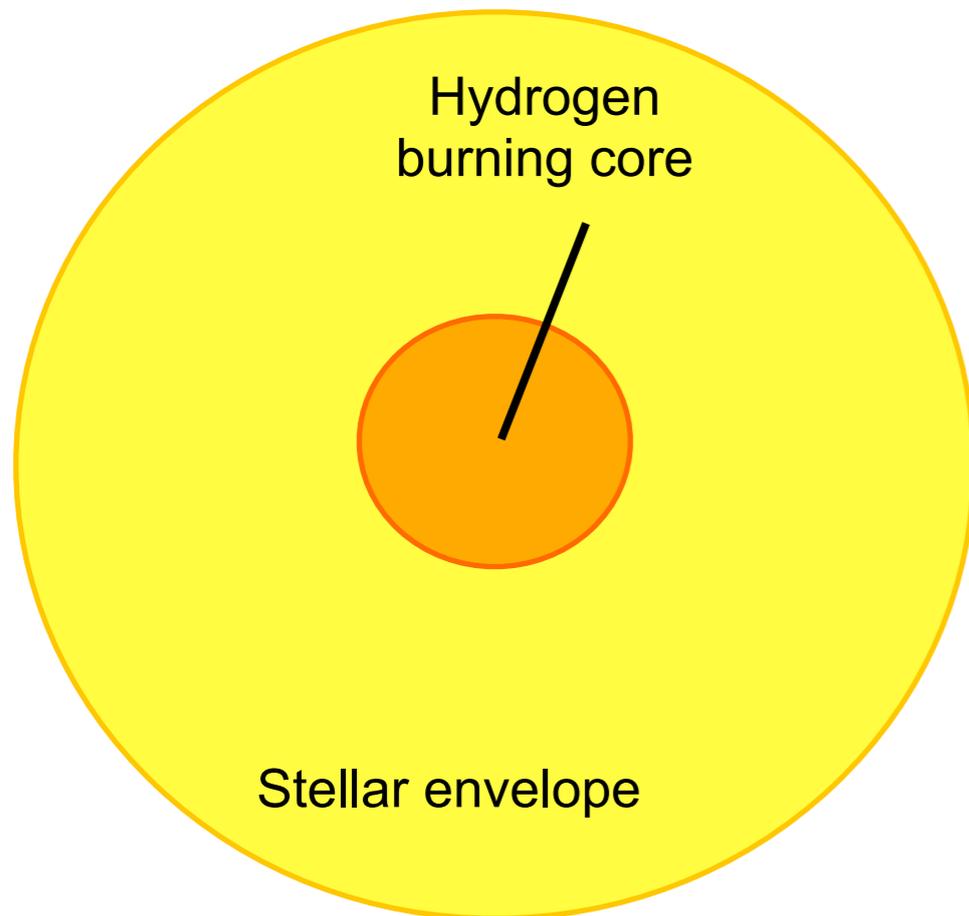
- Supernova physics
- Neutrinos as messengers of the supernova physics

# Lifecycle of a Star



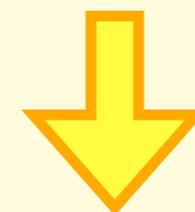
# Lifecycle of a Sun-like Star

A young star fuses hydrogen into helium (keeps burning until it runs out of hydrogen).



Pressure (from energy produced in the core from nuclear fusion)

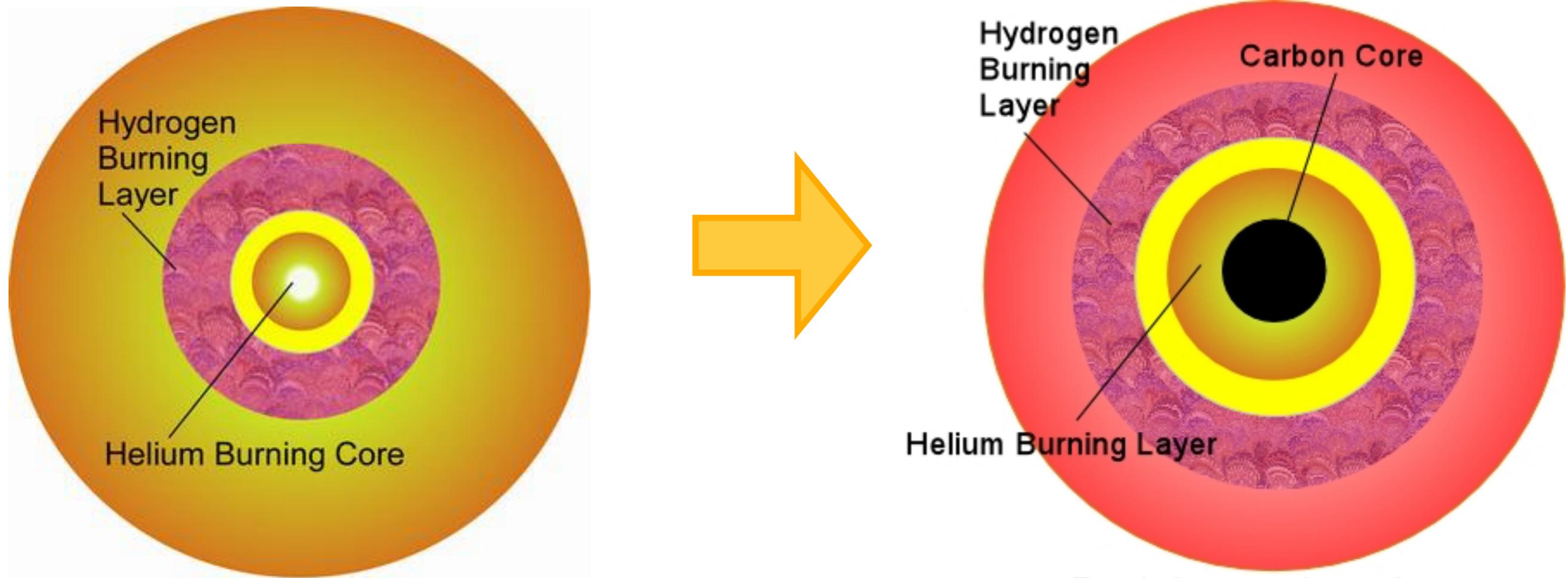
= Gravity



Hydrostatic equilibrium

# Lifecycle of a Massive Star

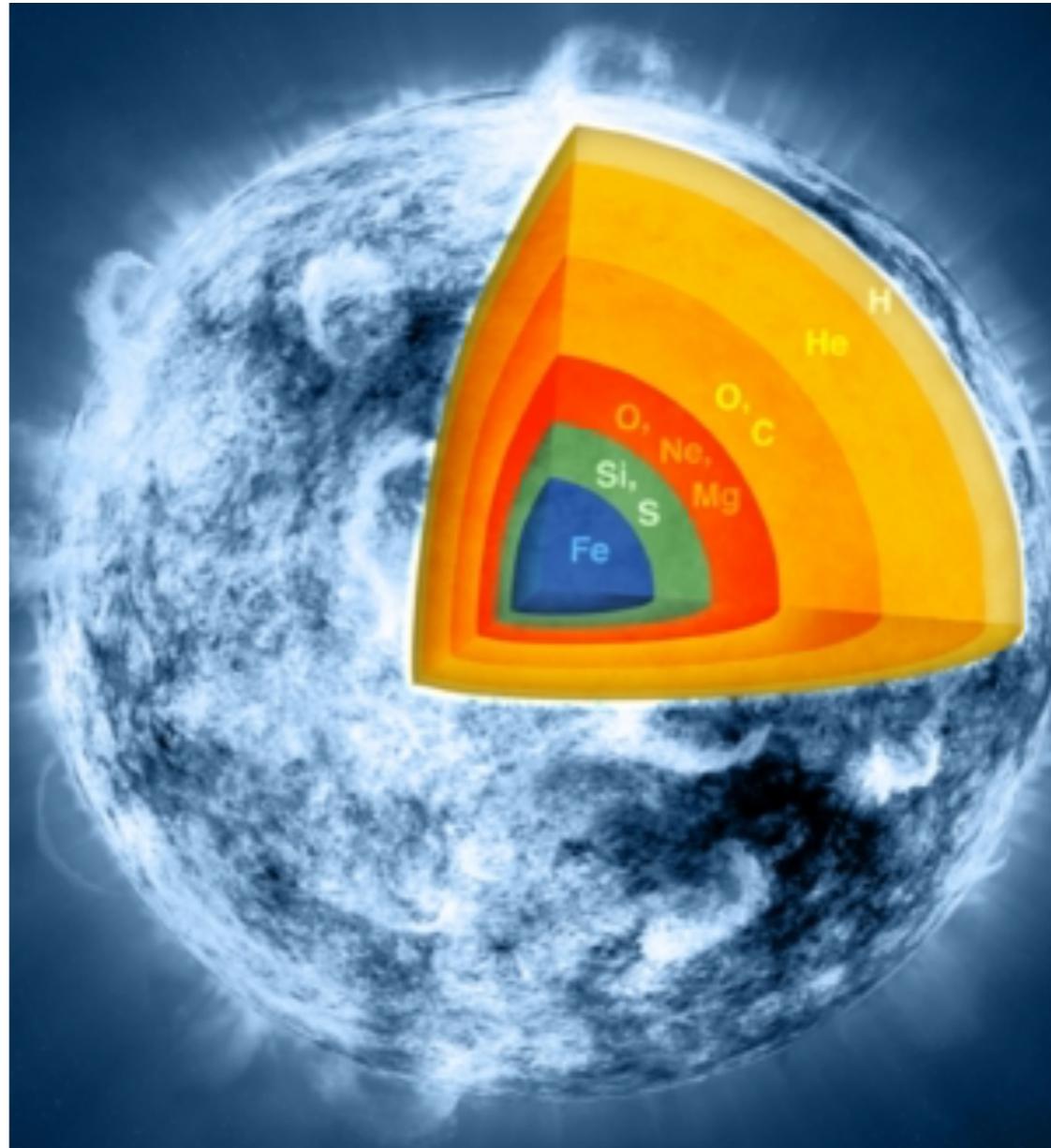
When the star exhausts hydrogen, the core drops its pressure. Gravity compresses the core and the latter heats up. Helium burning starts. It continues for all elements up to Iron.



- Red supergiant phase.
- Blue supergiant phase. Helium core contracts and ignites helium burning in the core. The envelope becomes hot and appears blue.
- Red supergiant phase. Carbon-oxygen core forms. Envelope expands and cools, appears red. Carbon-oxygen core contracts heating up. Carbon burning.

# Lifecycle of a Massive Star

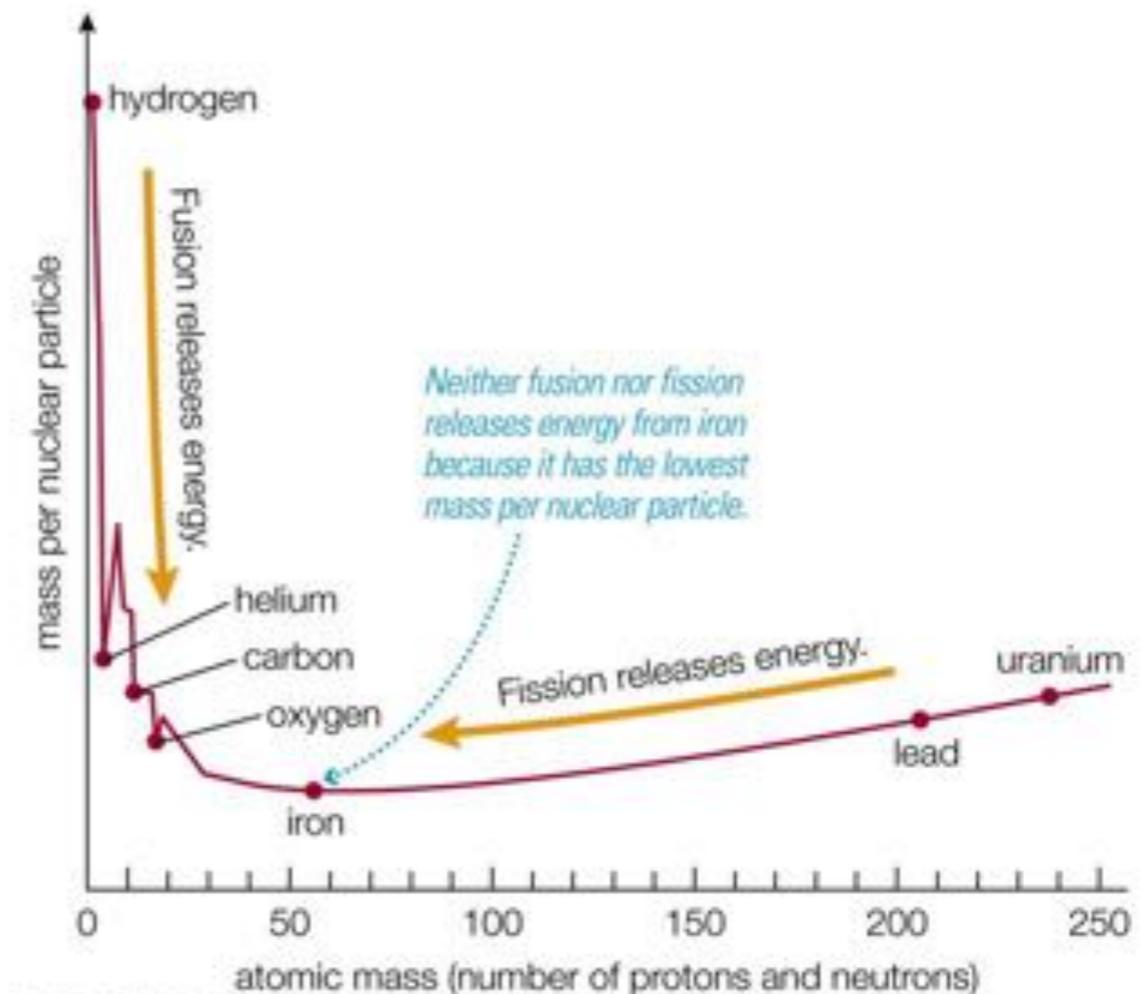
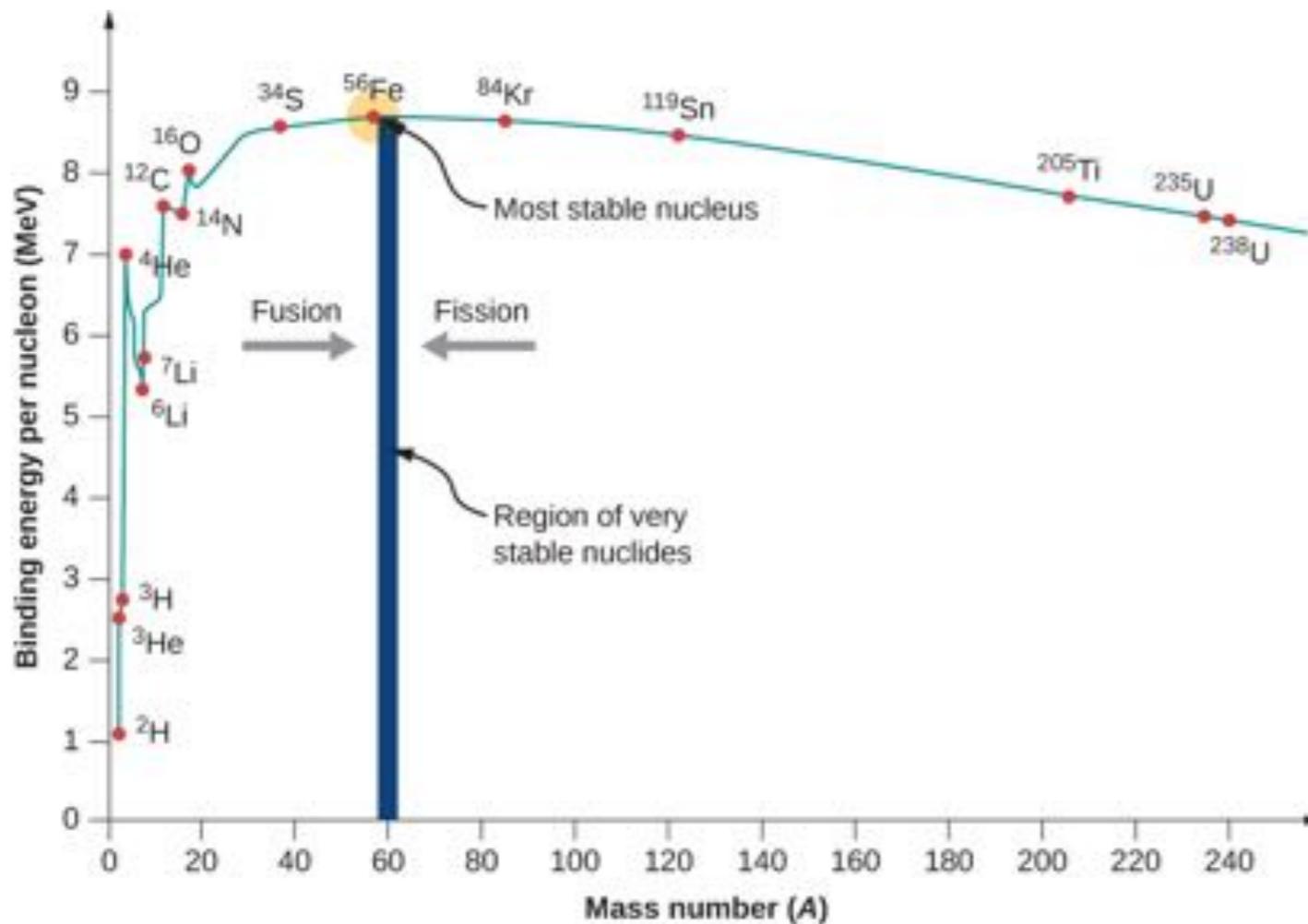
When iron is formed, no more temperature raising occurs, no more counter pressure. Core collapses by gravitation and an explosion occurs. **Core-collapse supernova.**



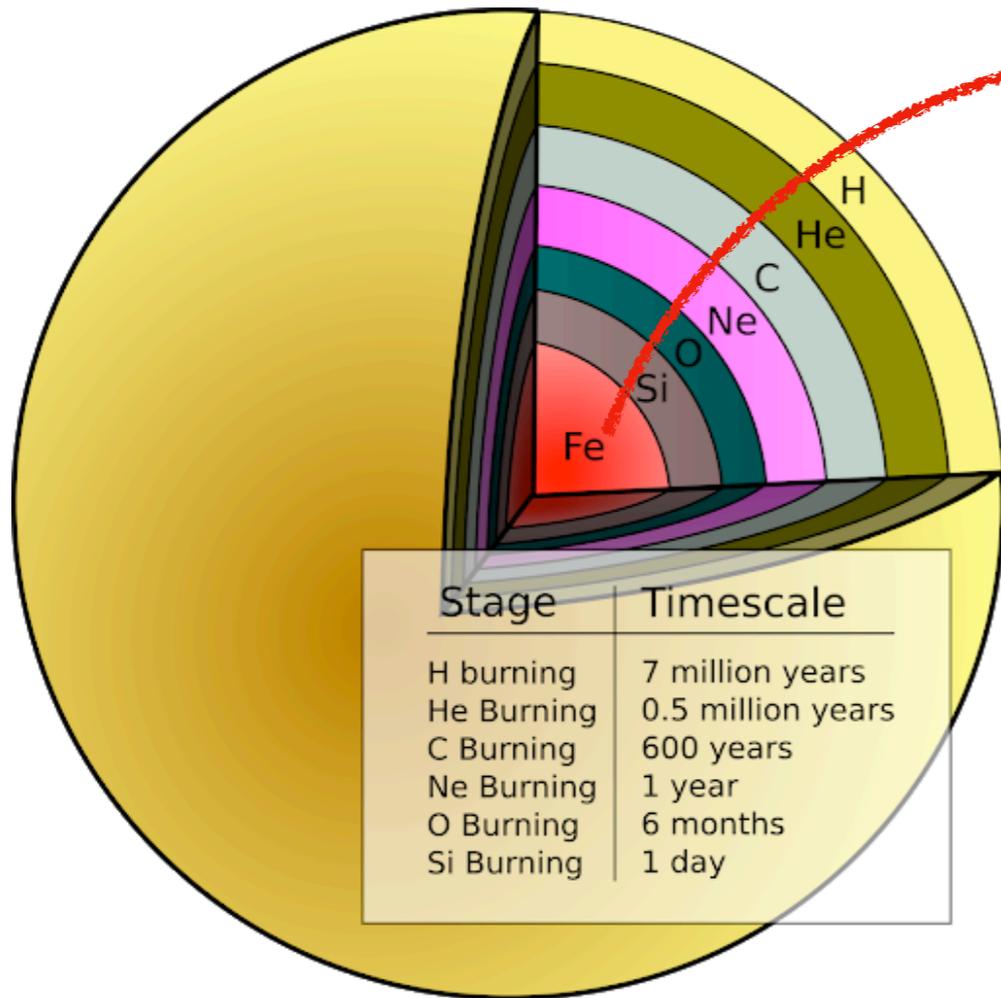
What prevents stellar burning to proceed indefinitely?

# Why Does Stellar Fusion Stop at Fe?

Iron does not release energy since it has the highest binding energy.

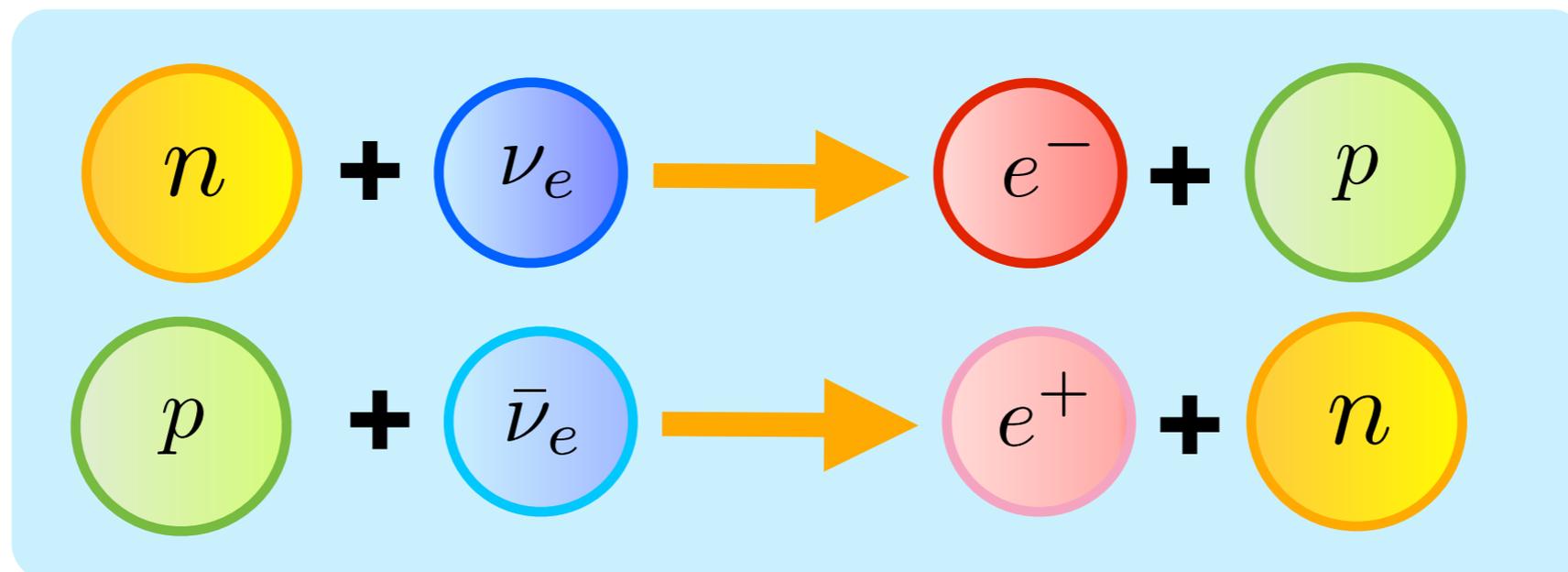


# How Are Elements > Fe Produced in SNe?

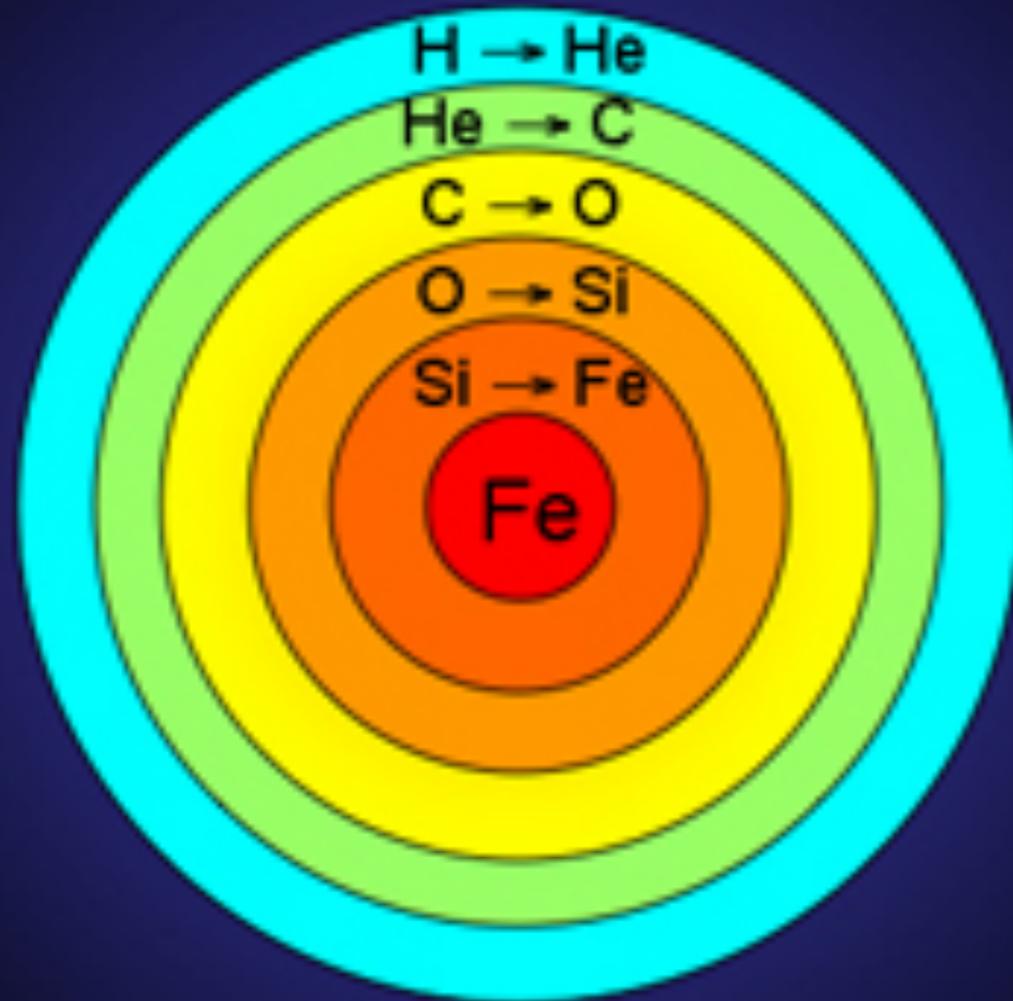


Once iron is formed, multiple neutron captures enable the formation of heavier elements.

Since many neutrons are available, neutron capture occurs rapidly (rapid neutron capture process, r-process).



# Stellar Final Stages



For a 25 solar mass star:

Stage	Duration
$H \rightarrow He$	$7 \times 10^6$ years
$He \rightarrow C$	$7 \times 10^5$ years
$C \rightarrow O$	600 years
$O \rightarrow Si$	6 months
$Si \rightarrow Fe$	1 day
Core Collapse	1/4 second

# Core Collapse Supernova

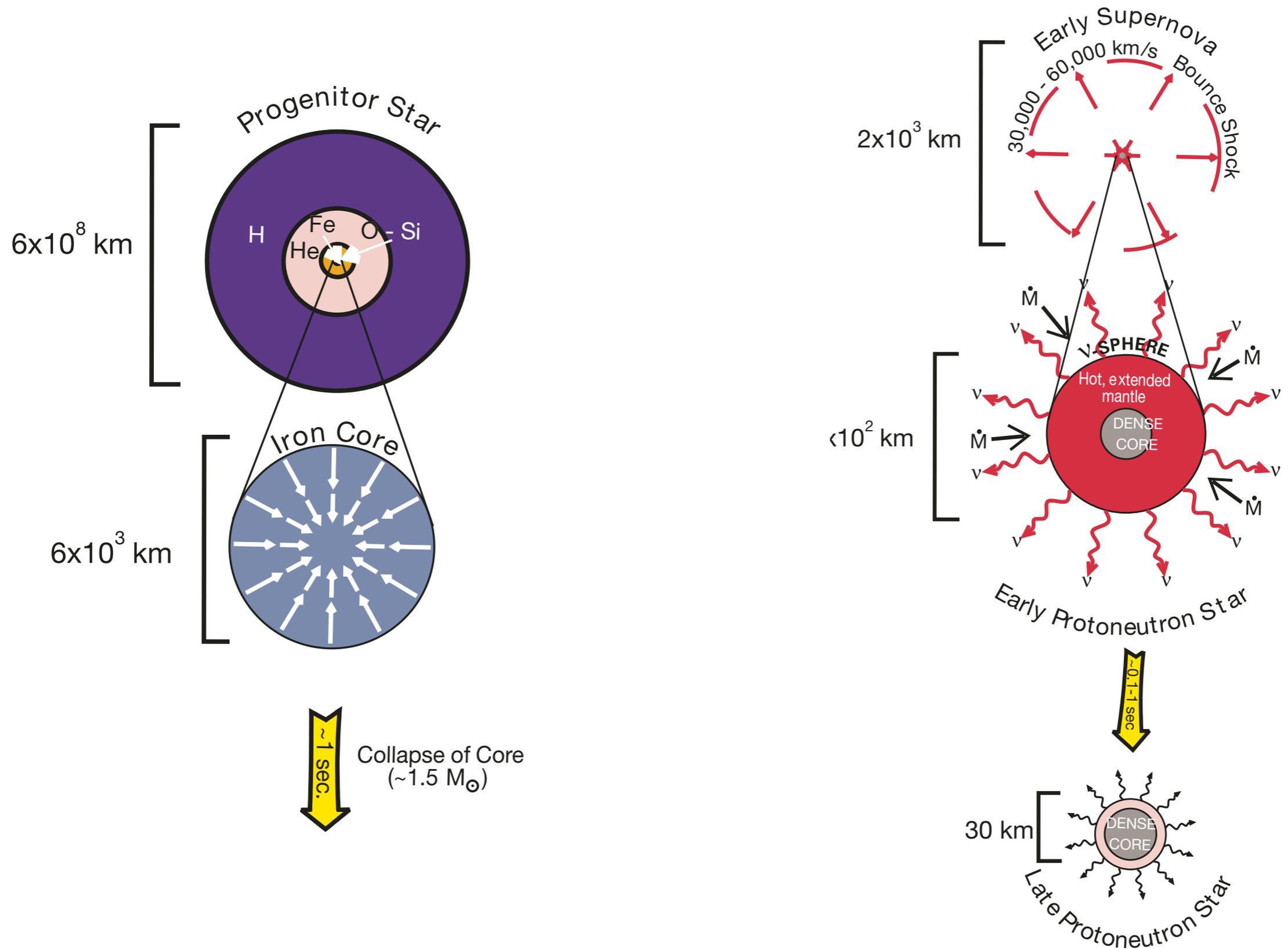
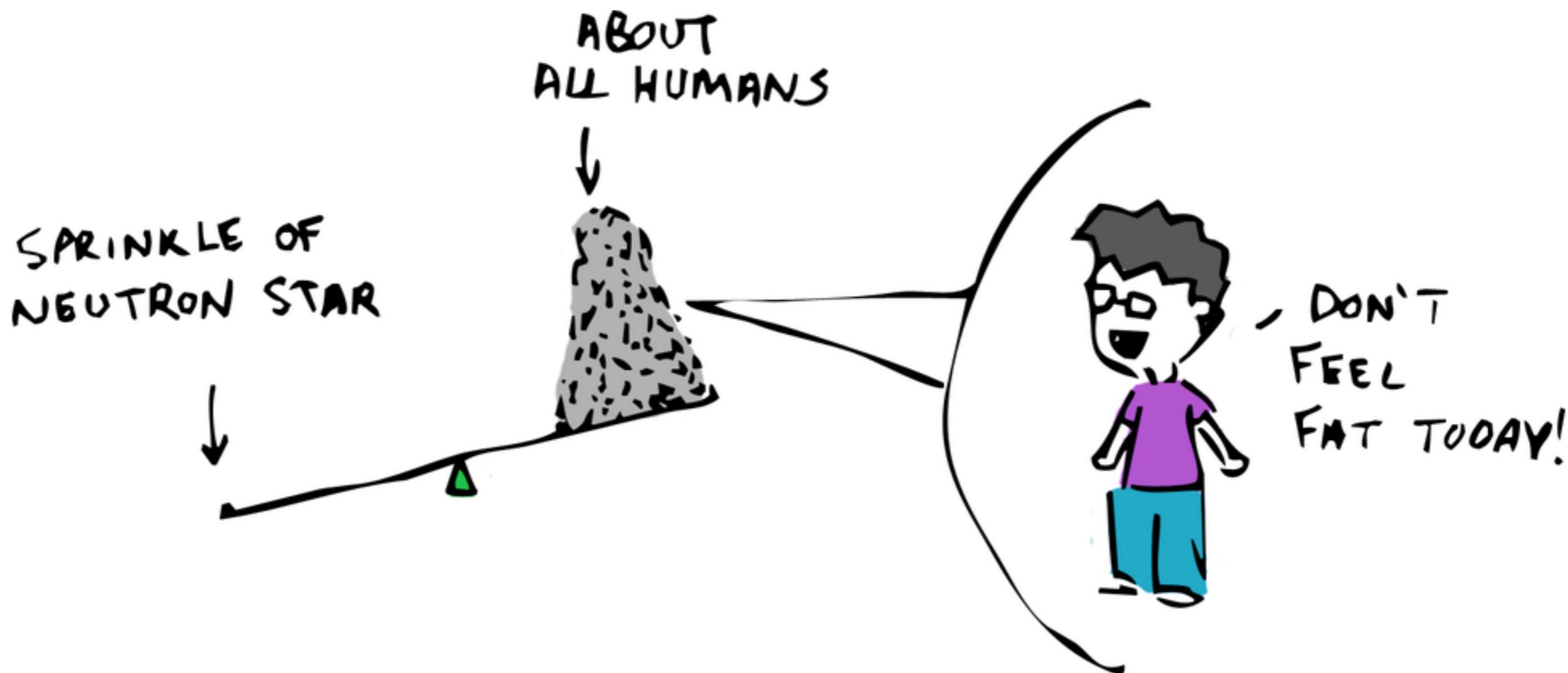


Figure credit: A. Burrows, Nature (2000).

# Core Collapse Supernova

- The star blows away its outer layers during the supernova explosion.
- The central core will collapse in a compact object of a few solar masses (**neutron star**).
- Pressure is so high that electrons and protons combine to form stable neutrons.



# Numbers

Nucleon mean kinetic energy  $\langle E_k \rangle \simeq \frac{1}{2} \frac{G_N M_{ns} m_N}{R_{ns}} \simeq 25 \text{ MeV}$

with  $M_{ns} \simeq 1.4 M_\odot$  and  $R_{ns} \simeq 15 \text{ km}$ .

Energy equipartition  $T_\nu \simeq \frac{2}{3} \langle E_k \rangle$

Gravitational energy released during neutron star collapse (Gauss theorem)

$$E_g \approx \frac{3}{5} \frac{G_N M_{ns}^2}{R_{ns}} = 1.7 \times 10^{59} \text{ MeV}$$

1% of  $E_g$  goes into kinetic explosion energy. Therefore, the expected number of neutrinos is

$$E_g / T_\nu \sim 10^{58}$$

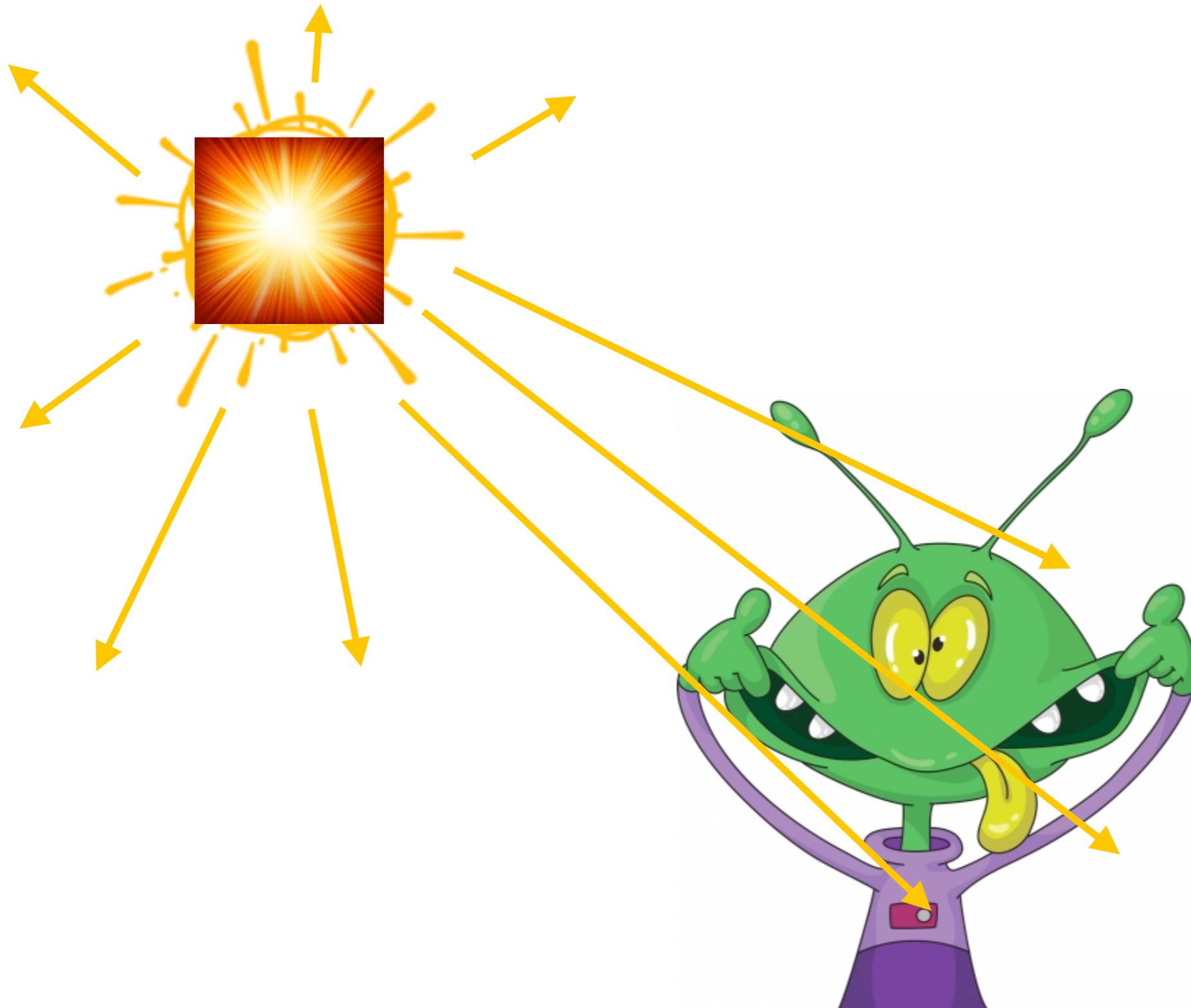
Gravitational binding energy  $\simeq 3 \times 10^{53} \text{ erg} \simeq 17\% M_{\text{sun}} c^2$

**kinetic explosion energy** 

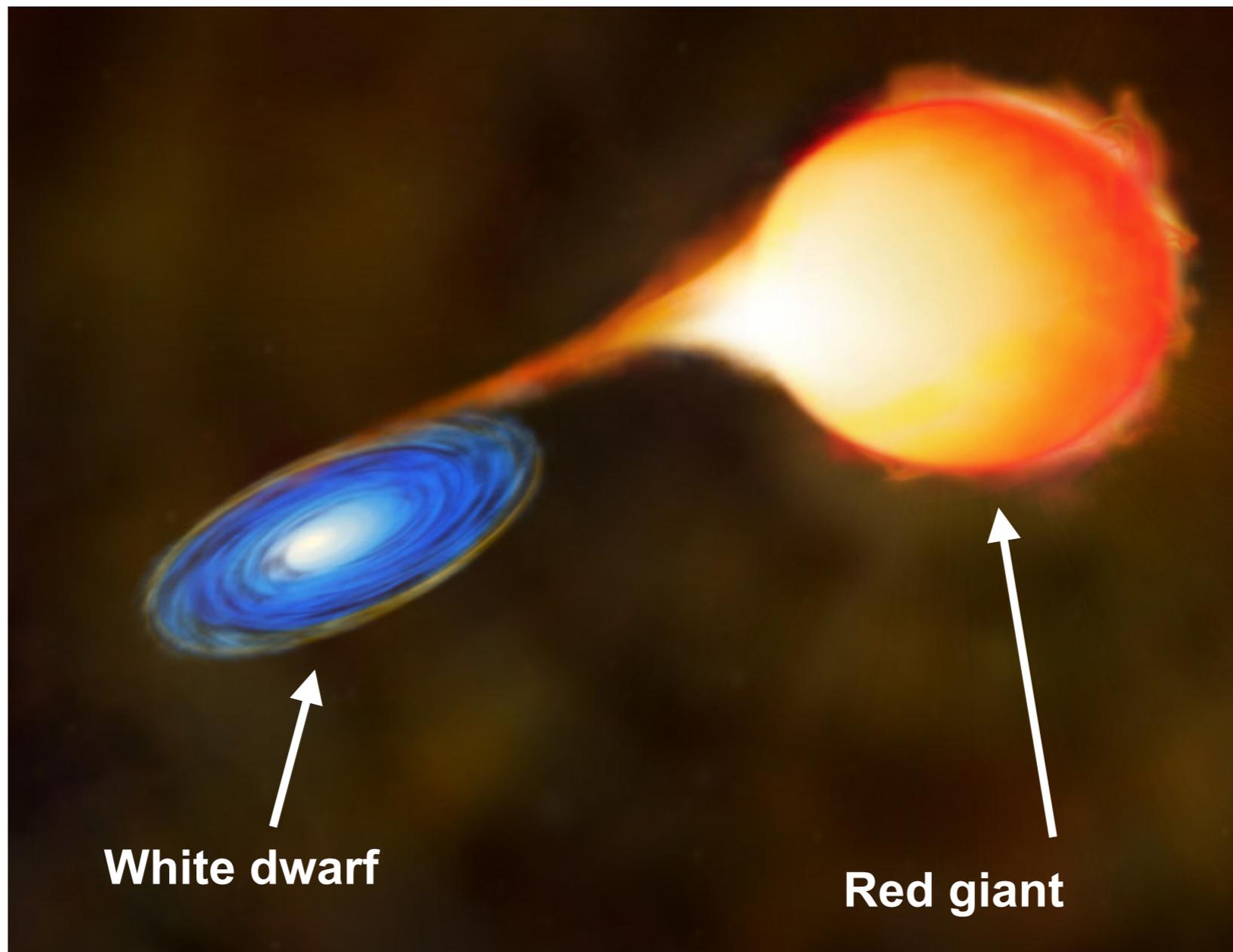
**99% neutrinos**

$$L_\nu \simeq \frac{3 \times 10^{53} \text{ erg}}{3 \text{ s}} \simeq 3 \times 10^{19} L_{\text{sun}}$$

If the Sun were a supernova, aliens on Mars would be incinerated by neutrino radiation!



# Alternative Path to Explosion



- Many stars live in binary systems.
- A white dwarf may accumulate material from a companion star (often a red giant).
- **Thermo-nuclear supernova explosion.**

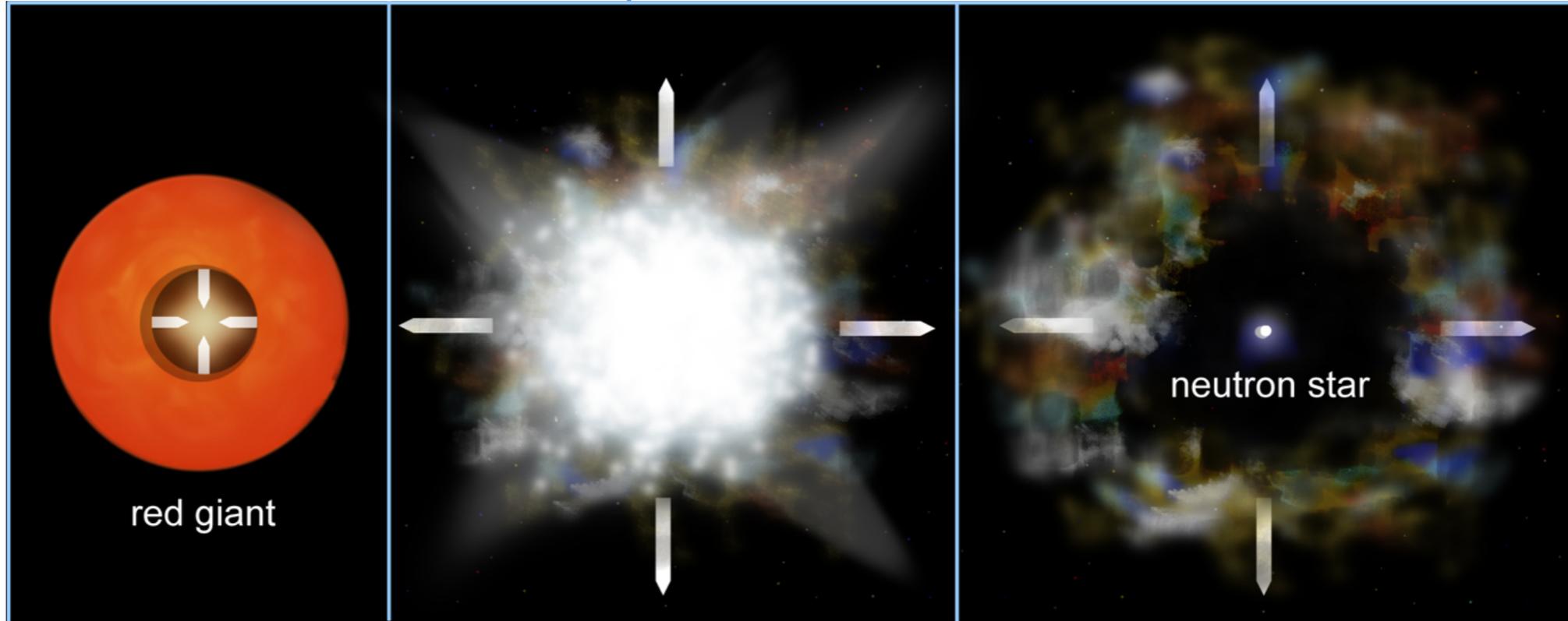
# Supernova Types

## Core-collapse or type II supernova

Core implosion

Explosion

Remnant with neutron star

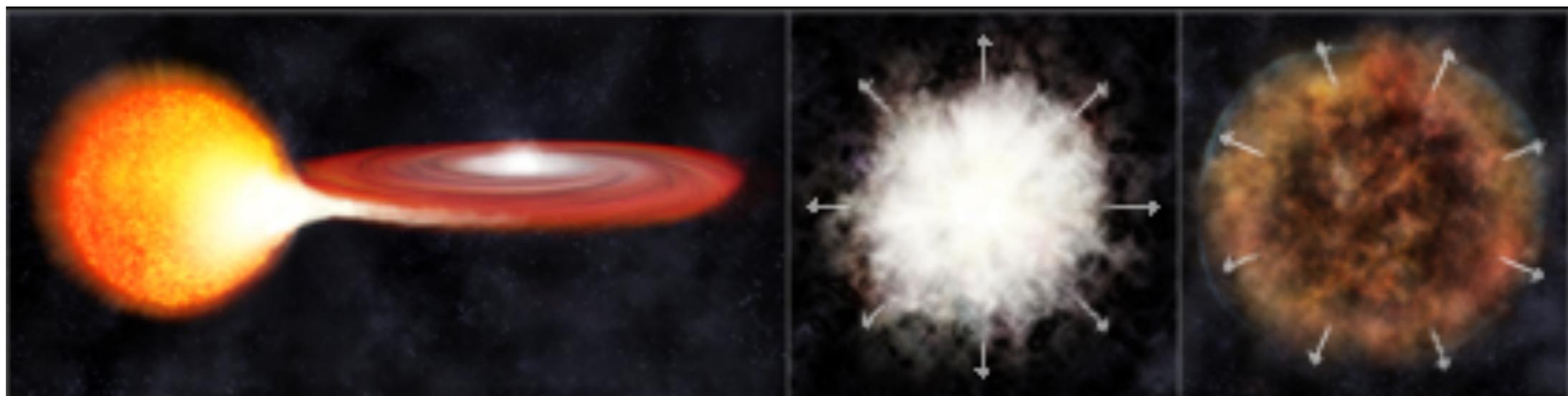


## Thermonuclear or type I supernova

Accretion onto a white dwarf

Explosion

Remnant without neutron star



# Supernova Classification

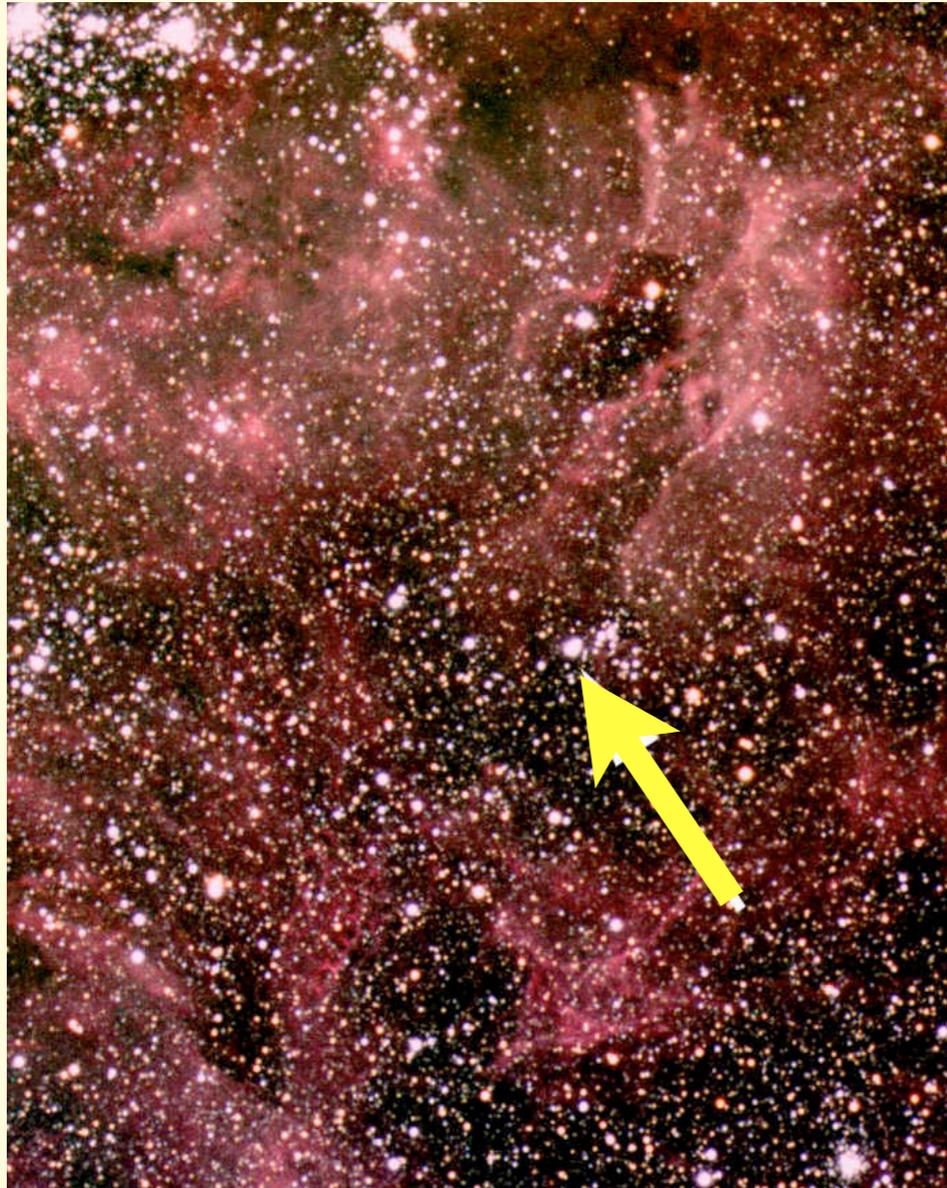
Comparable energy release in photons:  $3 \times 10^{51}$  ergs.

Spectral Type	Type I	Core Collapse
Physical Mechanism	Nuclear explosion of low-mass star	Core collapse of massive star
Compact remnant	None	Neutron star (black hole)
Local rate [Mpc <sup>-3</sup> yr <sup>-1</sup> ]	~ 0.00002	~ 0.0002
Neutrinos	Almost none	A lot

# SN 1987A

SN 1987A occurred in the Large Magellanic Cloud (50 kpc).

Sanduleak -69° 202



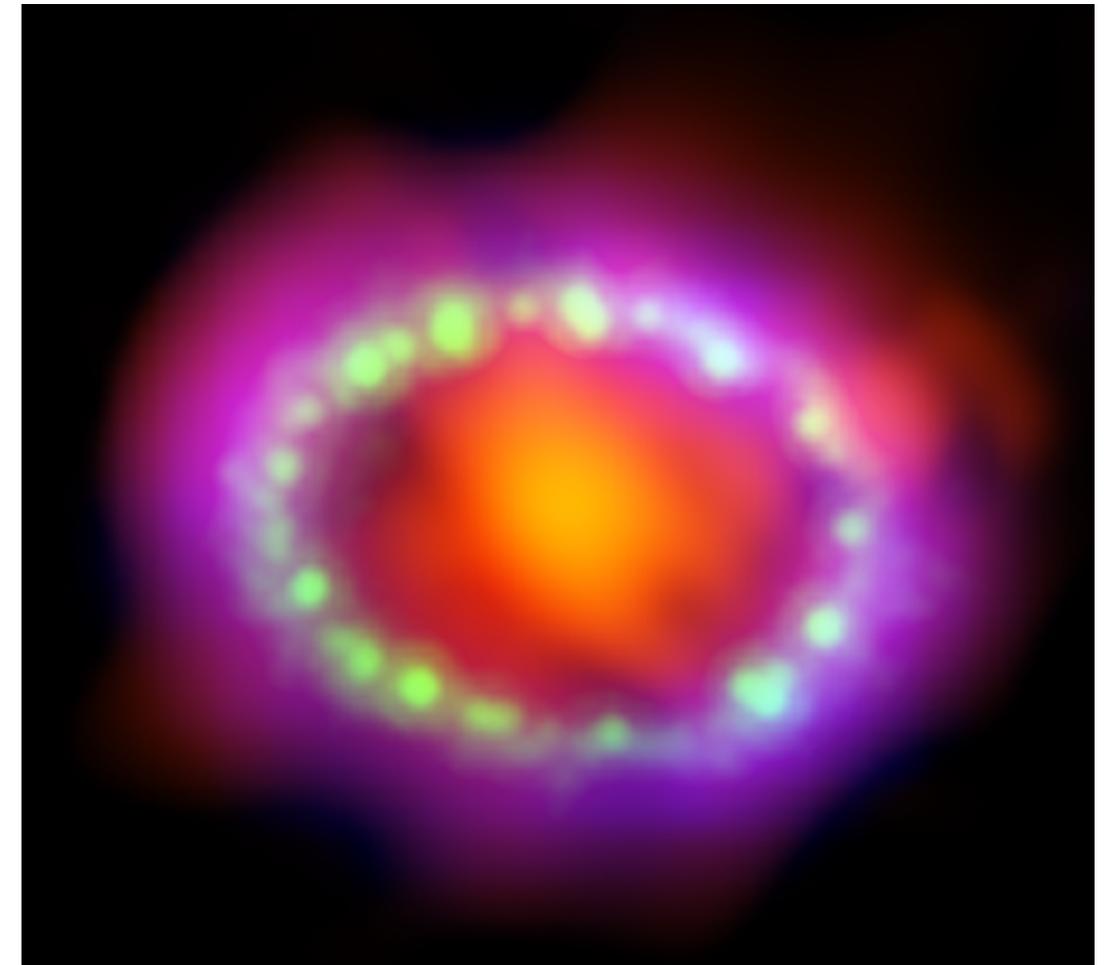
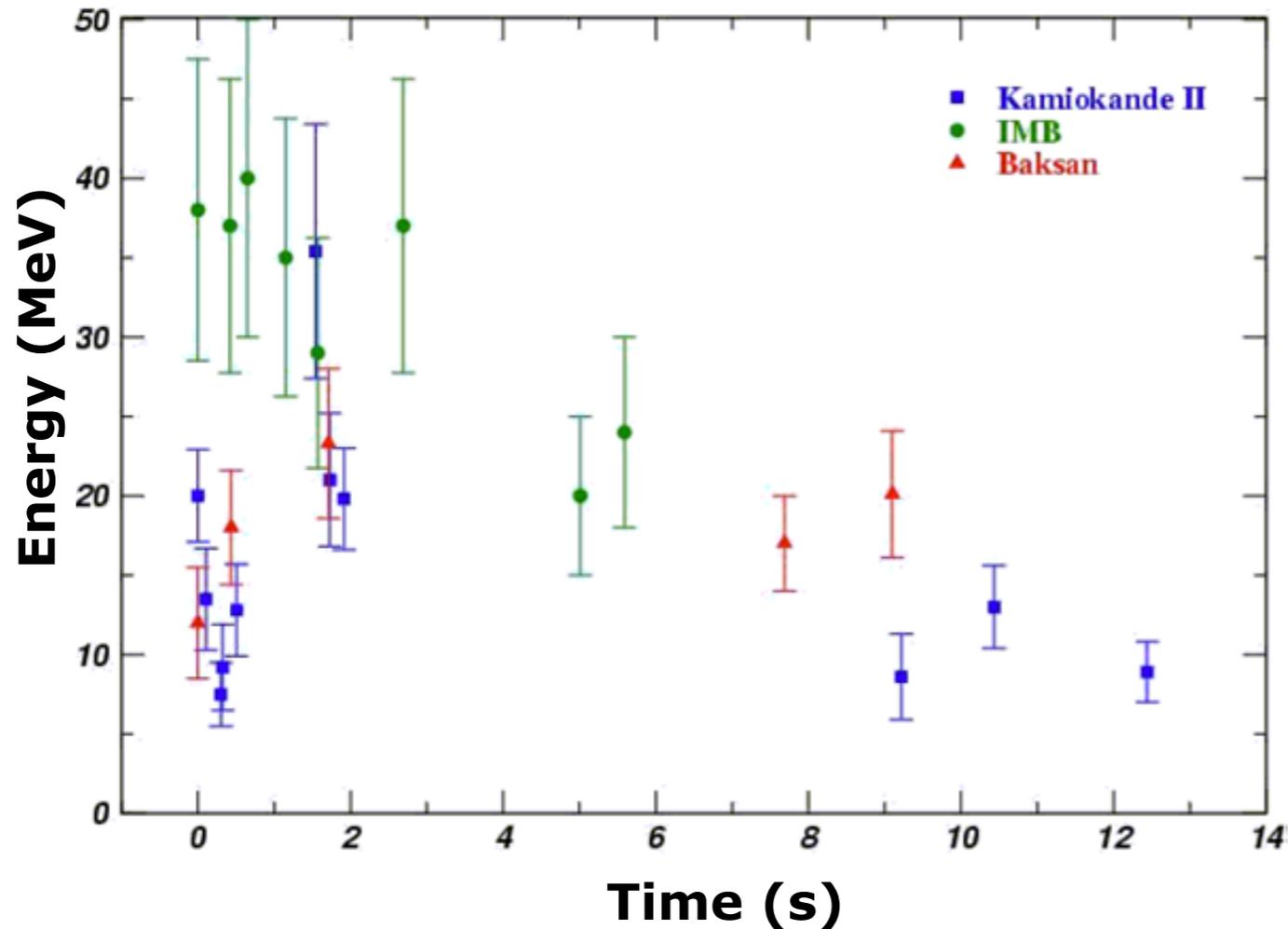
SN 1987A (Feb. 23, 1987)



**First and only supernova observed in neutrinos.**  
First verification of stellar evolution mechanism.

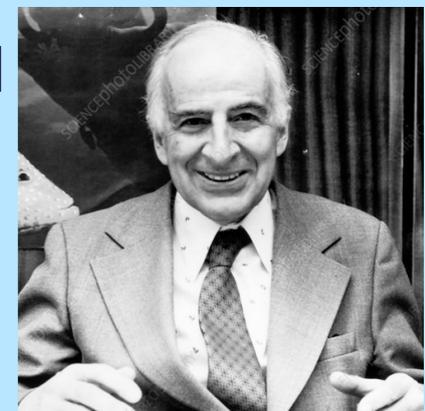
# SN 1987A

Few detectors were able to detect SN 1987A neutrinos.



Feb. 24, 1987: “Did you hear what happened today?  $10^{58}$  neutrinos! All in one go!”

From L. Pontecorvo’s memories (F. Close).



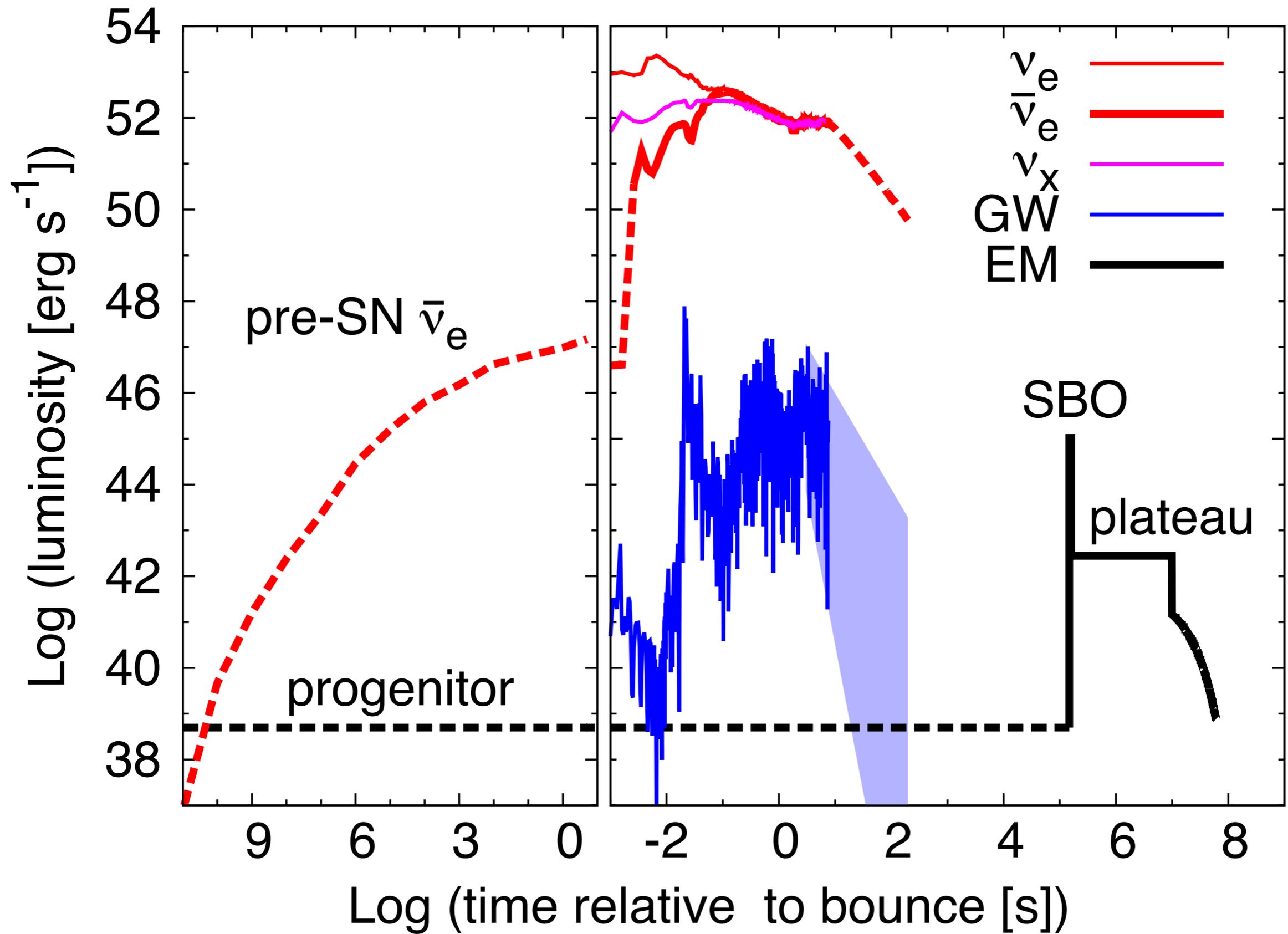
# Historical Supernovae

**Table 1 Supernovae that have exploded in our Galaxy and the Large Magellanic Cloud within the last millennium**

Supernova	Year (AD)	Distance (kpc)	Peak visual magnitude
SN1006	1006	2.0	-9.0
Crab	1054	2.2	-4.0
SN1181	1181	8.0	?
RX J0852-4642	~1300	~0.2	?
Tycho	1572	7.0	-4.0
Kepler	1604	10.0	-3.0
Cas A	~1680	3.4	~6.0?
SN1987A	1987	50 ± 5	3.0

These 'historical' supernovae are only a fraction of the total, because the majority were shrouded from view by the dust that pervades the Milky Way. Thus, it is estimated that this historical cohort represents only about 20% of the galactic supernovae that exploded since AD1000. Included are SN1987A, which exploded not in the Milky Way but in the Large Magellanic Cloud (one of its nearby satellite galaxies), RX J0852-4642 (ref. 77, ref. 11), a supernova remnant whose recent (~AD1300) and very nearby birth went unrecorded, perhaps because it resides in the Southern Hemisphere (but in fact for reasons that are as yet unknown), and Cas A, a supernova remnant that was born in historical times, but whose fiery birth was accompanied by a muted visual display that may have been recorded only in the ambiguous notes of the seventeenth-century astronomer John Flamsteed (ref. 78). The distances and peak visual magnitudes quoted are guesses at best, except for SN1987A. Astronomical magnitudes are logarithmic and are given by the formula  $M_V = -2.5 \log_{10}(\text{brightness}) + \text{constant}$ . Hence, every factor of ten increase in brightness represents a decrease in magnitude by 2.5. For comparison, the Moon is near -12 magnitudes, Venus at peak is -4.4 magnitudes, and good eyes can see down to about +6 magnitudes.

# The Next Supernova (SN 2XXXA)

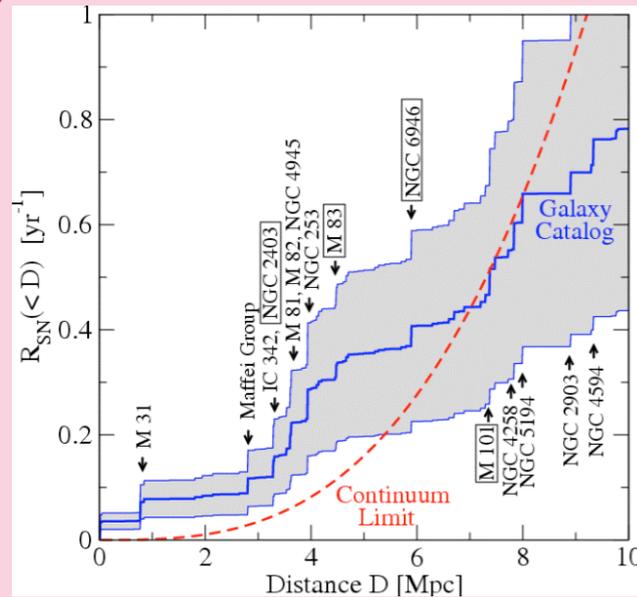


# Detection Frontiers



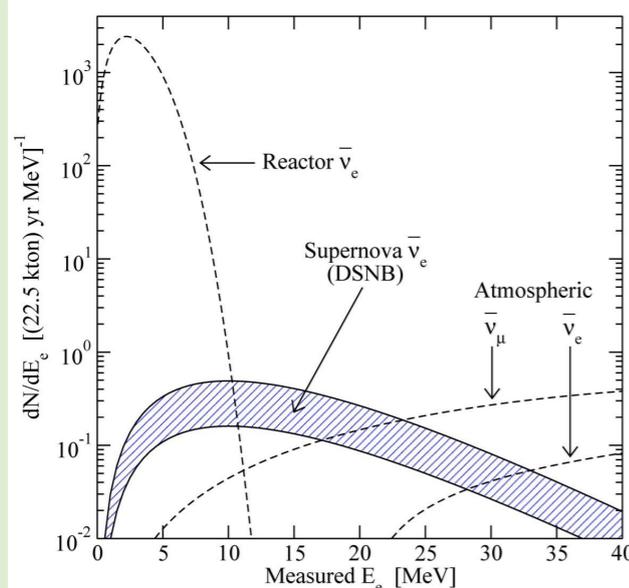
**Supernova in our Galaxy** (one burst per 40 years).

Excellent sensitivity to details.



**Supernova in nearby Galaxies** (one burst per year).

Sensitivity to general properties.



**Diffuse Supernova Background**  
(one supernova per second).

Average supernova emission. Guaranteed signal.

# Why Neutrinos from Core-Collapse Supernovae?

- Neutrino luminosity is 100 times its optical luminosity.
- Neutrino signal emerges from the core promptly.  
Photons may take hours to days to emerge from the stellar envelope.
- Supernovae would not explode without neutrinos.  
Elements could not be formed.
- Neutrinos provide information inaccessible to other kinds of astronomy.
- An optical supernova display may be never seen for a given core collapse.

# Neutrino Signal

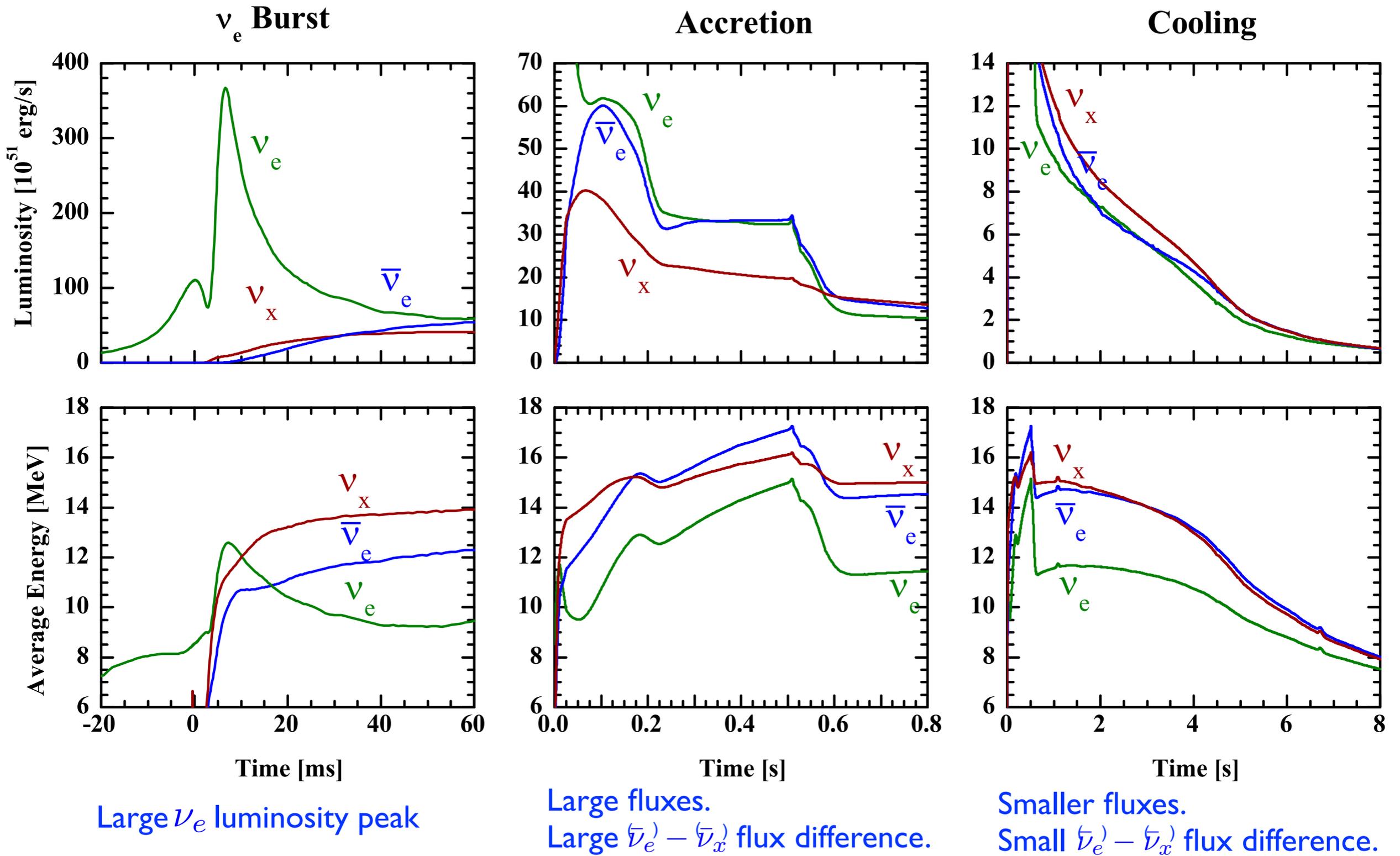
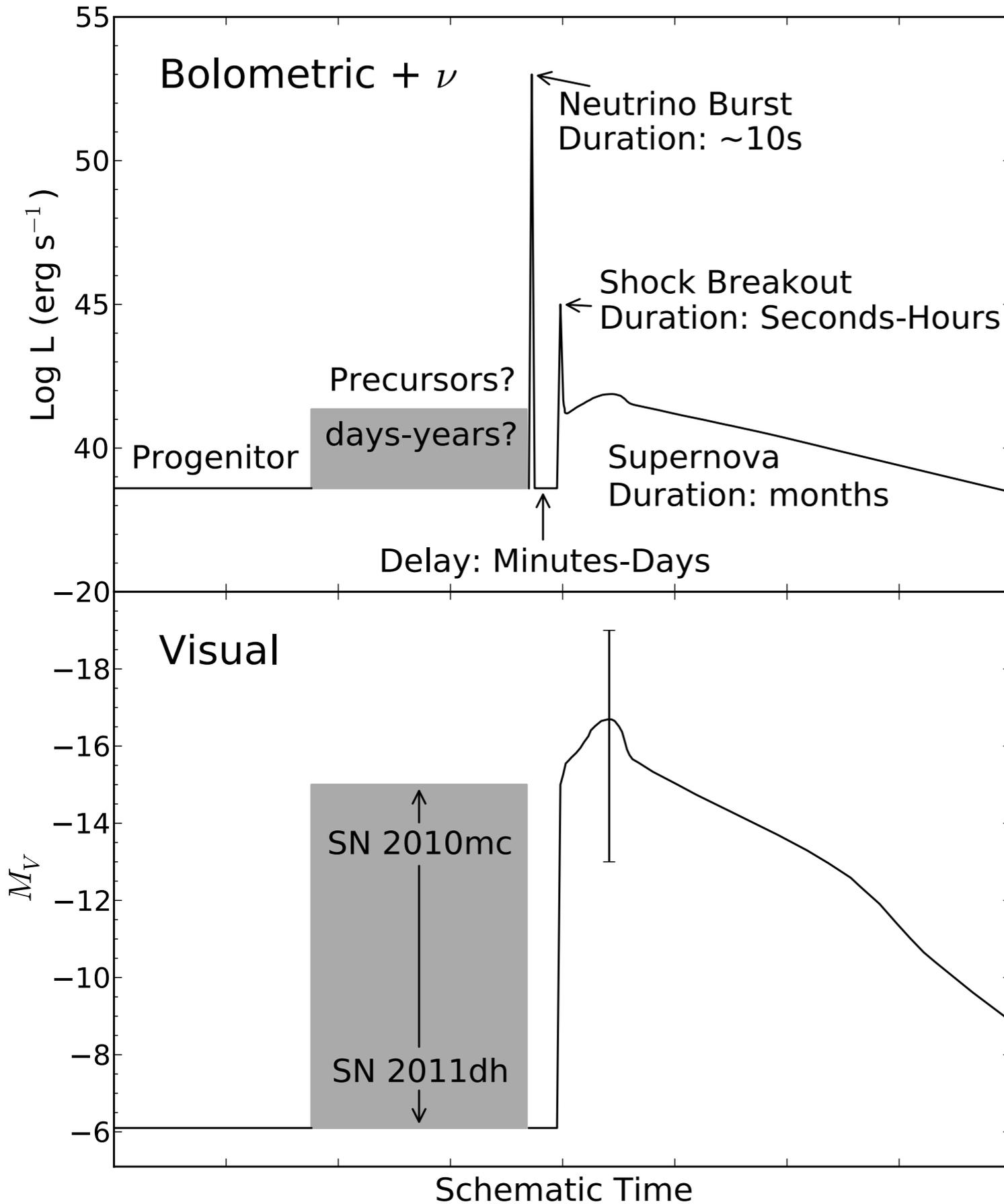


Figure: 1D spherically symmetric SN simulation ( $M=27 M_{\text{sun}}$ ), Garching group.

# Neutrinos & EM Radiation



Neutrinos could allow early EM detection of SN signal.

# Supernova Warning System

## SuperNova Early Warning System (SNEWS 2.0)



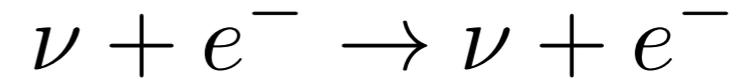
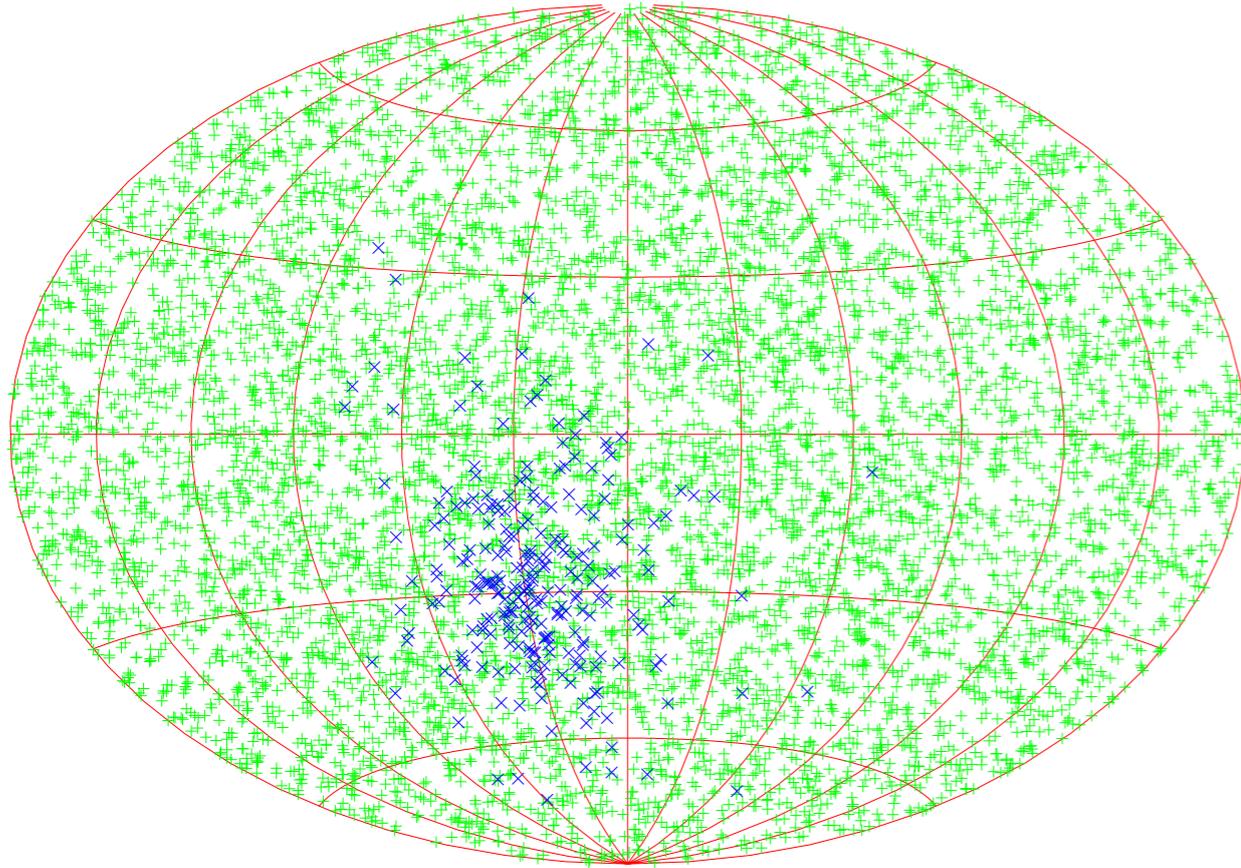
**Concidence Sever (@ BNL)**



**E-mail alert  
ATel alerts, LIGO, GCN**

Shock breakout arrives mins to hours after neutrino signal.

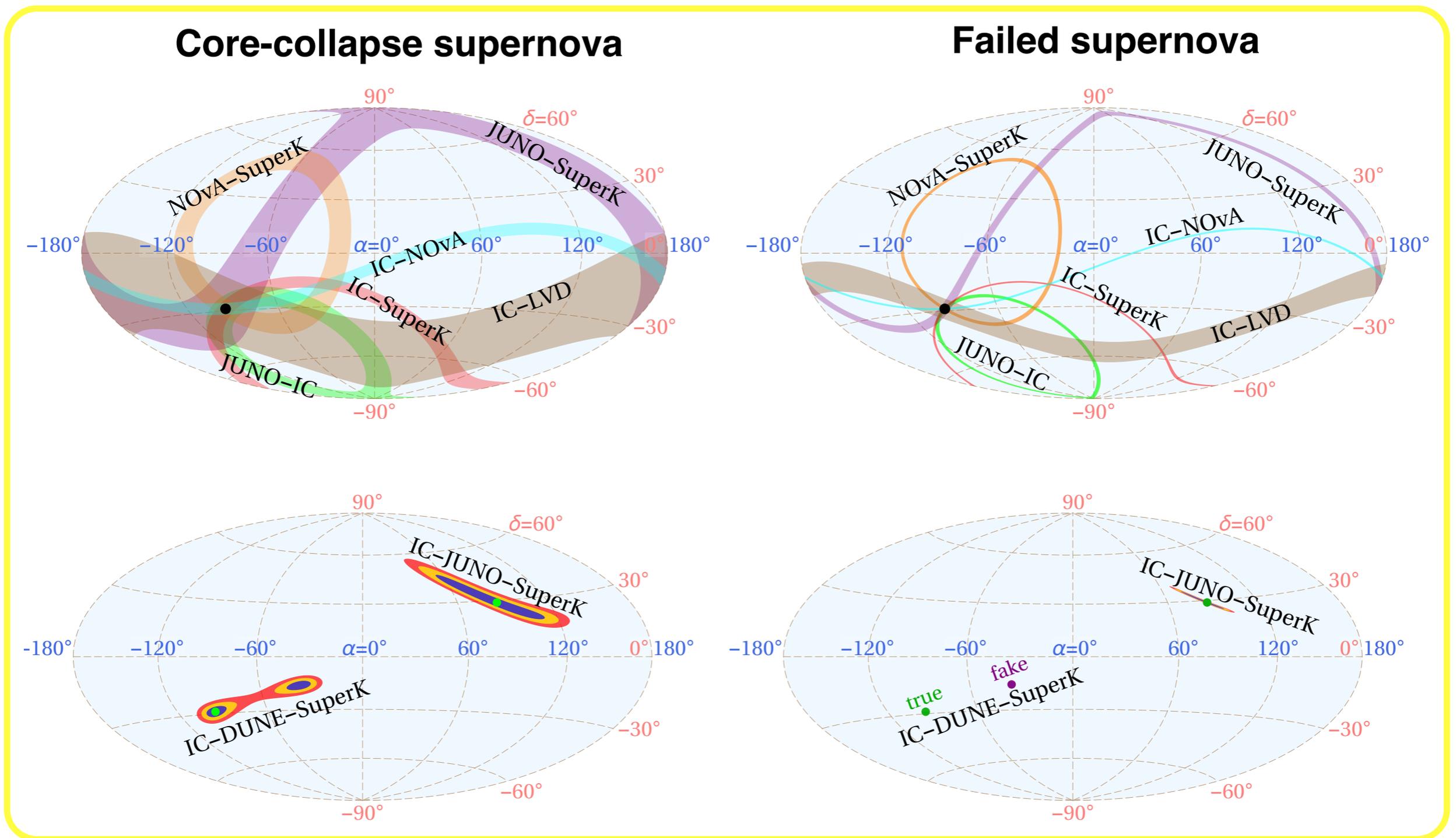
# Neutrinos Tell Us Where To Look



	Super-K	Hyper-K
water	6 deg	1.4 deg
water+Gd	3 deg	0.6 deg

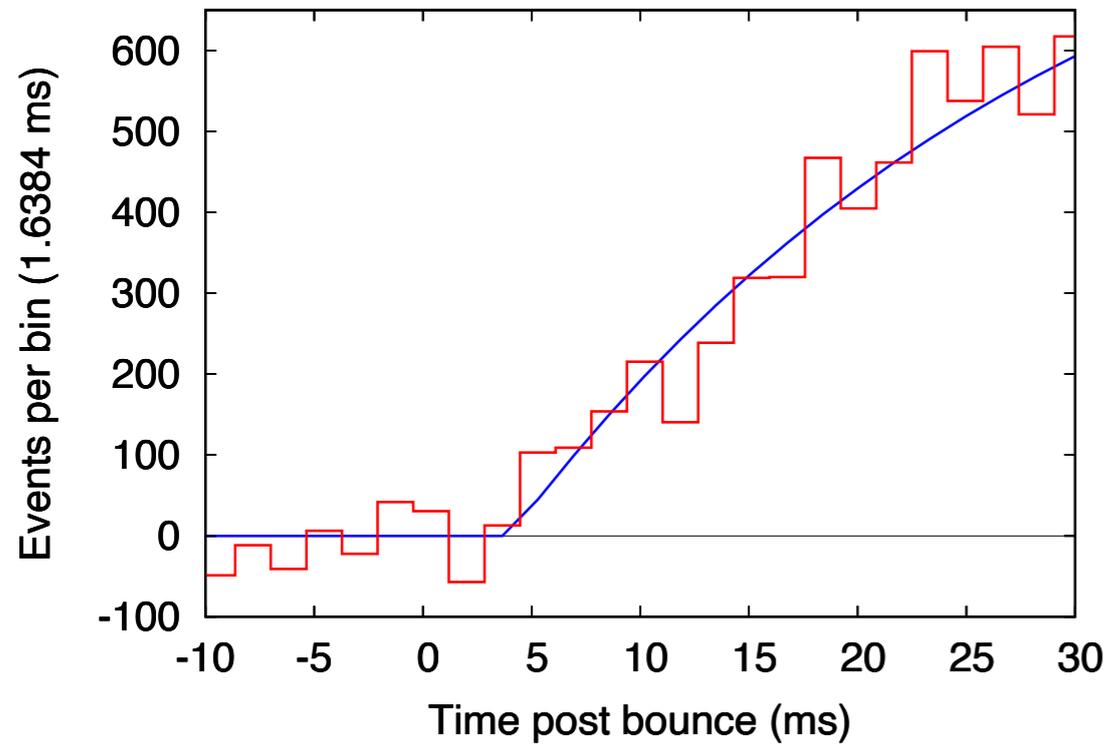
- SN location with neutrinos crucial for vanishing or weak SNe.
- Fundamental for multi-messenger searches.
- Angular uncertainty comparable to e.g., ZTF, LSST potential.

# Triangulation with Neutrinos

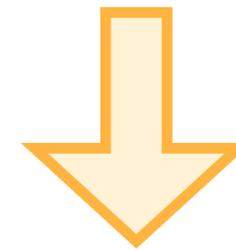


Triangulation reaches precision of few degrees for CC-SN and sub-degree for failed SN.

# Neutrino Timing for Gravitational Waves

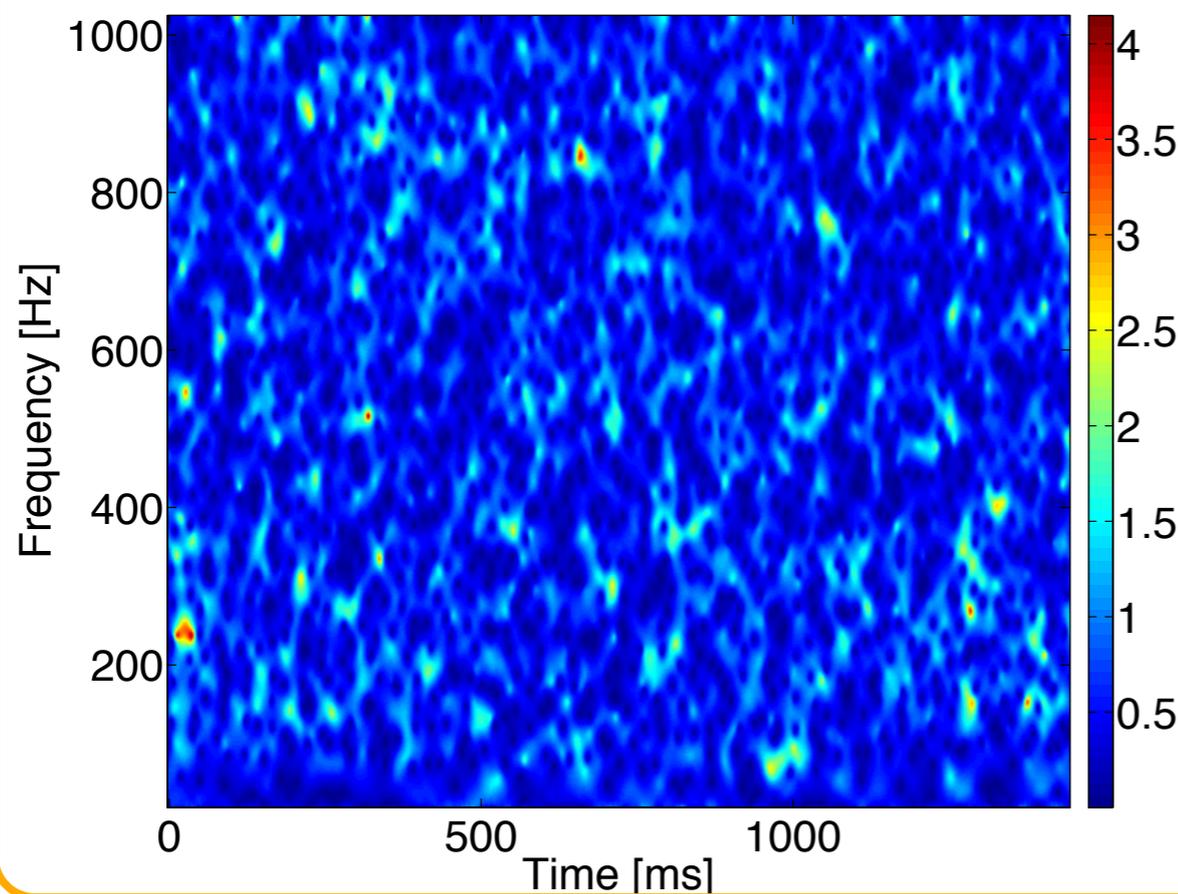


Probe core bounce time with neutrinos.

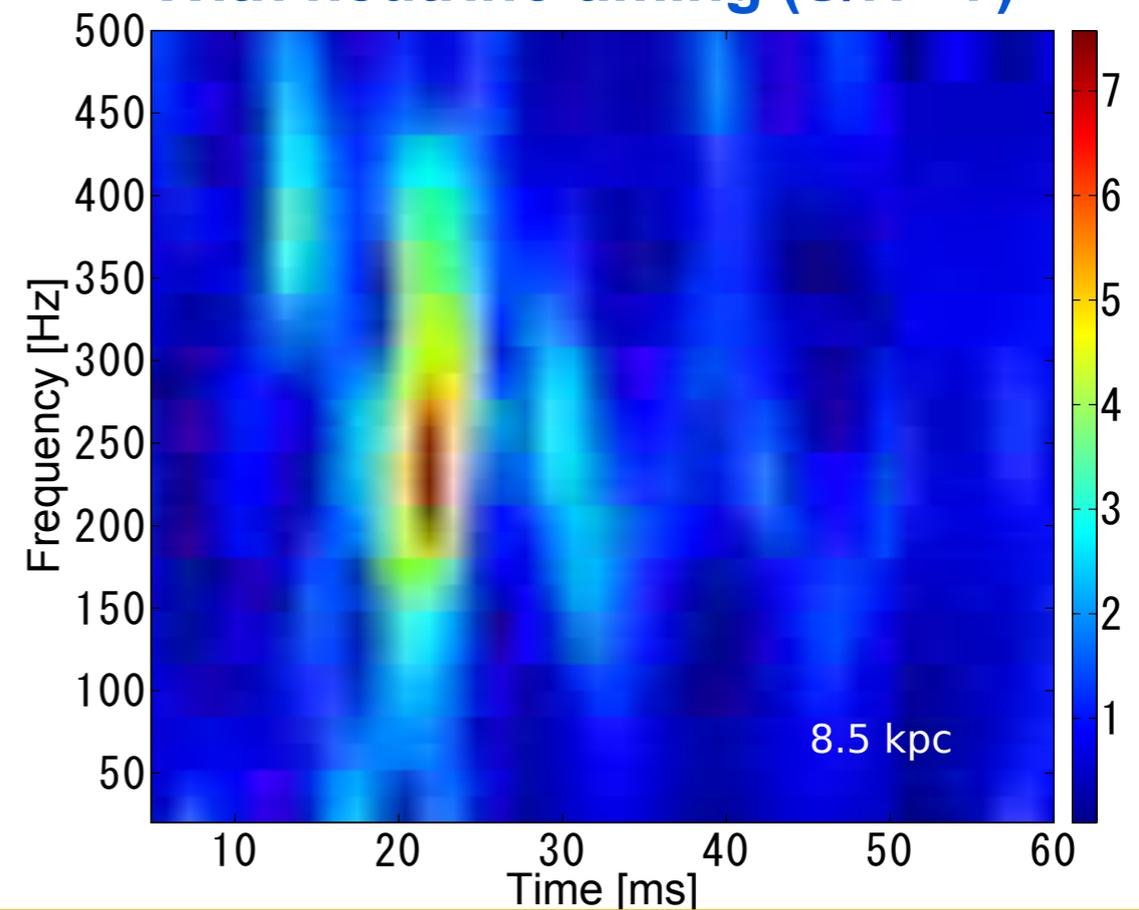


Help timing for gravitational wave detection.

**Without neutrino timing (S/N~3.5)**



**With neutrino timing (S/N ~7)**



# Supernova Explosion Mechanism

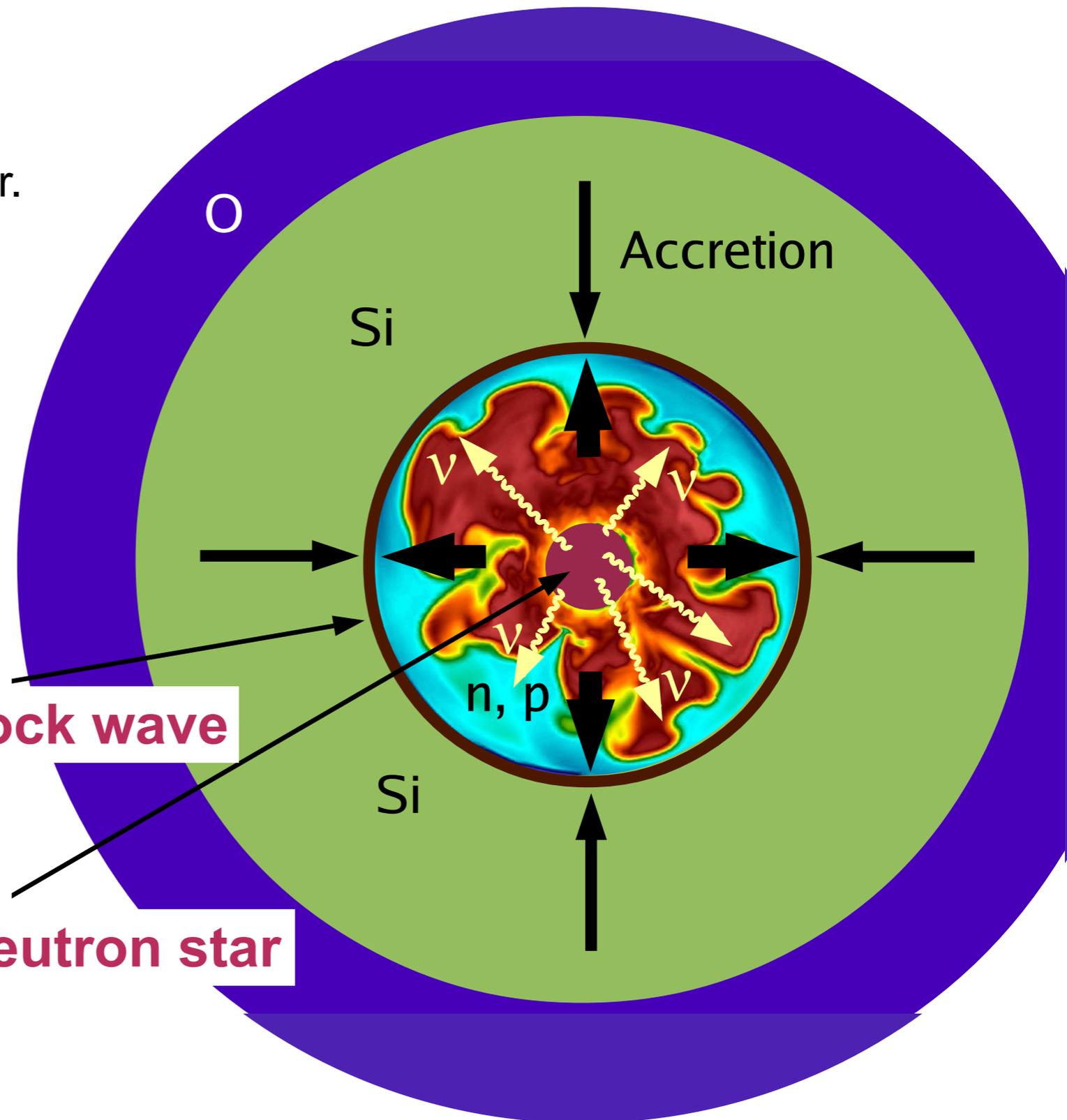
★ Shock wave forms within the iron core. It dissipates energy dissociating iron layer.

★ **Neutrinos** provide energy to stalled shock wave to start re-expansion. **(Delayed Neutrino-Driven Explosion)**

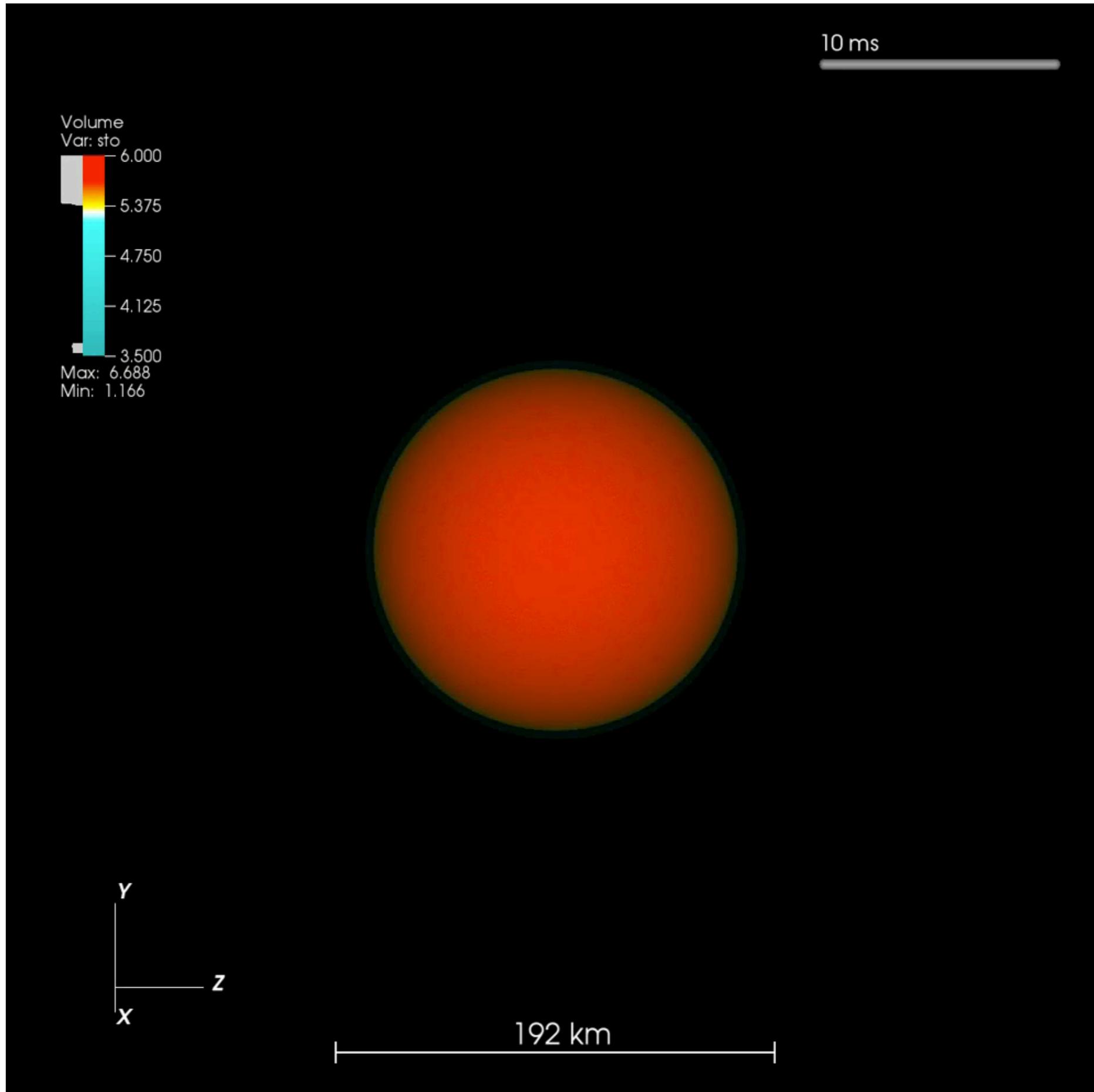
★ **Convection and shock oscillations** (standing accretion shock instability, **SASI**) enhance efficiency of neutrino heating and revive the shock.

Shock wave

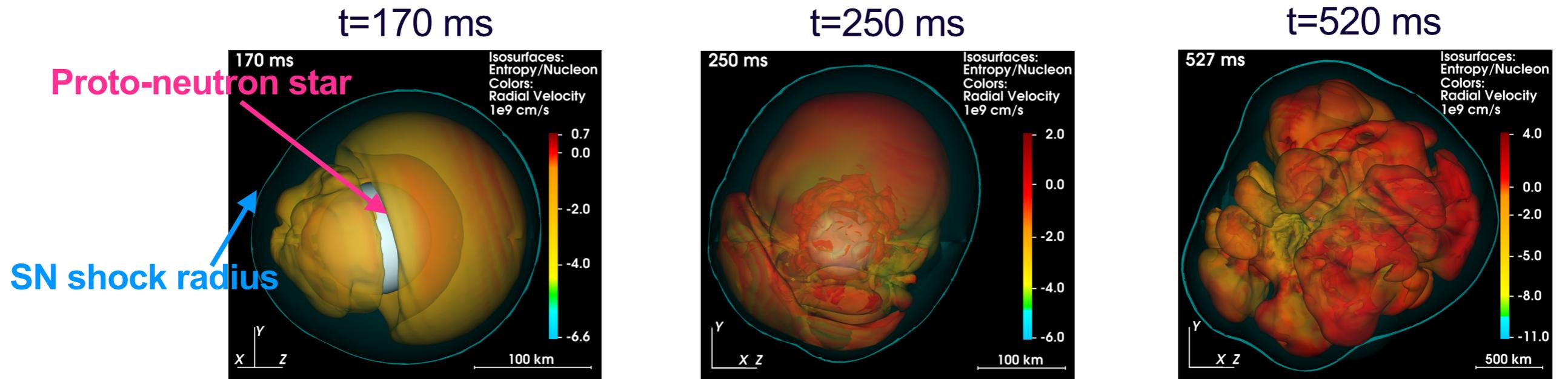
Neutron star



# 20 $M_{\text{sun}}$ Supernova Simulation

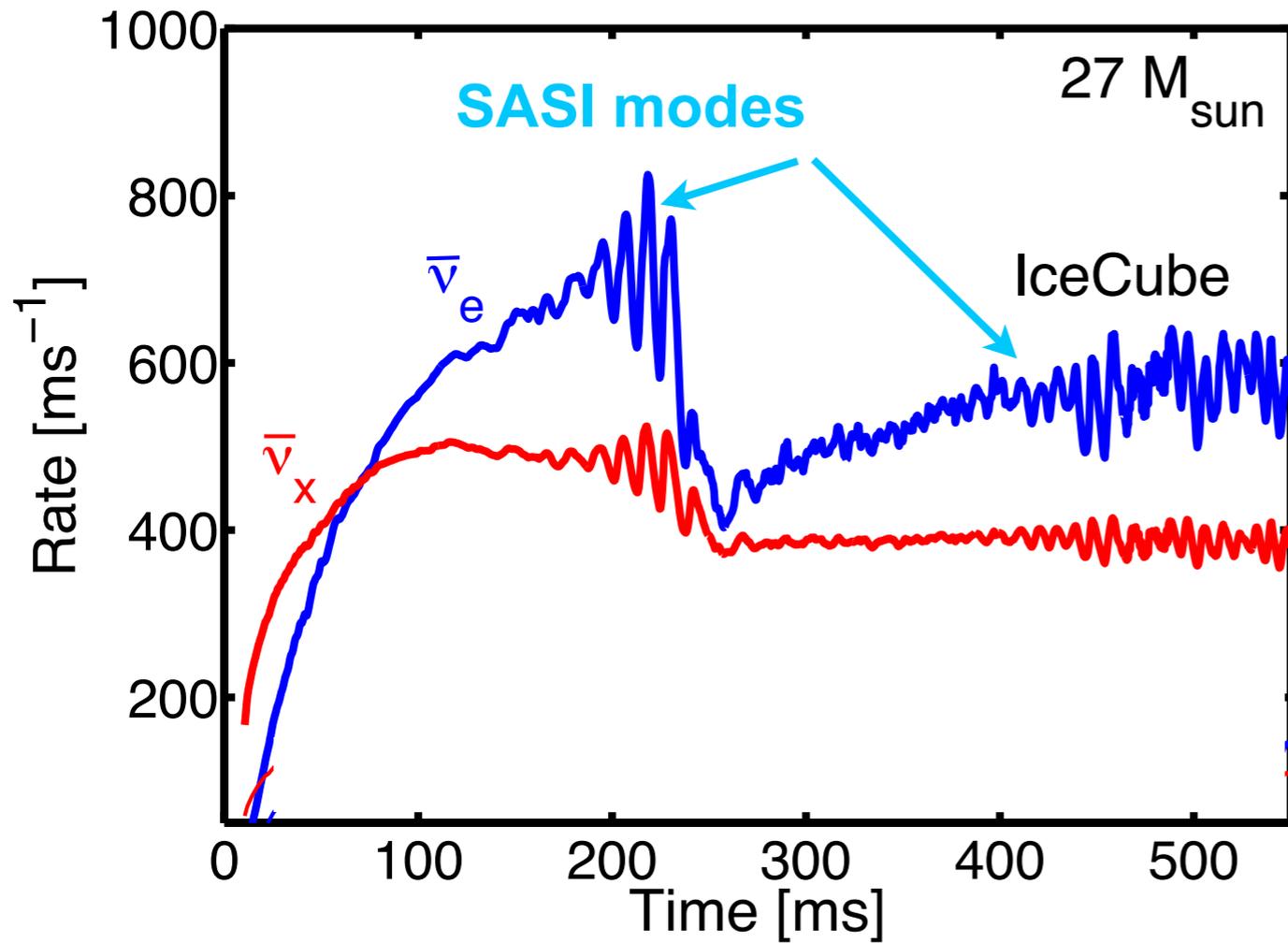


# Supernova Simulations

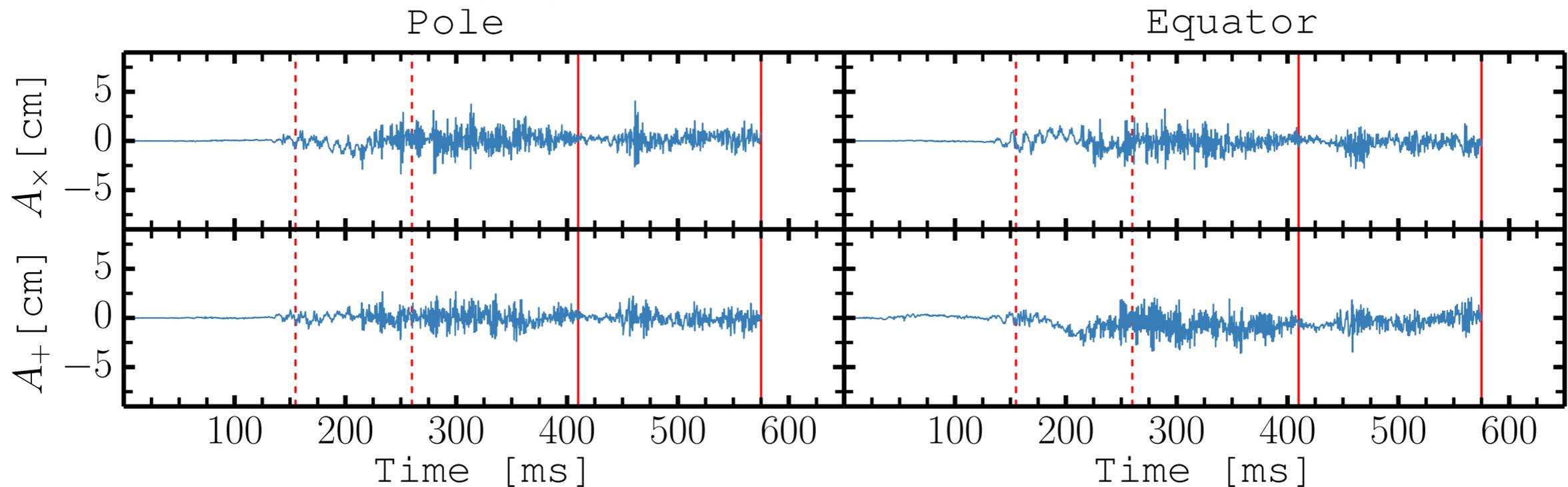


- SN simulations: Benchmark models to test neutrino-driven mechanism.
- Long-term 3D SN simulations not yet available. 3D modeling yet to be refined.

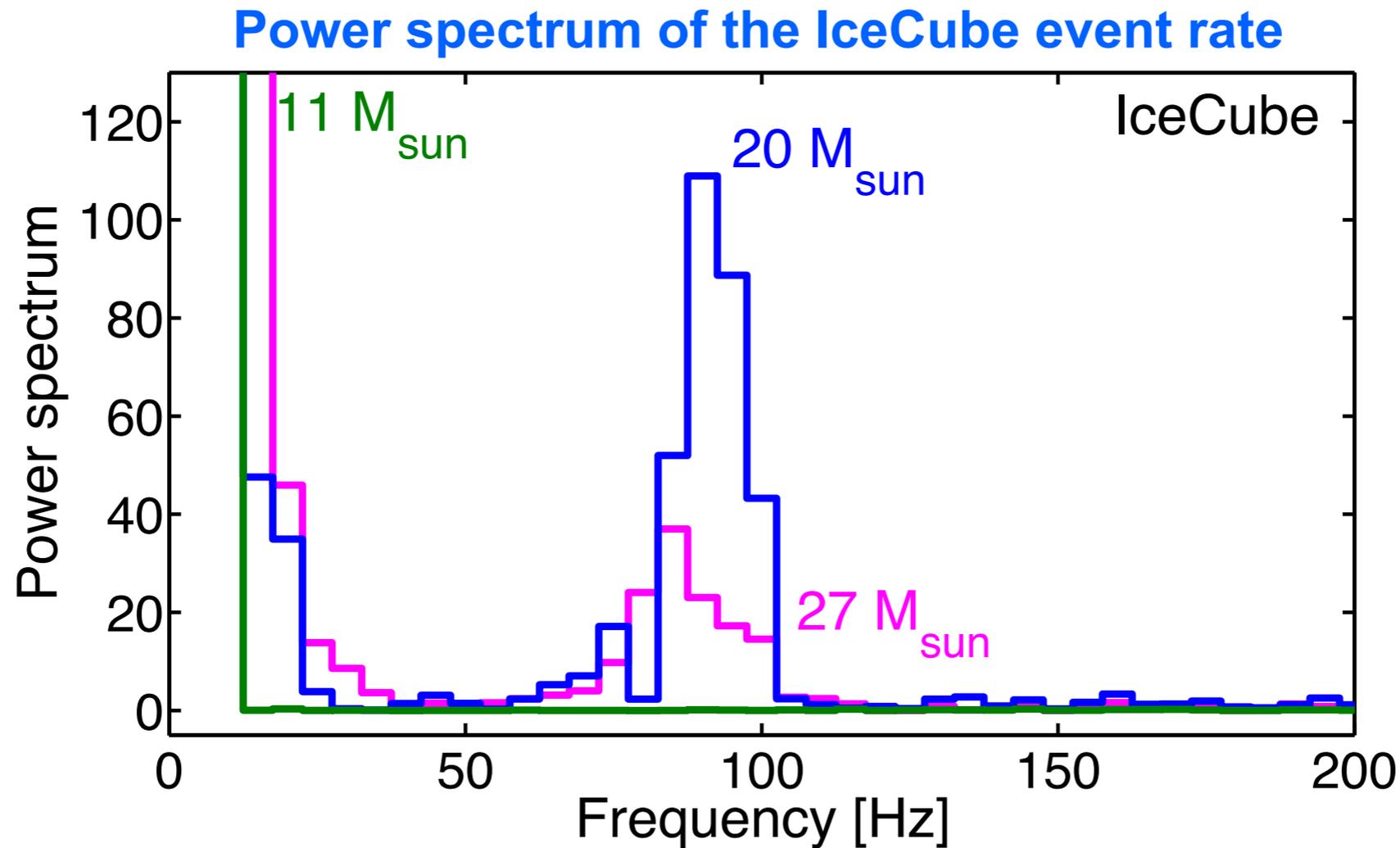
# Standing Accretion Shock Instability



SASI imprints visible in neutrinos and gravitational waves.



# Standing Accretion Shock Instability

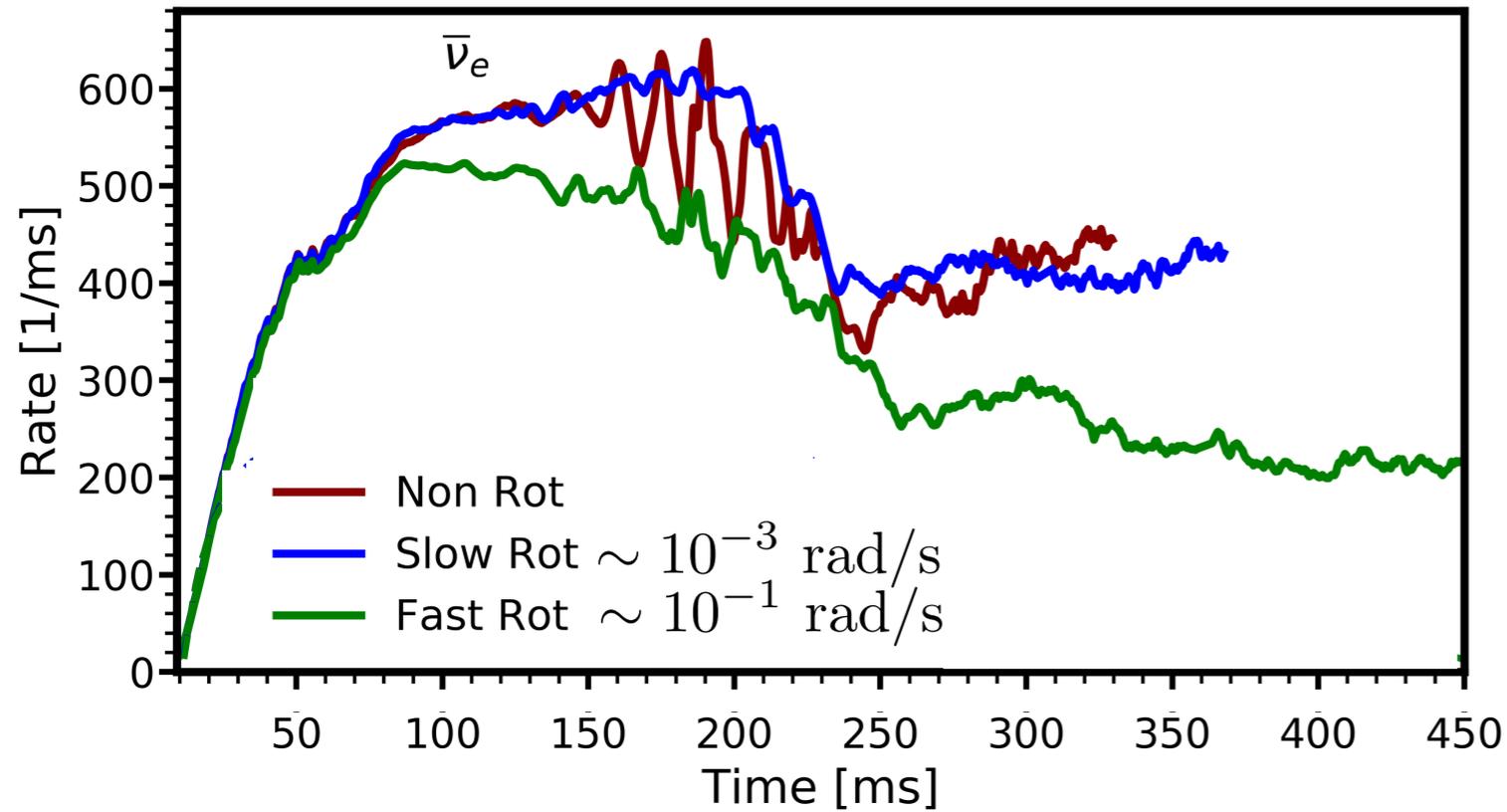


A peak appears in the power spectrum at the SASI frequency.

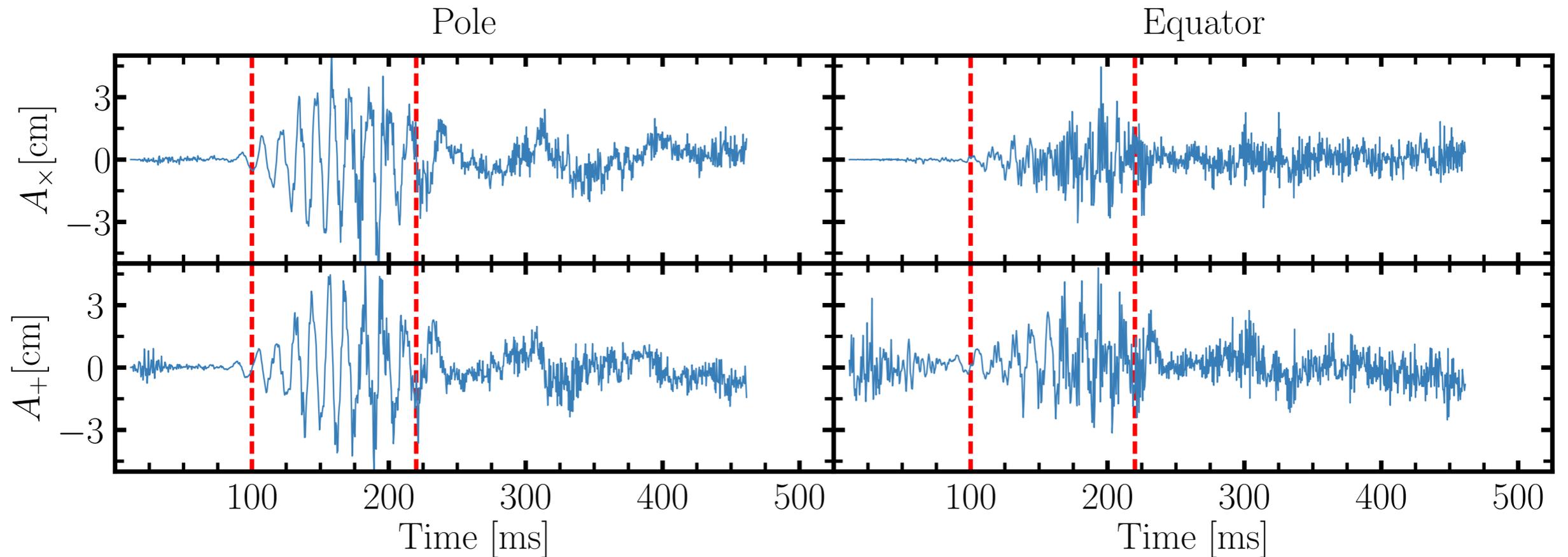
$$T_{\text{SASI}} = 19 \text{ ms} \left( \frac{r_{\text{sh}}}{100 \text{ km}} \right)^{3/2} \ln \left( \frac{r_{\text{sh}}}{r_{\text{PNS}}} \right).$$

# Supernova Rotation

IceCube Event Rate ( $15 M_{\odot}$ )

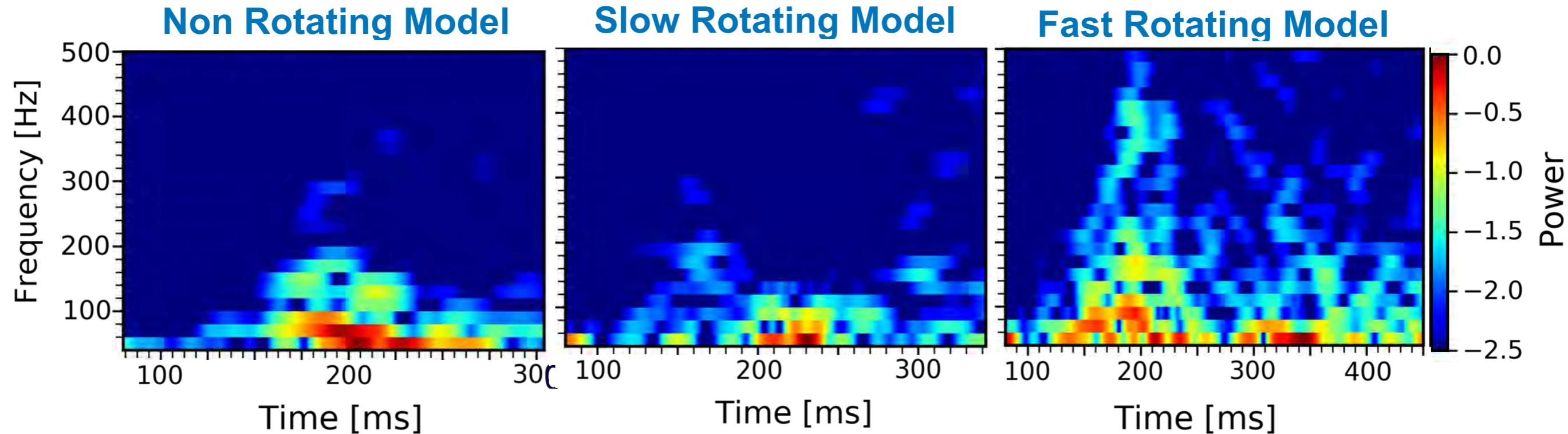


Rotation smears SASI modulations  
in neutrino signal.



# Supernova Rotation

## Spectrogram of the IceCube event rate



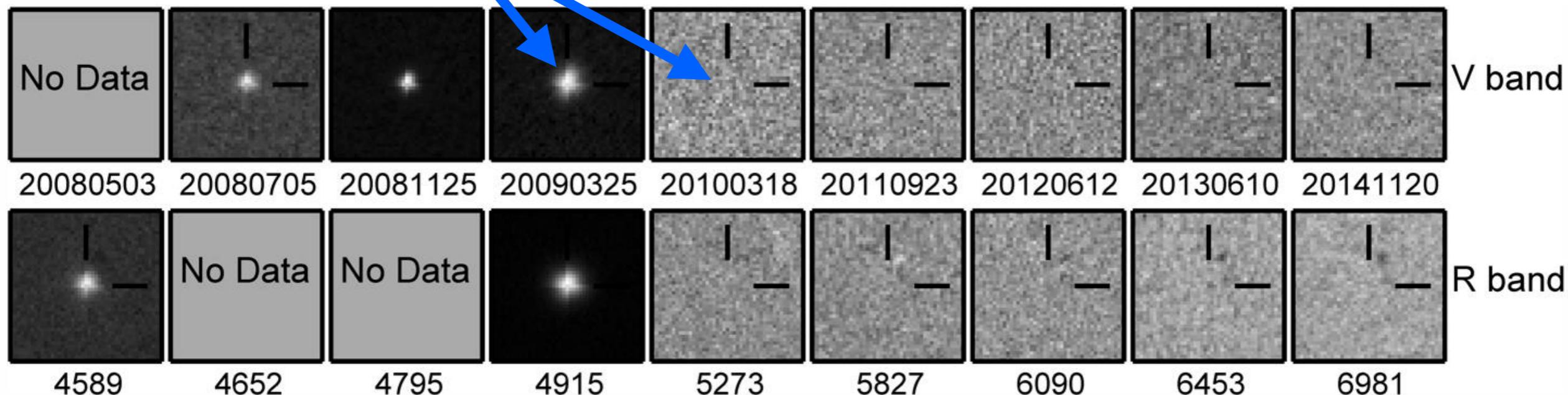
High frequency modulations appear as the rotational speed increases.

# A Survey About Nothing

- Search for disappearance of red supergiants (27 galaxies within 10 Mpc with Large Binocular Telescope).
- First 7 years of survey:  
6 successful core-collapse, 1 **candidate failed supernova**.



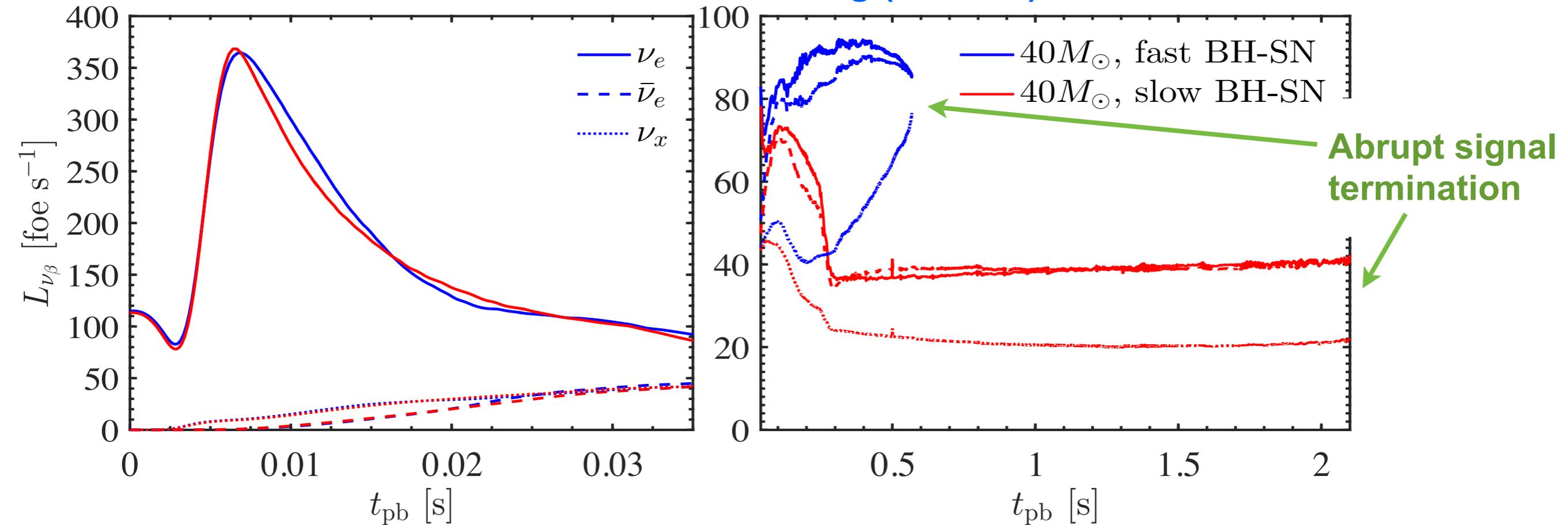
Candidate failed SN



**Failed core-collapse fraction: 4-43% (90% CL)**

# Black Hole Formation

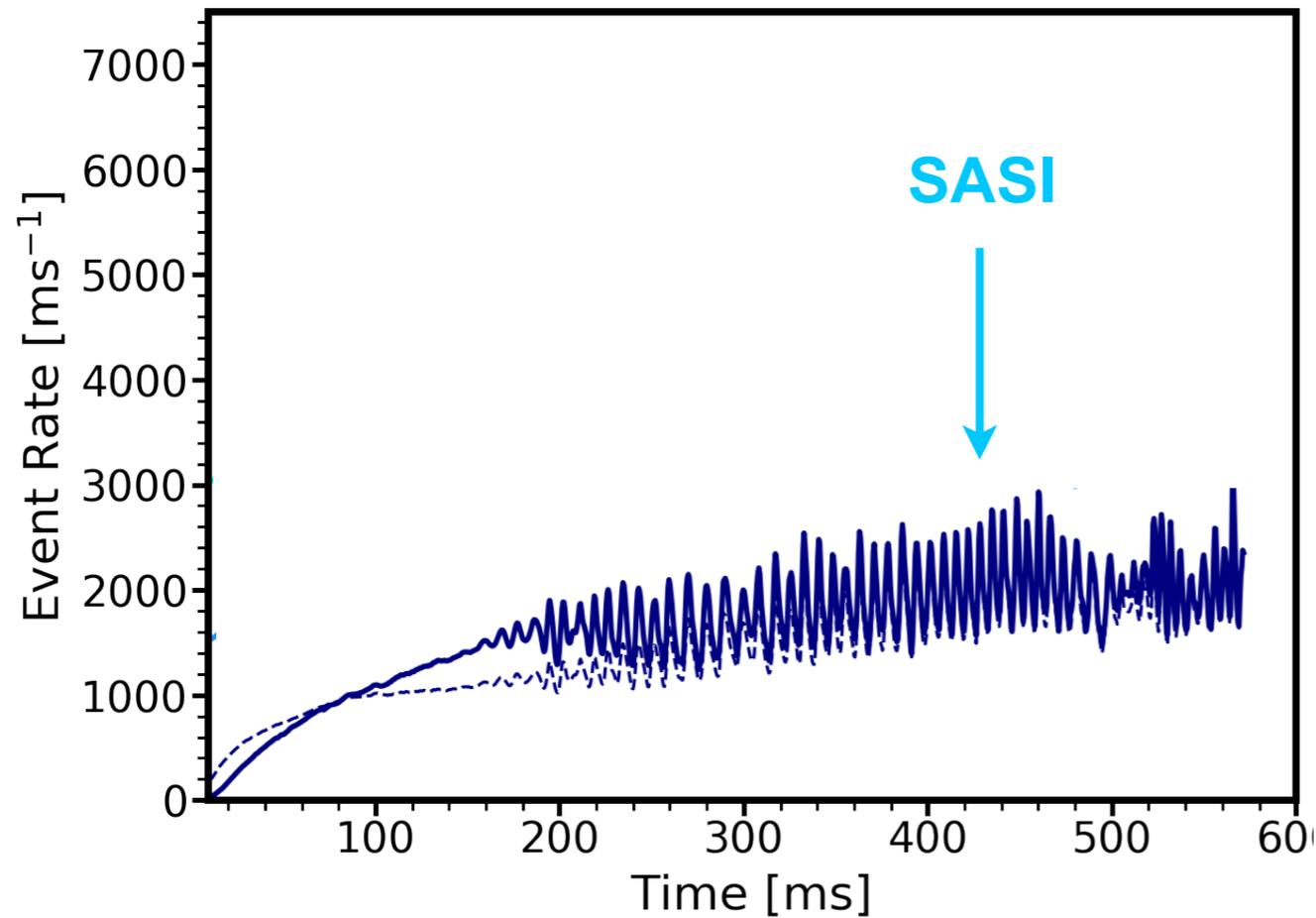
Black hole forming (40  $M_{\text{sun}}$ )



- Black hole forming collapses up to 20-40% of total.
- Neutrinos may be the only probes revealing the black hole formation.

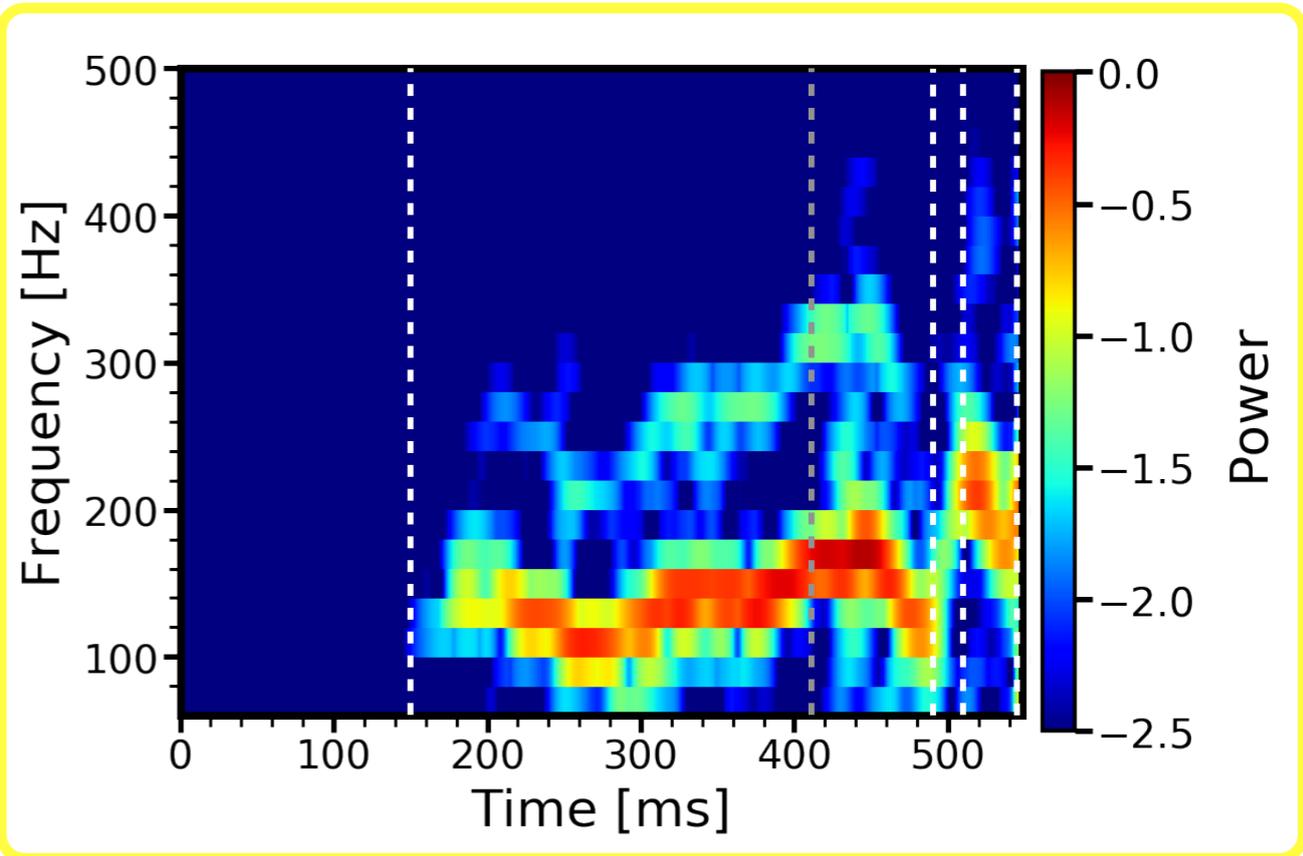
# Black Hole Formation

40  $M_{\odot}$  Model



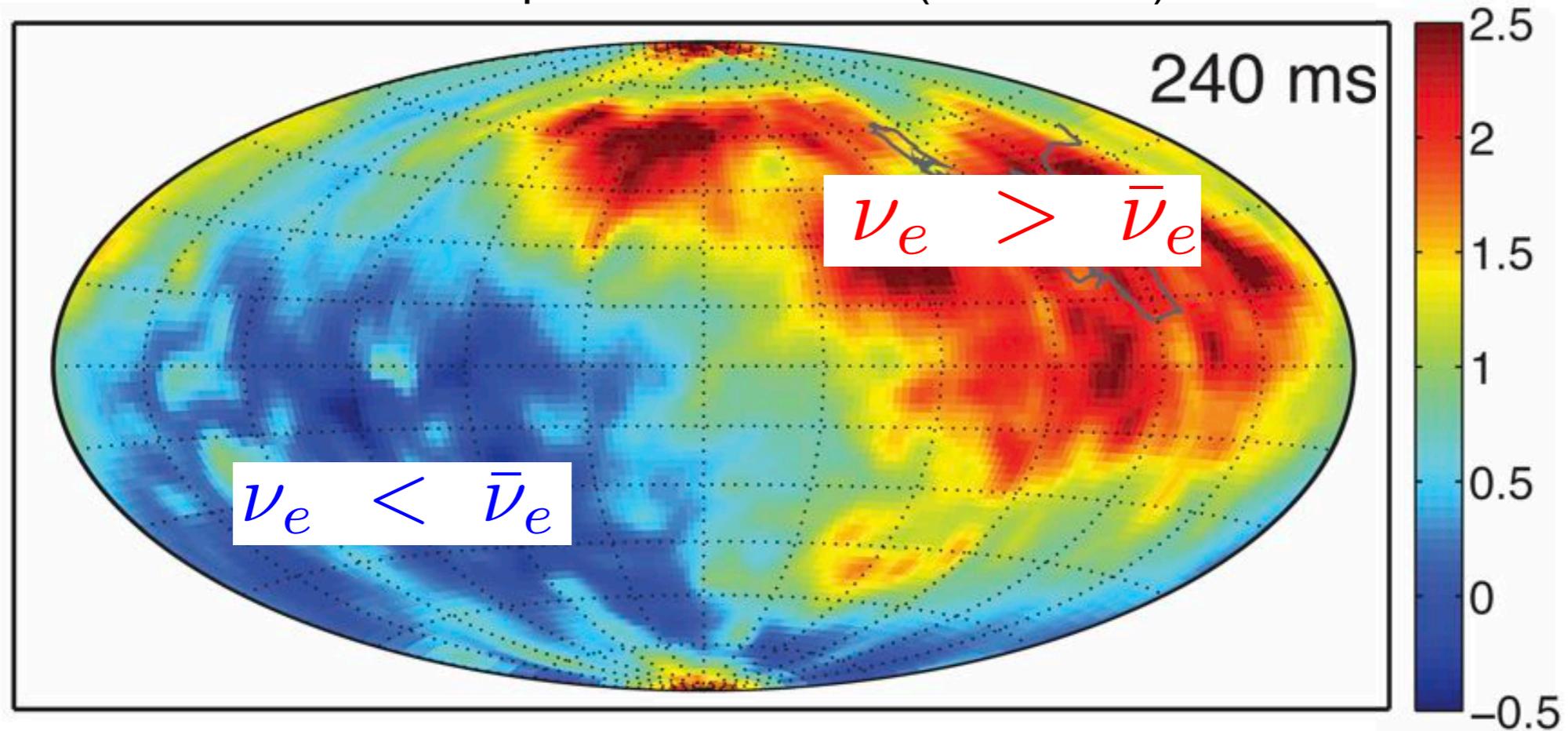
**SASI frequency evolution =  
Shock radius evolution**

Neutrinos (and gravitational waves) probe  
black hole formation.



# LESA: Neutrino-Driven Instability

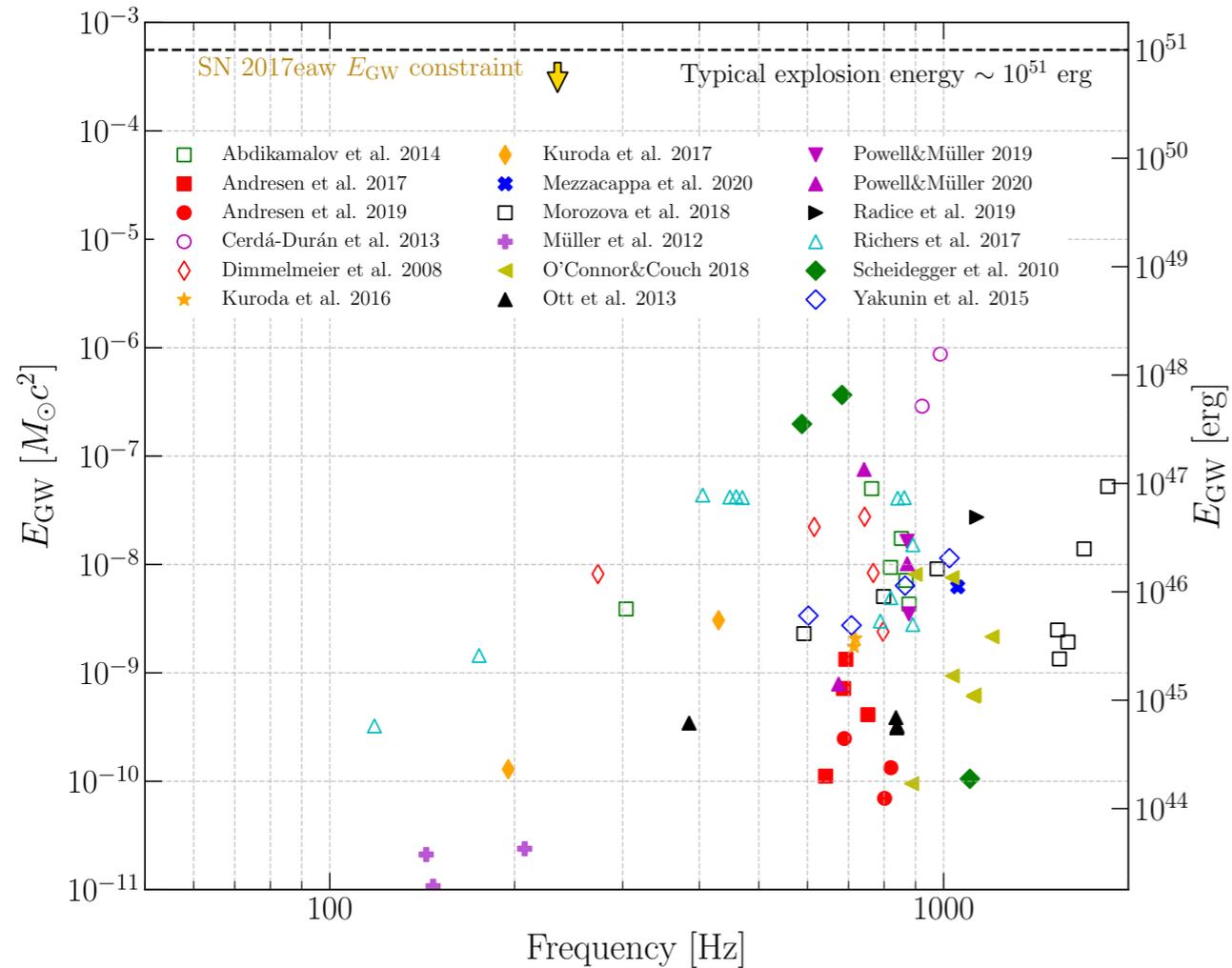
Neutrino lepton-number flux ( $11.2 M_{\text{sun}}$ )



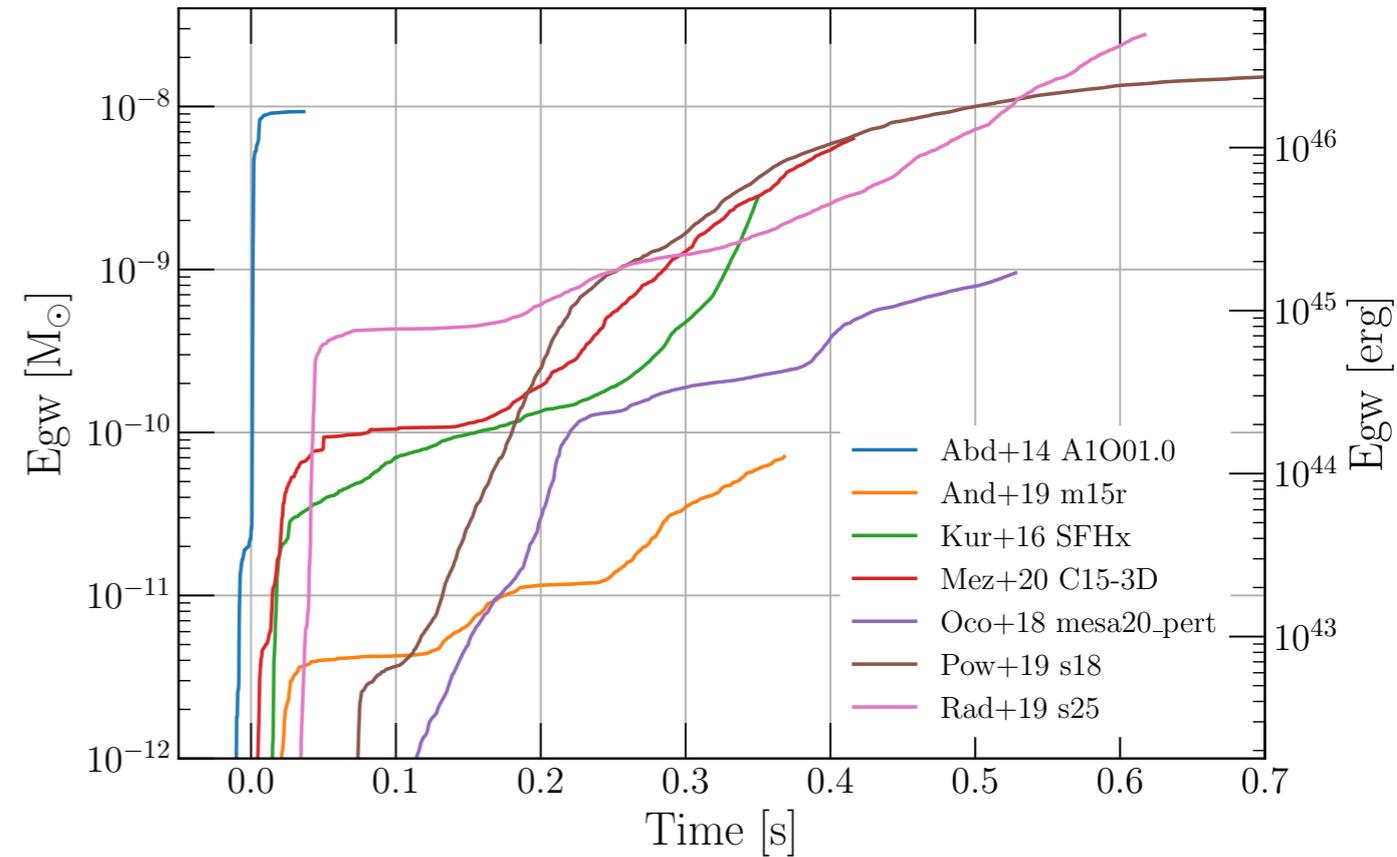
Lepton-number emission asymmetry (**LESA**). Possible major implications for

- Neutron star kicks.
- Direction dependent supernova nucleosynthesis.
- Viewing angle dependent neutrino energy distributions.
- Direction dependent neutrino flavor conversion physics.

# Gravitational Waves

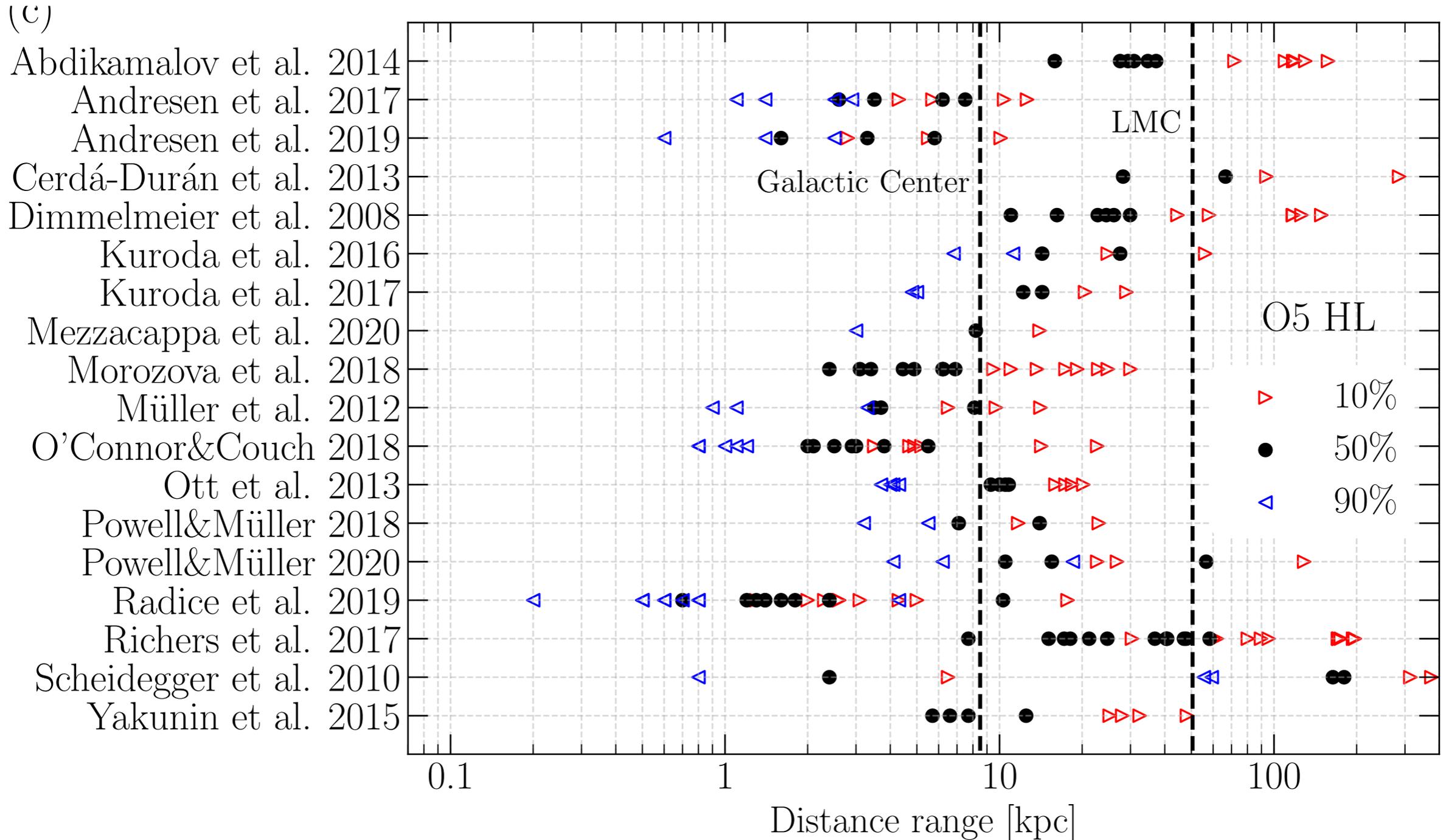


The peak frequencies lay between 300 Hz and 1000 Hz, corresponding to the proto-neutron star oscillations. The typical energy is smaller than 0.01% of a typical SN explosion energy.



For neutrino-driven explosions, most of the energy is emitted after around 100 ms.

# Gravitational Waves

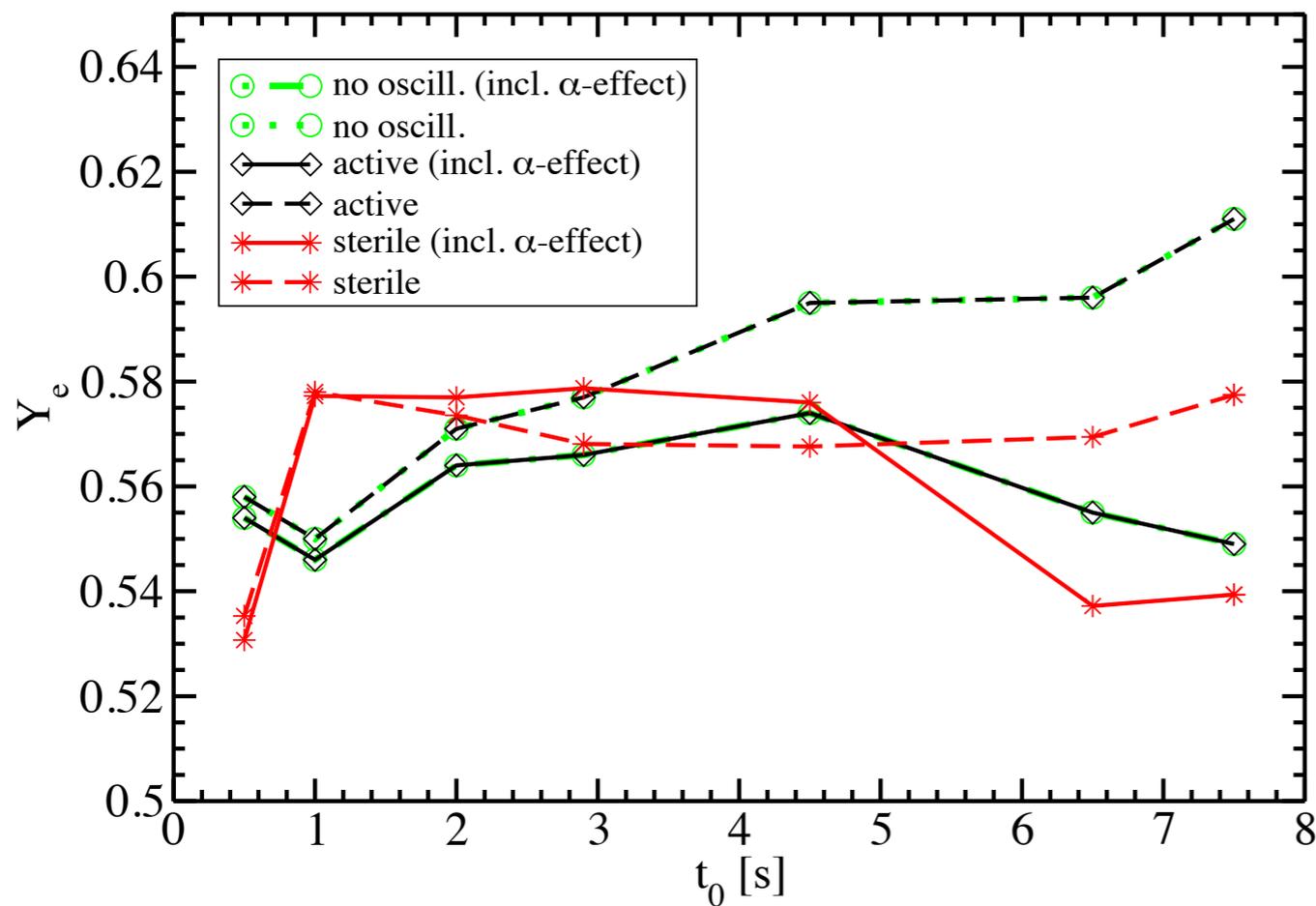
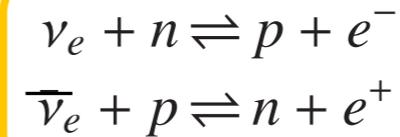


Distances at 10%, 50% and 90% detection efficiencies for 3D supernova models. The predicted detection ranges for O5 are typically between 1 kpc and 100 kpc. This range contains the distances to the Galactic center and the Large Magellanic Cloud (LMC) that hosted SN 1987A.

# Neutrinos Affect Element Production

Location of r-process nucleosynthesis (origin elements with  $A > 100$ ) unknown.

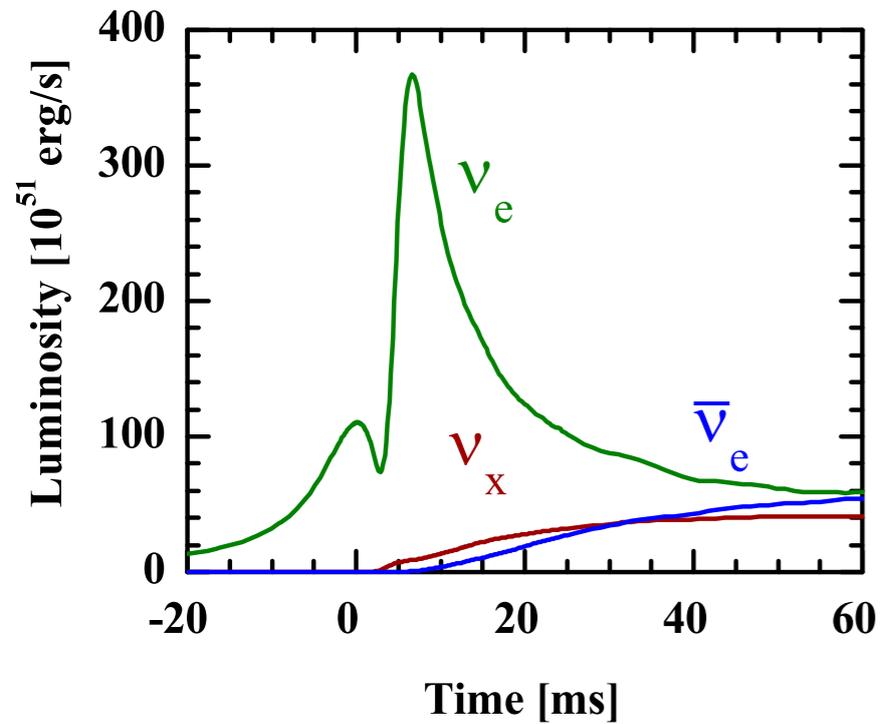
Flavor oscillations affect element production mainly via



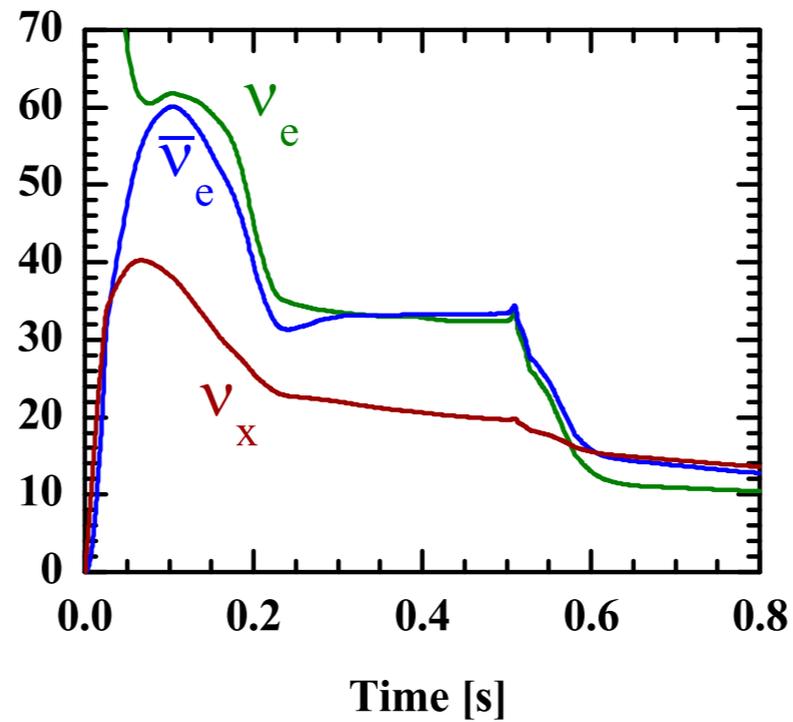
Recent work suggests unlikely r-process conditions in SNe, but further work needed.

# Synopsis

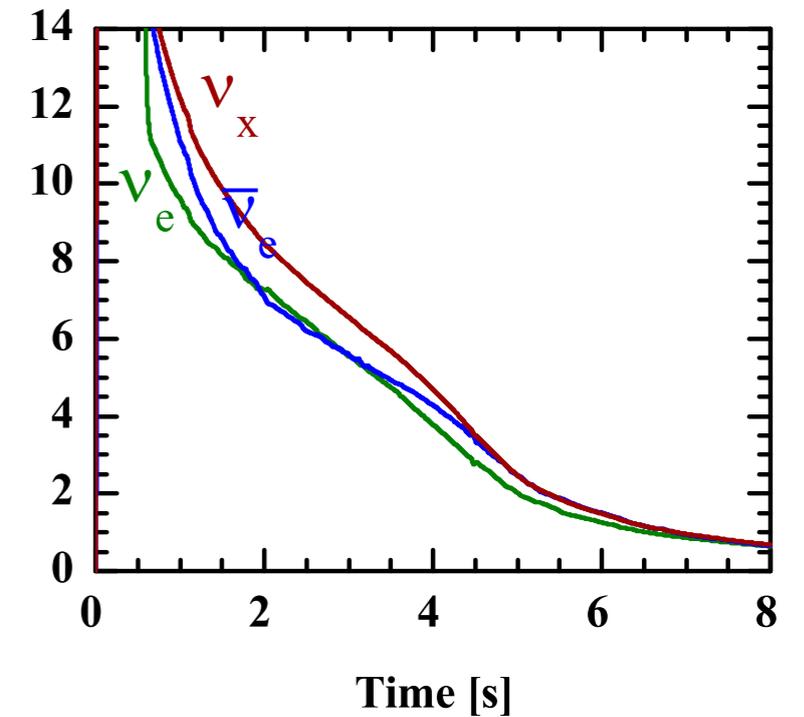
## $\nu_e$ Burst



## Accretion



## Cooling



Signal independent on SN mass and EoS.

- SN distance.
- (Test oscillation physics.)

Signal has strong variations (mass, EoS, 3D effects).

- Core collapse astrophysics.
- (Test oscillation physics.)

EoS and mass dependence.

- Test nuclear physics.
- Nucleosynthesis.

# Summary

- Neutrinos play a fundamental role in the supernova explosion mechanism.
- Neutrinos are important to test the explosion mechanism.
- Neutrinos can potentially provide information on the supernova properties and trigger multi-messenger detection.

Recent review papers:

- ➔ A. Mirizzi et al., <https://arxiv.org/abs/1508.00785>
- ➔ Vitagliano, Tamborra, Raffelt, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1910.11878> (Sections VIII & IX)
- ➔ B. Mueller, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1904.11067>
- ➔ H.-T. Janka, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1702.08825>
- ➔ A. Burrows, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1210.4921>
- ➔ Tamborra & Shalgar, <https://arxiv.org/abs/2011.01948>
- ➔ K. Scholberg, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1707.06384>
- ➔ J. Beacom, <https://arxiv.org/abs/1004.3311>