



The
Godfather

The Gd Father is Reborn, April 24th 2025

Diffuse supernova neutrino background is detectable in SK

Shunsaku Horiuchi
(Science Tokyo, Virginia Tech)

When I started...

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **79**, 083013 (2009)

Diffuse supernova neutrino background is detectable in Super-Kamiokande

Shunsaku Horiuchi,^{1,2,3} John F. Beacom,^{2,3,4} and Eli Dwek⁵

- Graduate student project
- With John Beacom while visiting

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank Shin'ichiro Ando, Maria Terese Botticella, Thomas Dahlen, Andrew Hopkins, Cecilia Lunardini, Katsuhiko Sato, Stephen Smartt, Todd Thompson, Stephen Wilkins, and Mark Vagins for helpful discussions;

Furthermore, detection prospects would be dramatically improved with a gadolinium-enhanced Super-Kamiokande: the backgrounds would be significantly reduced, the fluxes and uncertainties converge at the lower threshold energy, and the predicted event rate is $1.2\text{--}5.6 \text{ events yr}^{-1}$ in the energy range $10\text{--}26 \text{ MeV}$. These results demonstrate the imminent detection of the DSNB by Super-Kamiokande and its exciting prospects for studying stellar and neutrino physics.



When I started...

Diffuse supernova n



Mark Vagins <vagins@hep.ps.uci.edu>

to Shunsaku ▼

Shunsaku

Dear Shunsaku,

Yes, of course I remember you from the November 2008 RESCEU symposium!

Thanks for calling my attention to this important preprint. It is a very nice piece of work, and hopefully will provide even more incentive for the Super-Kamiokande Collaboration to move forward in adding Gd to the detector. Naturally, I'm doing what I can experimentally to convince everyone, but strong theoretical support such as this paper can be quite critical in getting group decisions made in a timely fashion.

Here's hoping the editors and reviewers treat you kindly in this new year!

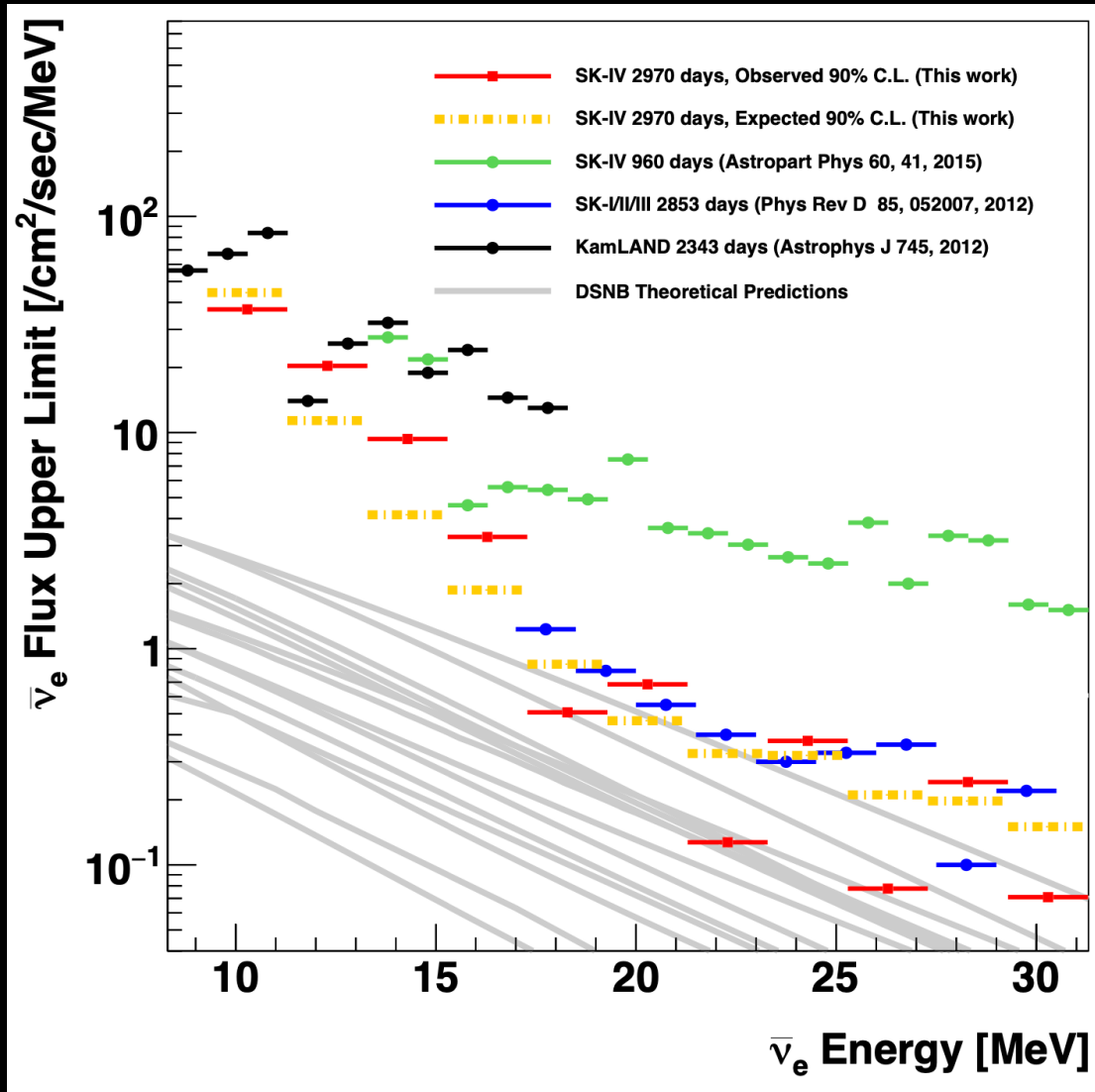
Sincerely,

-Mark

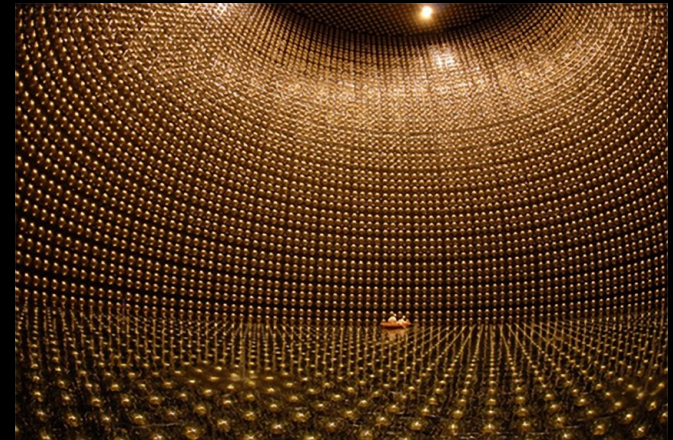
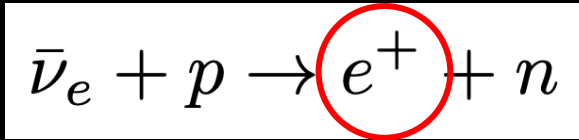
- Graduate student
- With John Beacom
- Mark: gave me moral support

Progress since

Searches reaching into many predictions



Looking for the positron:

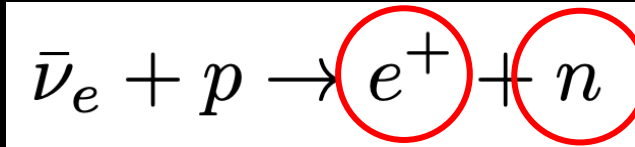


Red: SK-IV 2970 days

SuperK (Abe et al 2021)

Where we're headed

Gd tags the n to reduce e backgrounds
→ DSNB discovery

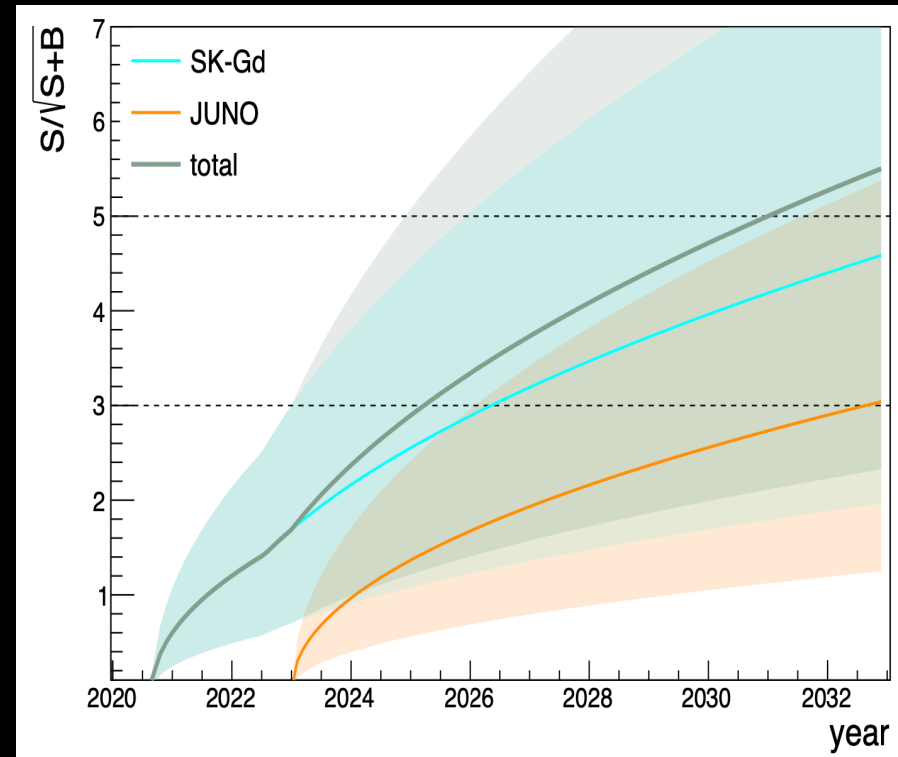


Beacom & Vagins (2004)

Gd in Super-K working superbly

Highlight:

- Sensitivity of SK-Gd ~1000 days exposure is already comparable level it with ~6000 days of pure-water SK
- Best fit of whole SK observation is $1.4^{+0.8}_{-0.6} \text{ cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ for $E_\nu > 17.3 \text{ MeV}$
→ **exhibit $\sim 2.3 \sigma$ excess!!**



**SKGd + JUNO figure of merit
vs year**

Li, Vagins, Wurm (2022)

Core-collapse Supernovae



Typical supernova, $L \sim 10^{35-36}$ watts

Shines for a few months

→ $\sim 10^{50}$ erg total*

(*still only tip of the iceberg)

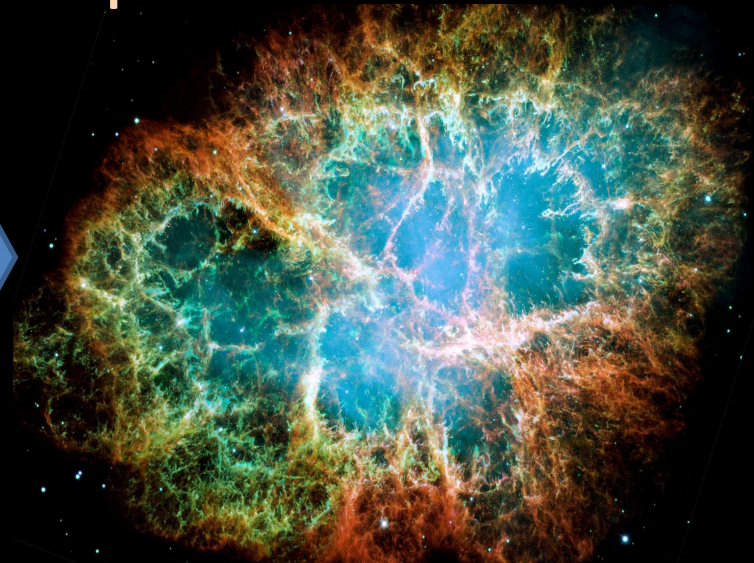
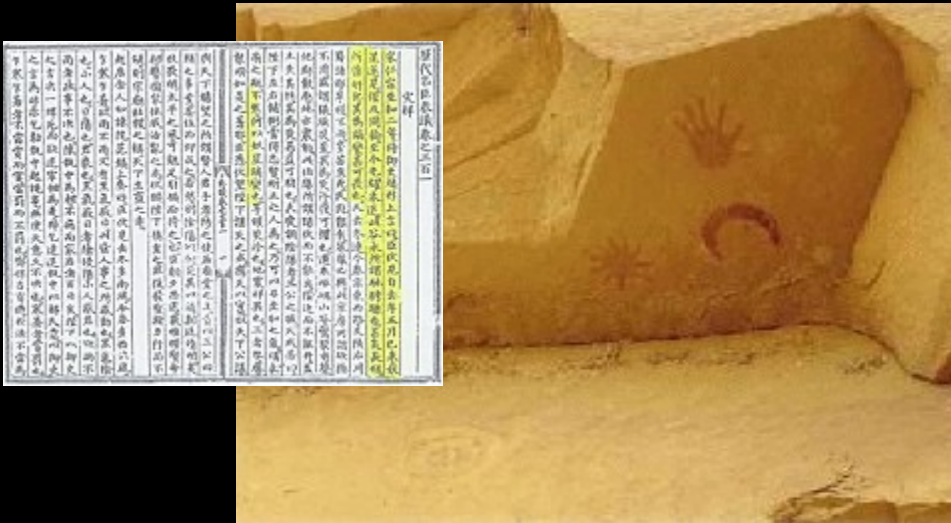
Our sun, $L \sim 10^{26}$ watts

Over 1 billion years old

→ $\sim 10^{50}$ erg total

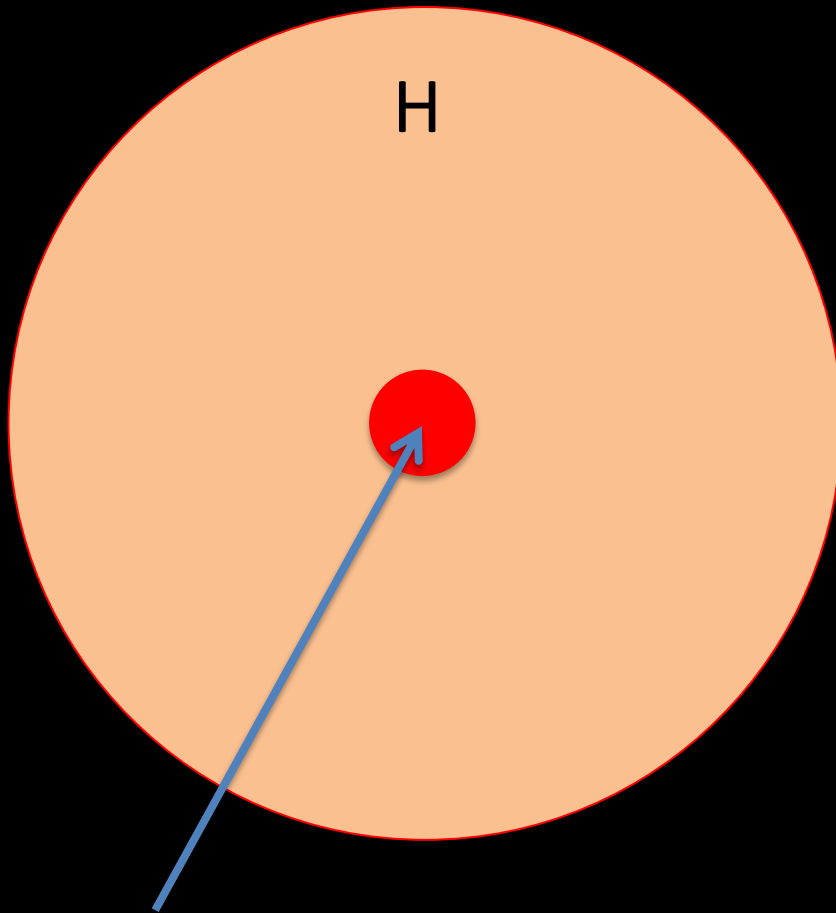
SN1054

Crab pulsar



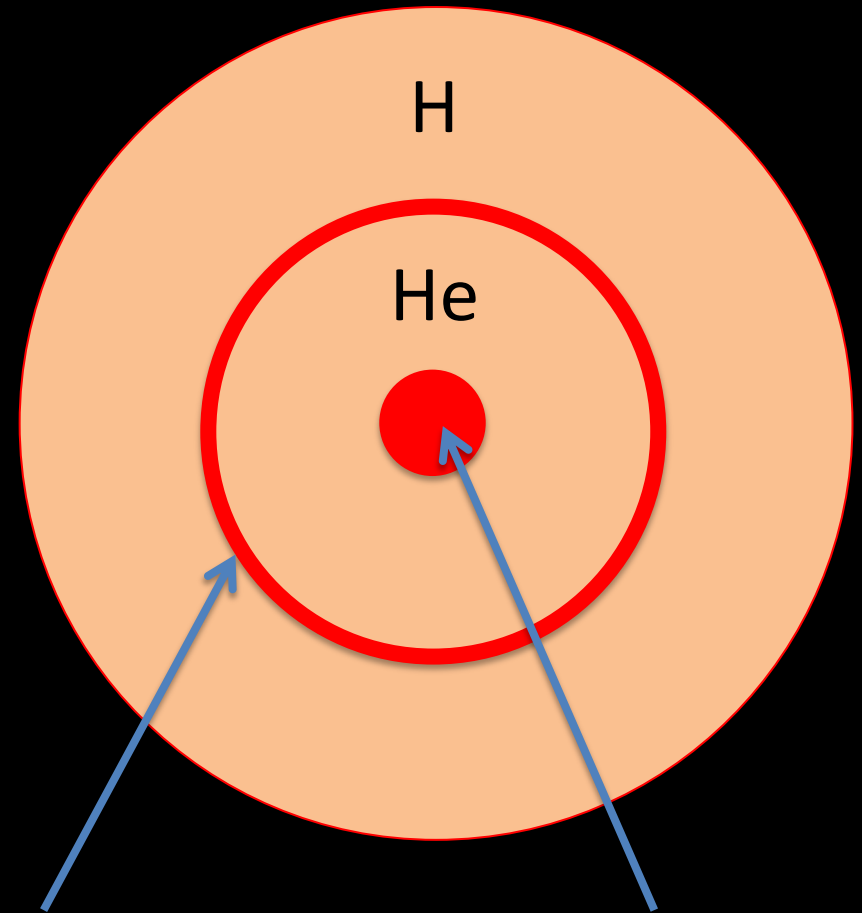
Core collapse = neutrino burst

Main-sequence star



Hydrogen burning

Helium-burning star



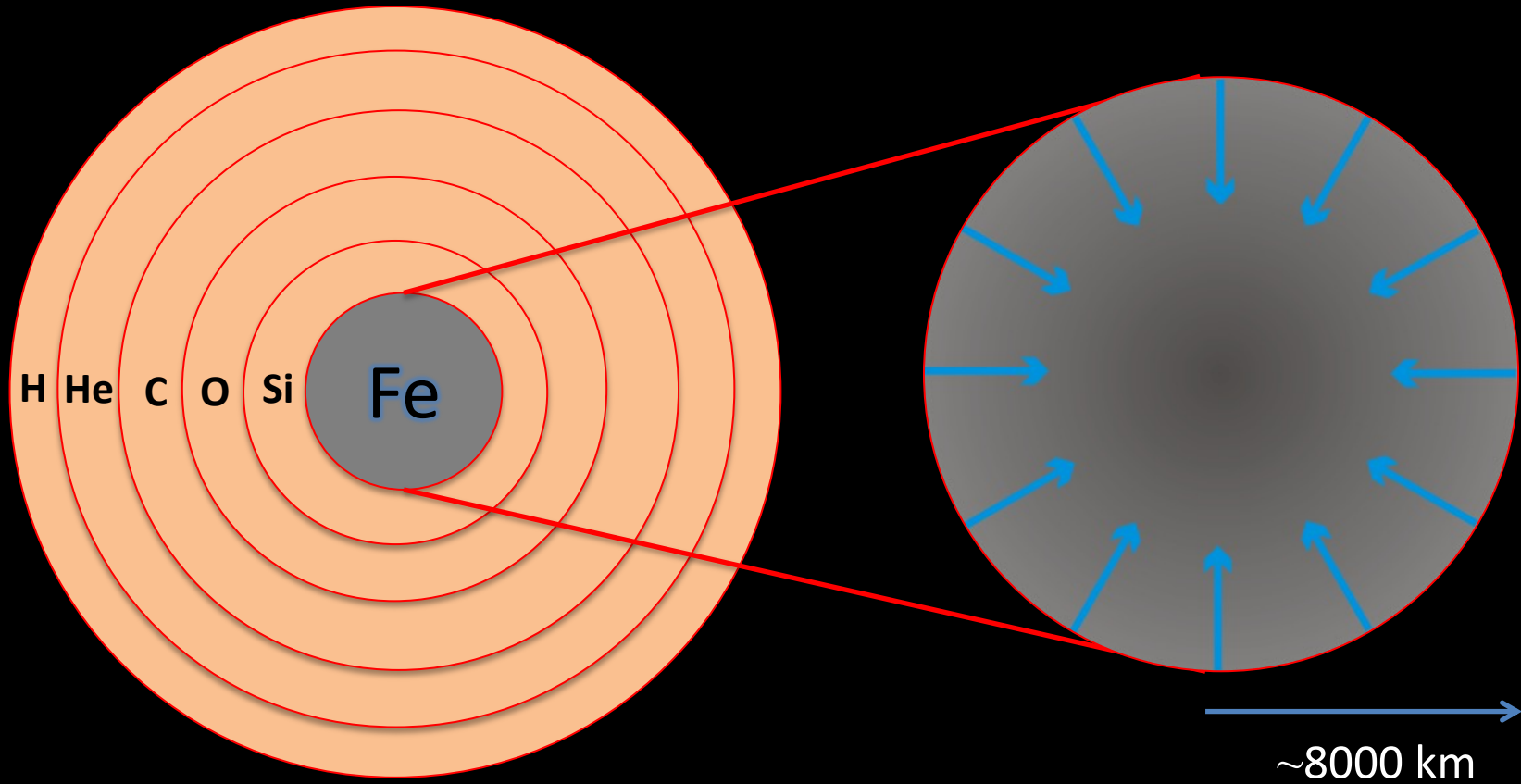
Hydrogen burning

Helium burning

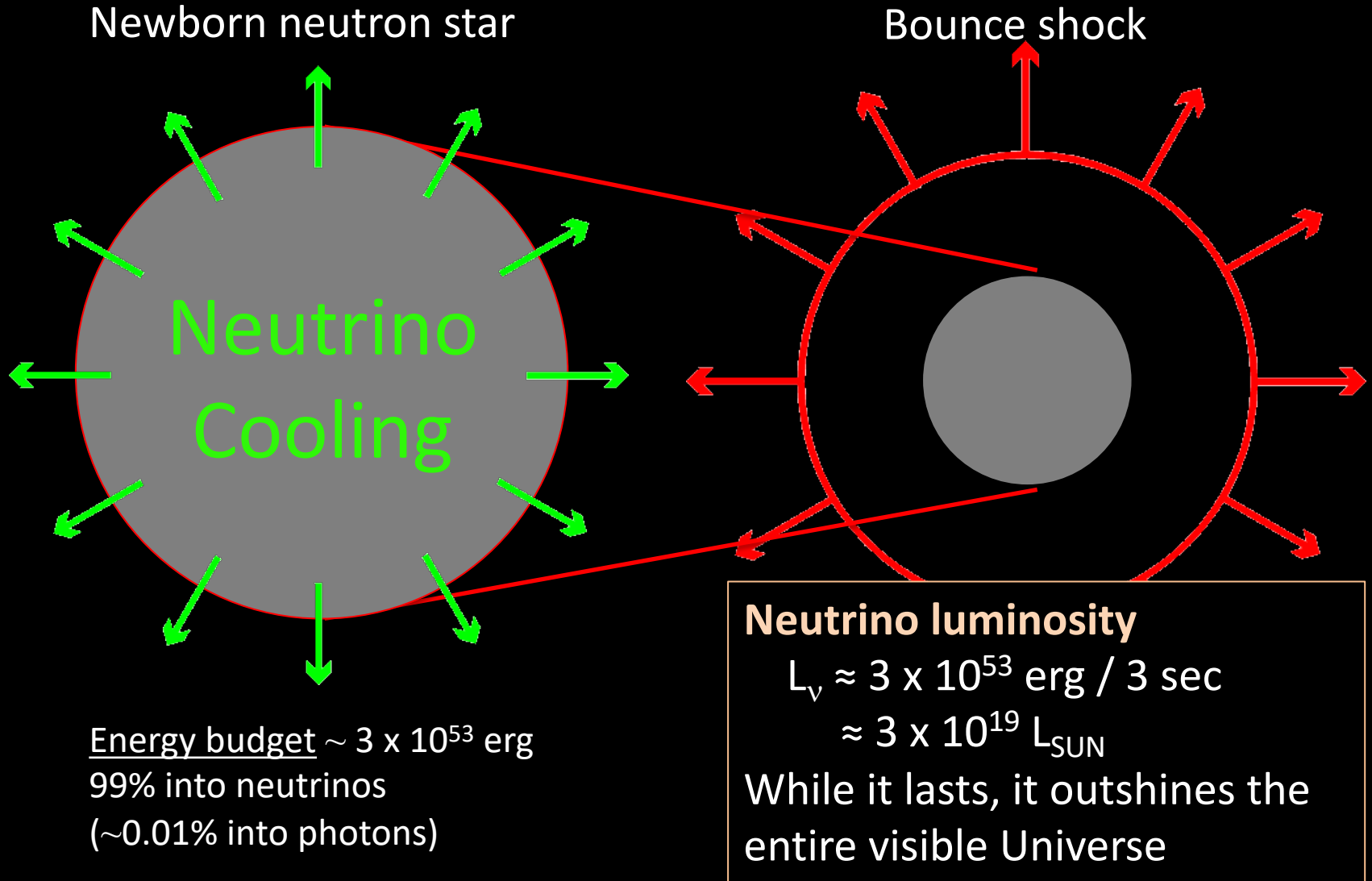
Core collapse = neutrino burst

Massive ($>8M_{\text{sun}}$) star structure

Core collapse (implosion)



Core collapse = neutrino burst



Supernovae occur *EVERYDAY*



SN 1987A

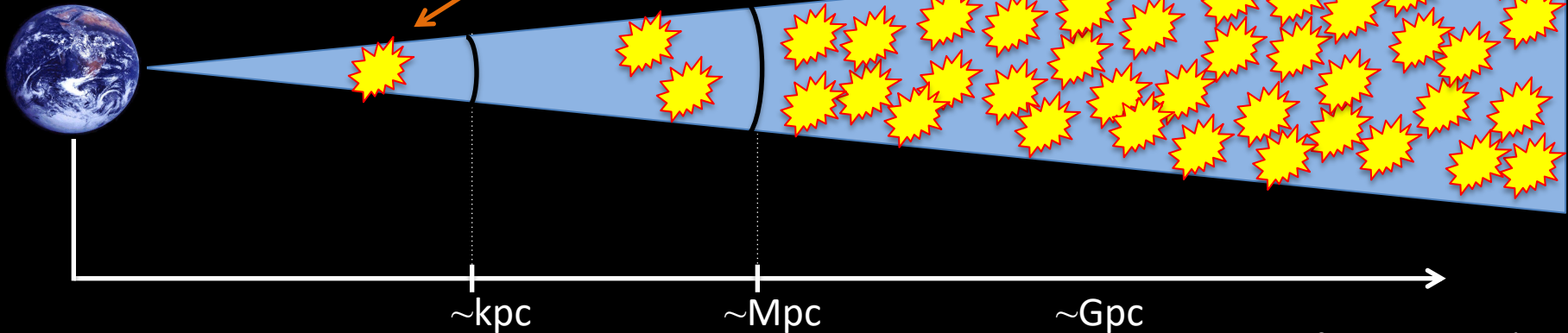
Occurred in the Large
Magellanic Cloud
(LMC), 50 kpc away

$N_v \gg 1$: BURST regime

SN rate ~ 0.01 /yr

$N_v \ll 1$: DIFFUSE regime

SN rate ~ 1 -10 per second



Adapted from Beacom (2012)

DSNB: model prediction

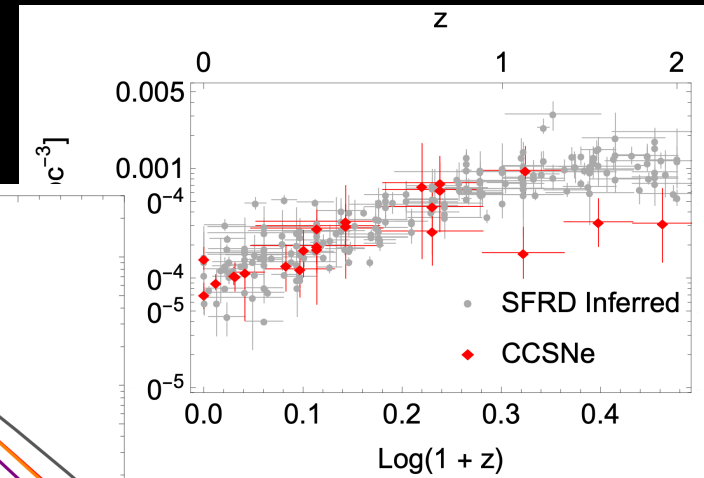
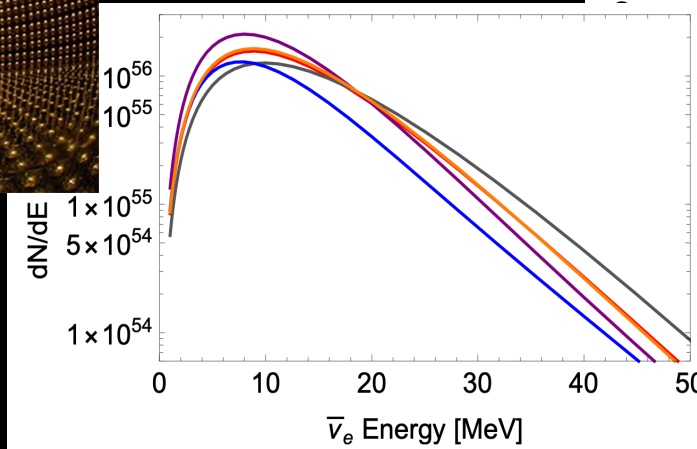
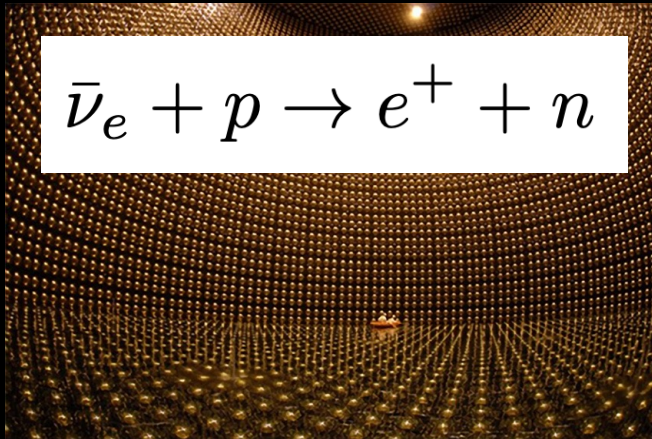
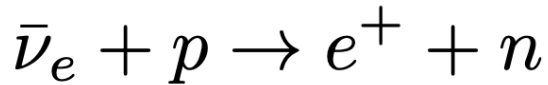
Merging of astronomy, astrophysics, and neutrino experiment

$$R = N_t \int dE \sigma_{\text{IBD}} \int dz c \frac{dN}{dE'} (1+z) R_{\text{CC}}(z) \left| \frac{dt}{dz} \right|$$

Neutrino detector capabilities

Time-integrated
neutrino emission

Rate of massive
star core collapse



Importance of supernova rates

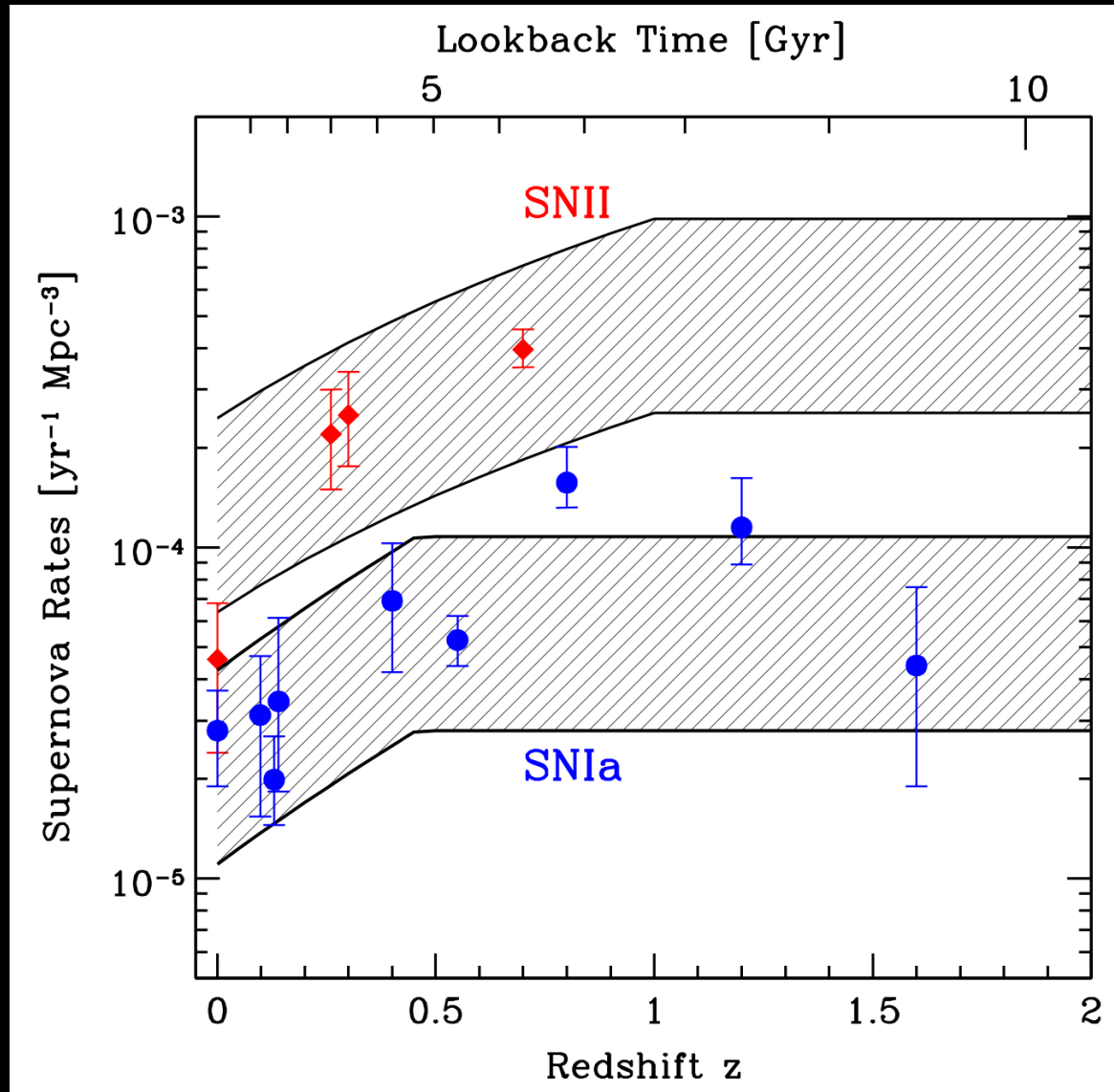
Directly measurements

Measurements of cosmic supernova rate densities were not so great O(20) years ago...



Beacom & Vagins (2004)

They impact DSNB predictions \sim linearly, so these uncertainties better go down.



Cosmic supernova rates

Direct measurements

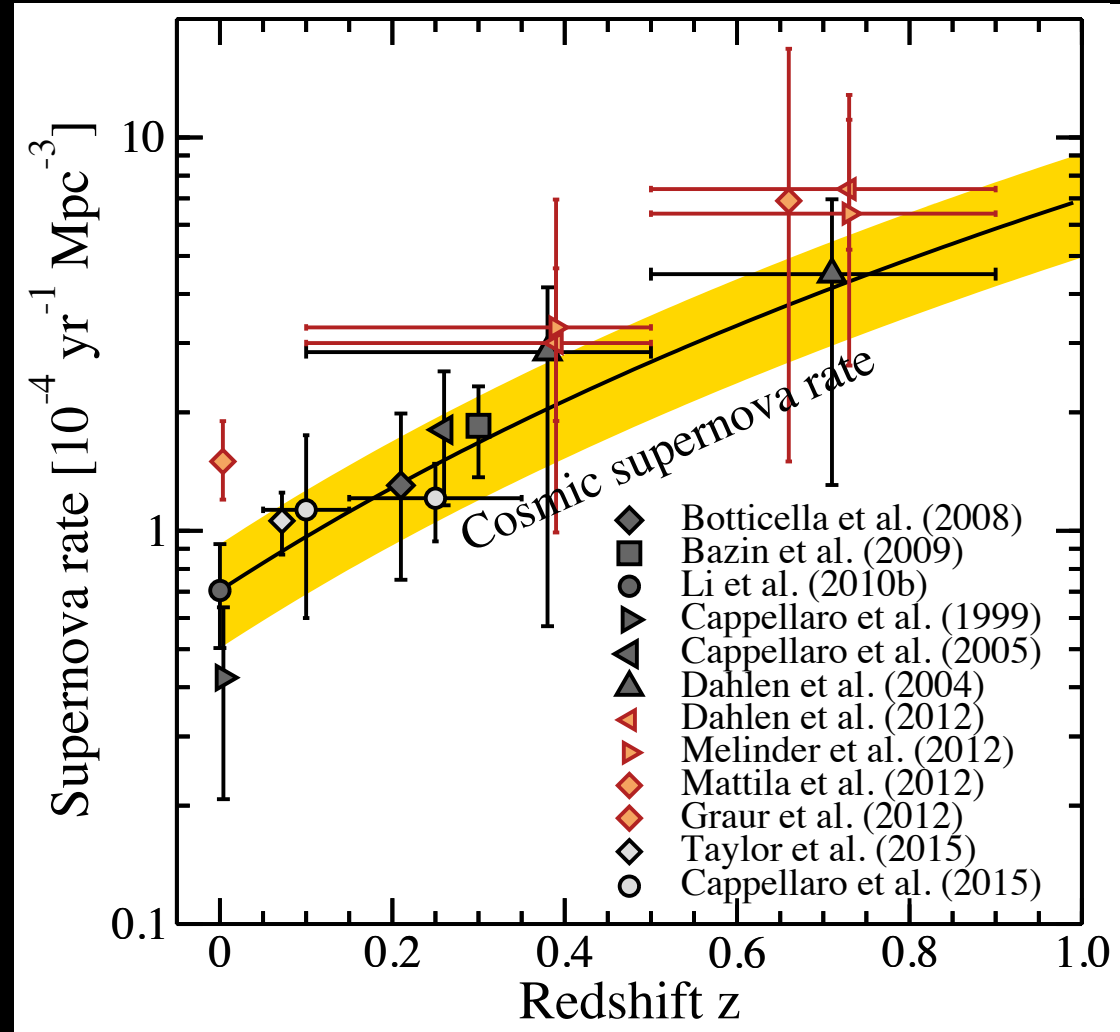
Improved dramatically

Broadly 2 strategies:

1. Efficient but Biased: target pre-selected galaxies, e.g., LOSS, STRESS
2. Unbiased but harder: target pre-selected fields, e.g., SNLS, HST-ACS, DES, ...

Future measurements coming up (ASAS-SN, DES, LSST)

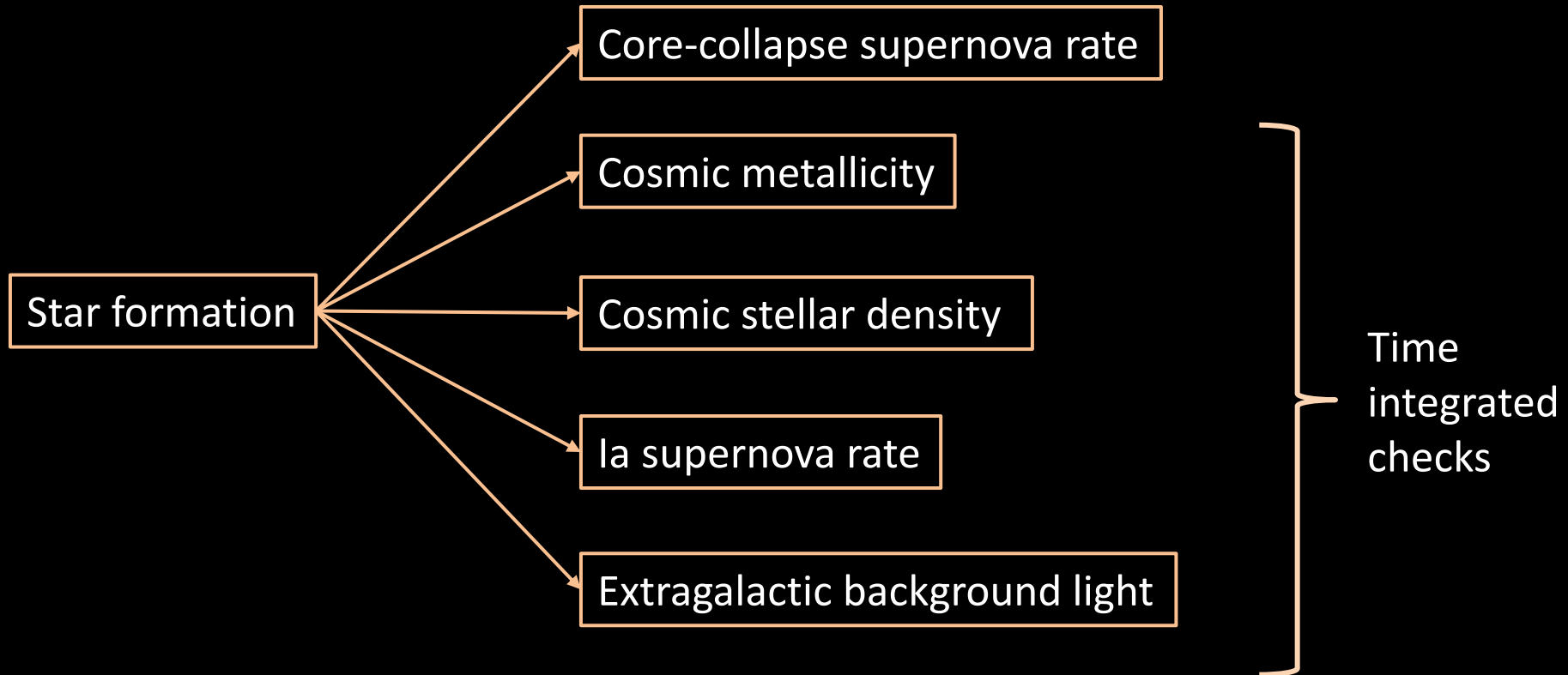
e.g., Forecasts in Lien & Fields (2009)



Updated from Horiuchi et al (2011)

Cosmic cross checks

Many cross checks have been performed, which give further support:

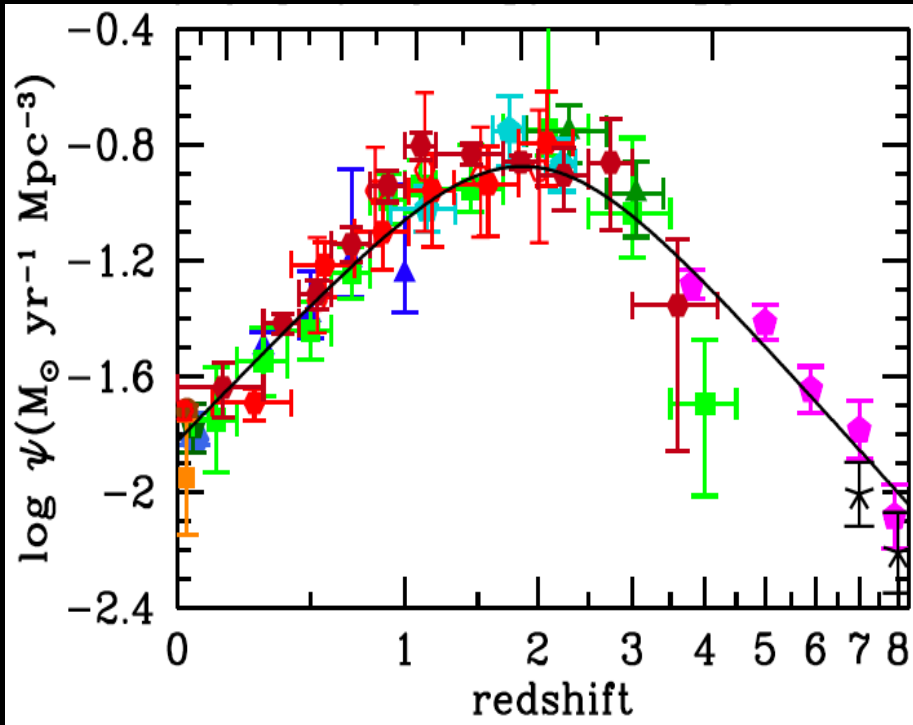


Cosmic cross checks

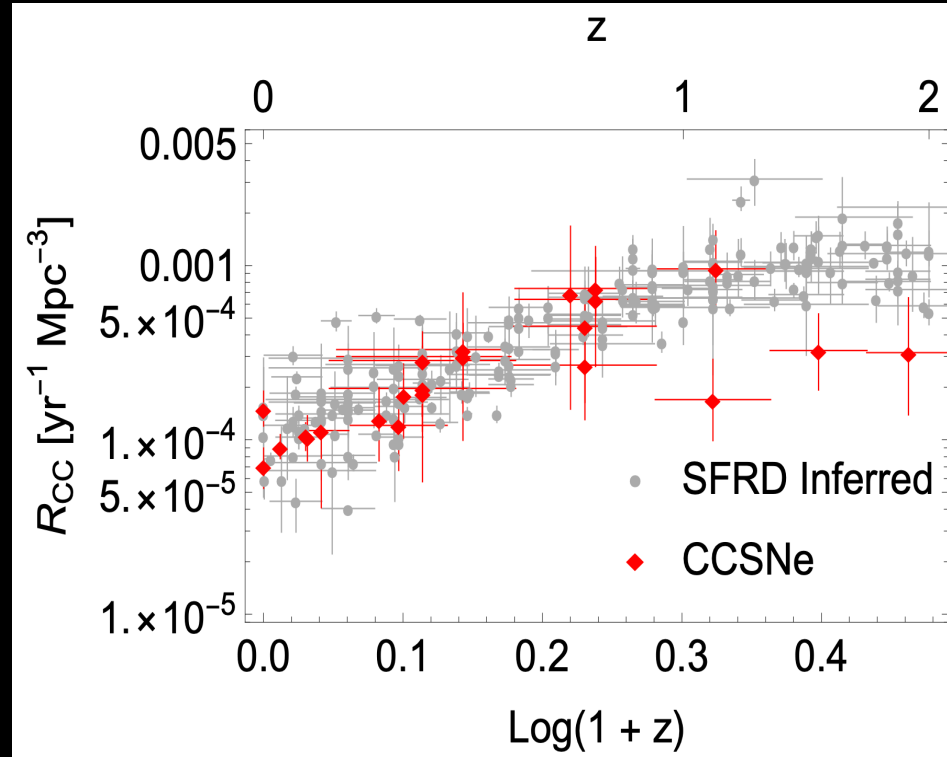
because lifetime of massive stars are cosmologically short

Birth rate of massive stars \equiv Core collapse rate

Note: includes collapse to black holes



*Madau & Dickinson (2014);
see also Hopkins & Beacom (2006),
Horiuchi & Beacom (2010), etc*



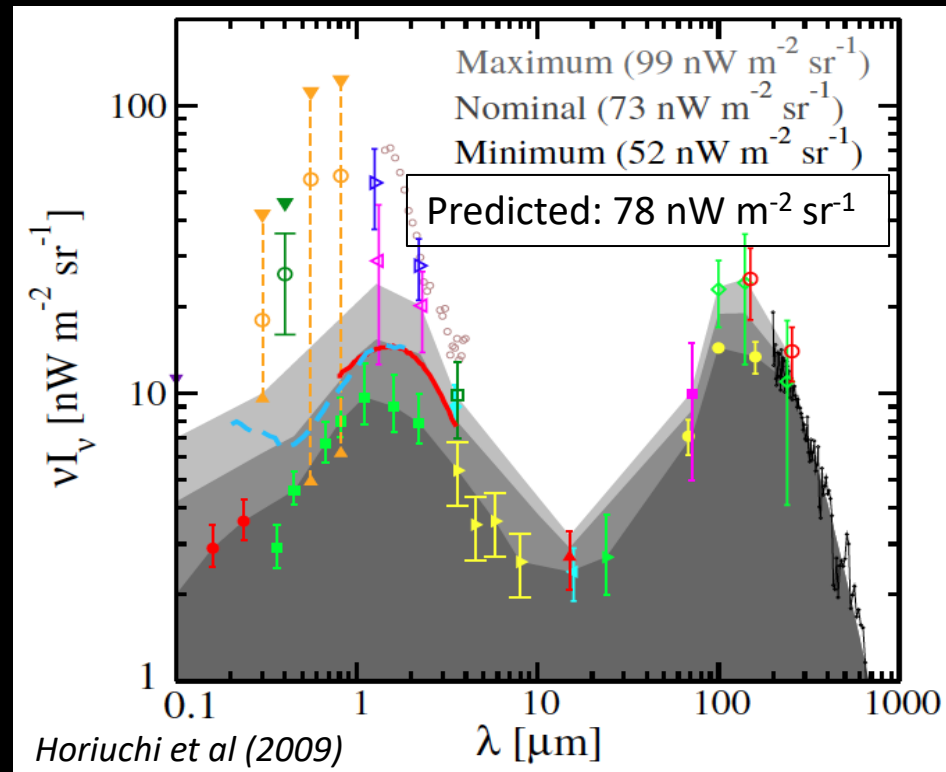
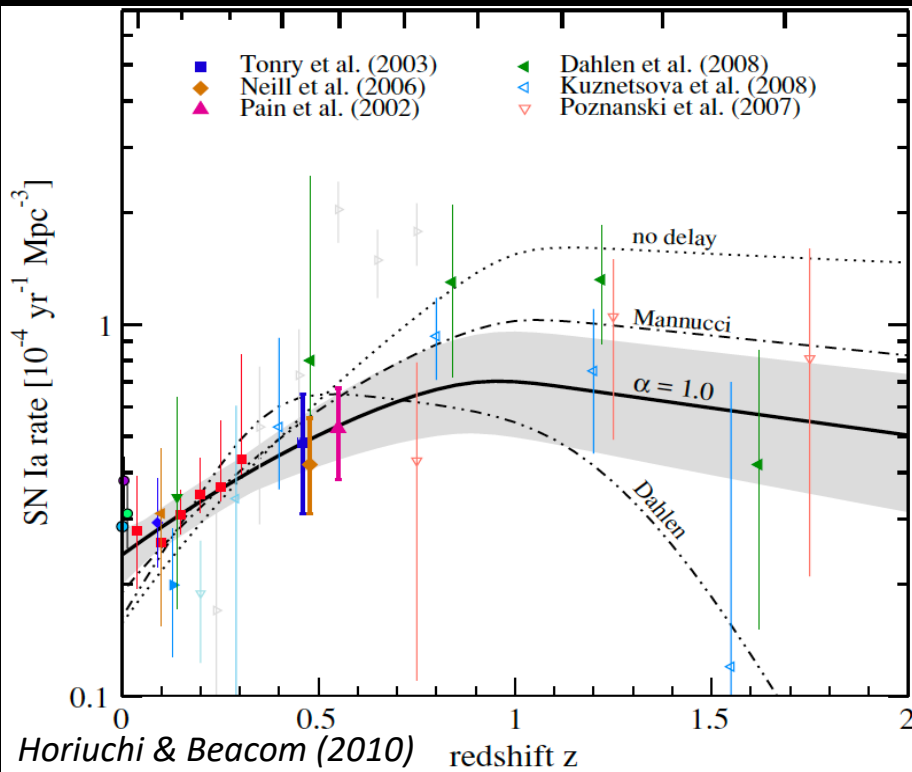
*Ekanger et al (2023);
see also Horiuchi et al (2011), Graur et al (2015), etc*

Integrated cross checks

Star formation

Ia supernova rate
*Needs delay-time distribution

Extragalactic background light
*Measurement systematics

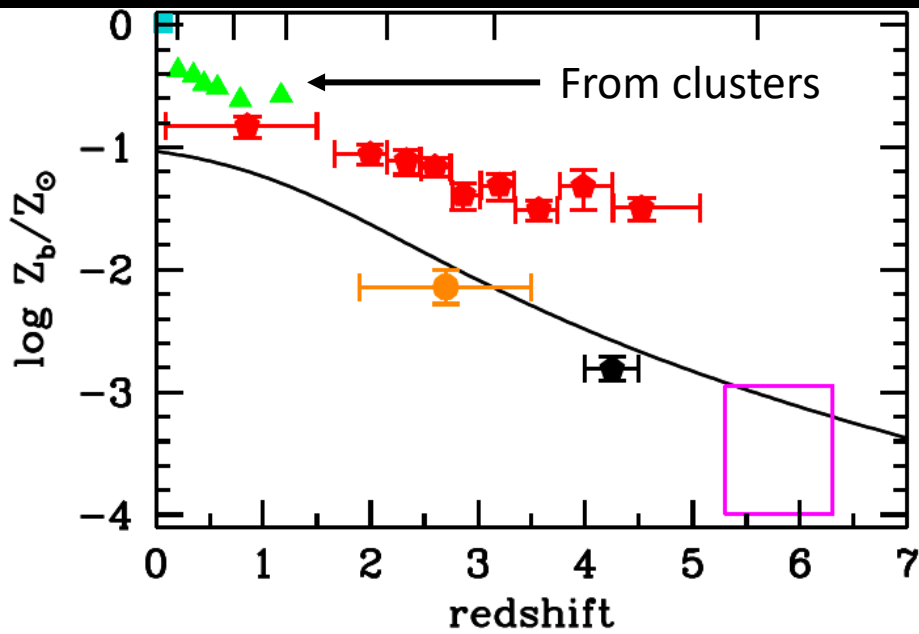


Integrated cross checks

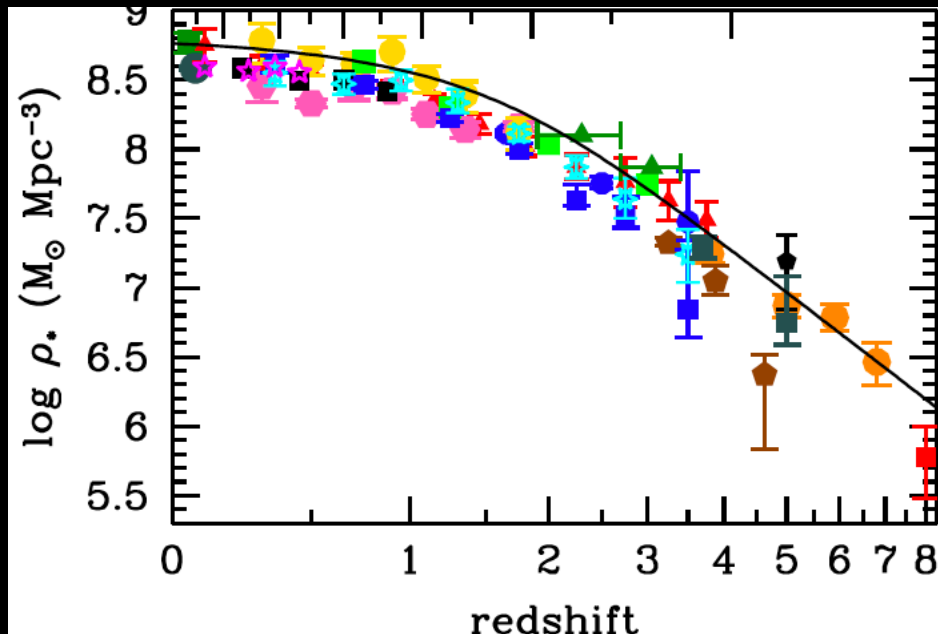
Star formation

Cosmic metallicity
*measurement systematics

Cosmic stellar density
*Sensitive to cosmic initial mass function



Madau & Dickinson (2014)



Madau & Dickinson (2014)

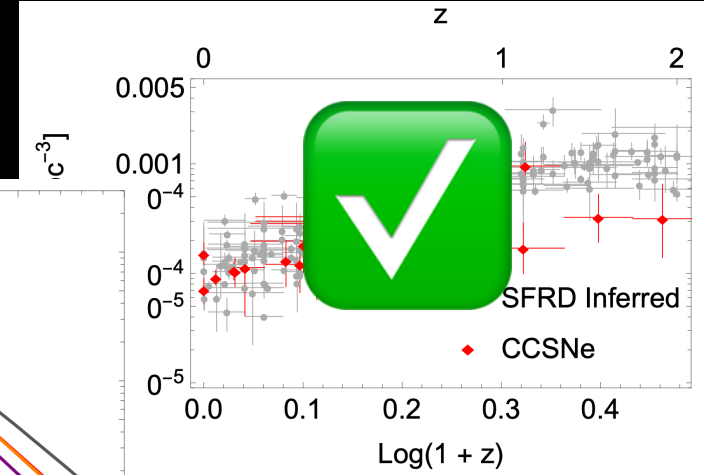
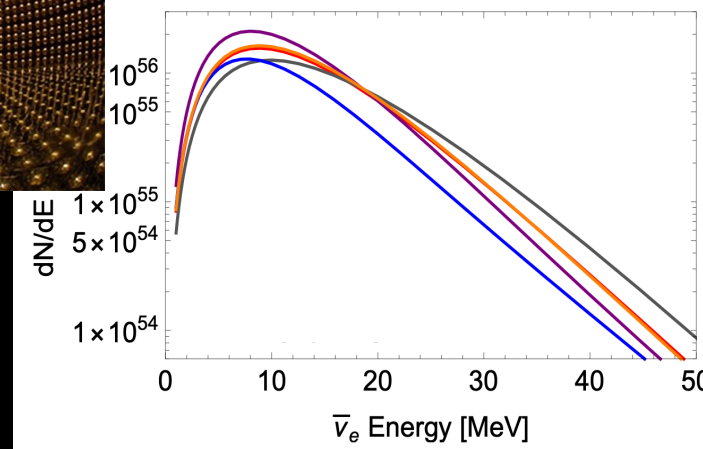
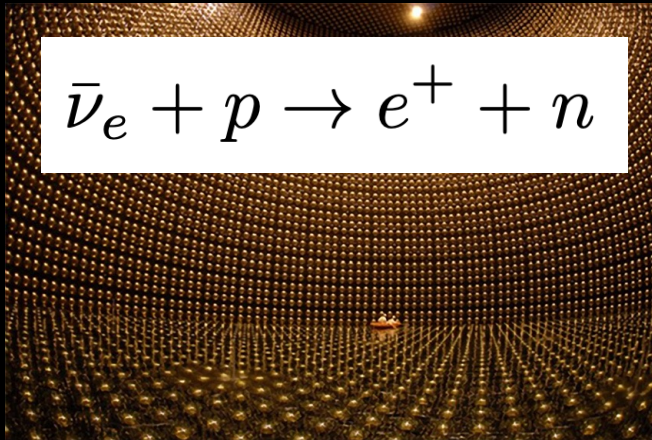
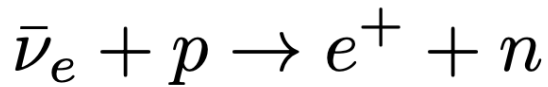
DSNB: model prediction

$$R = N_t \int dE \sigma_{\text{IBD}} \int dz c \frac{dN}{dE'} (1+z) R_{\text{CC}}(z) \left| \frac{dt}{dz} \right|$$

Neutrino detector capabilities

Time-integrated
neutrino emission

Rate of massive
star core collapse



Neutrino emission evolution

Si burning

- Stellar evolution
- Important IC for core collapse

Neutronization

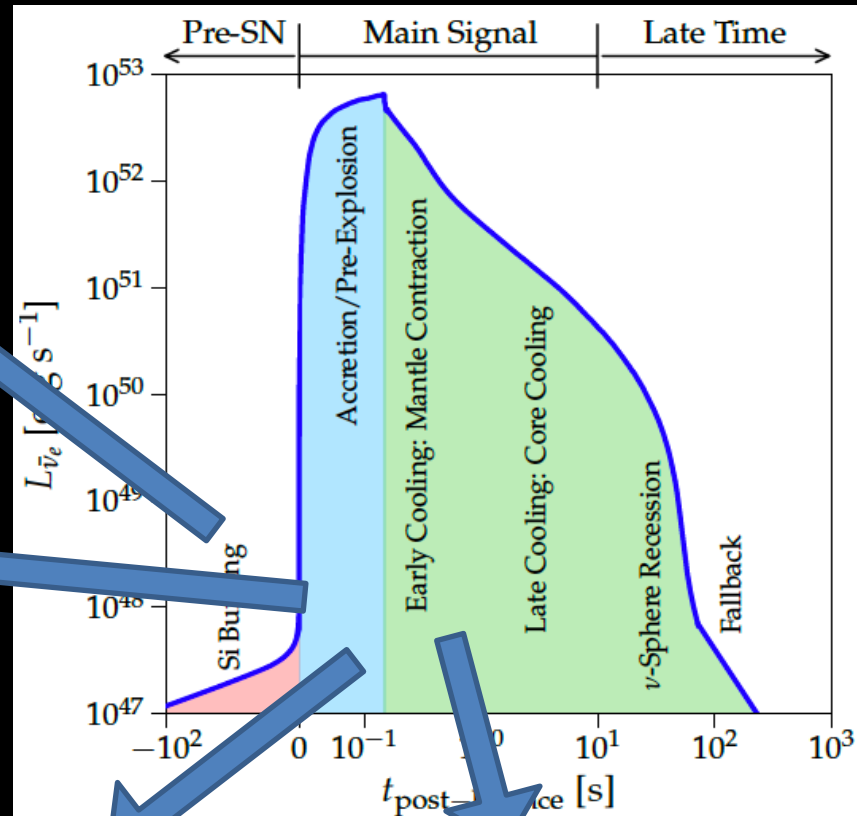
- Burst of ν_e from freed p capturing electrons
- Small uncertainties

Accretion

- Powered by matter accretion
- Most model dependent (explosion mechanism, dimensions, instabilities, oscillation, etc)

Cooling

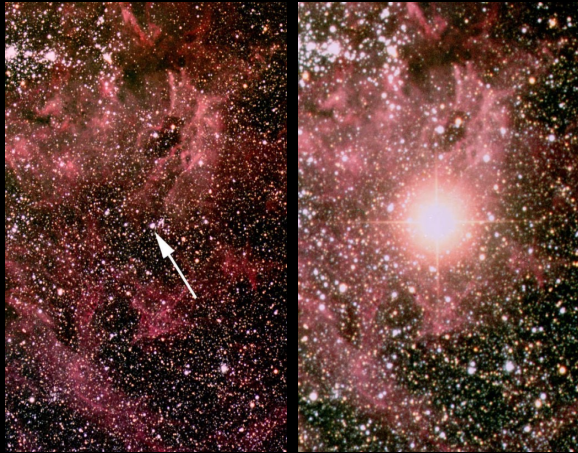
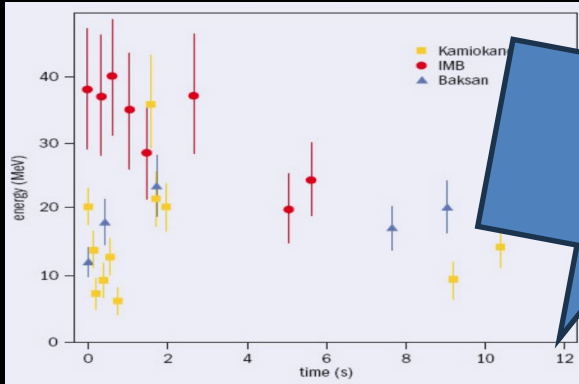
- PNS cooling on diffusion time scale
- Less uncertain (EOS, remnant mass)



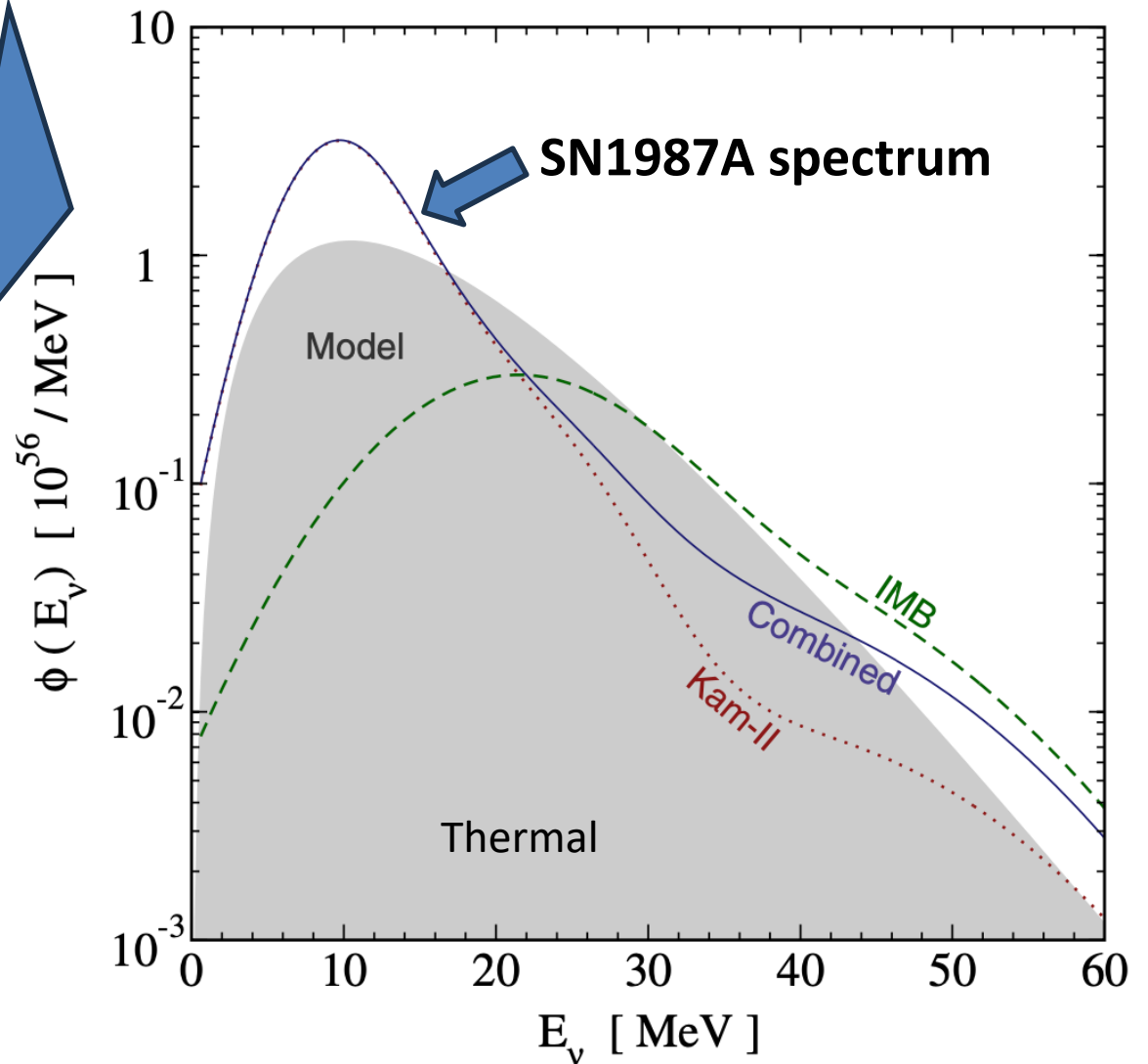
Li et al (2020)

Guidance from SN1987A

Look to SN1987A for guidance:

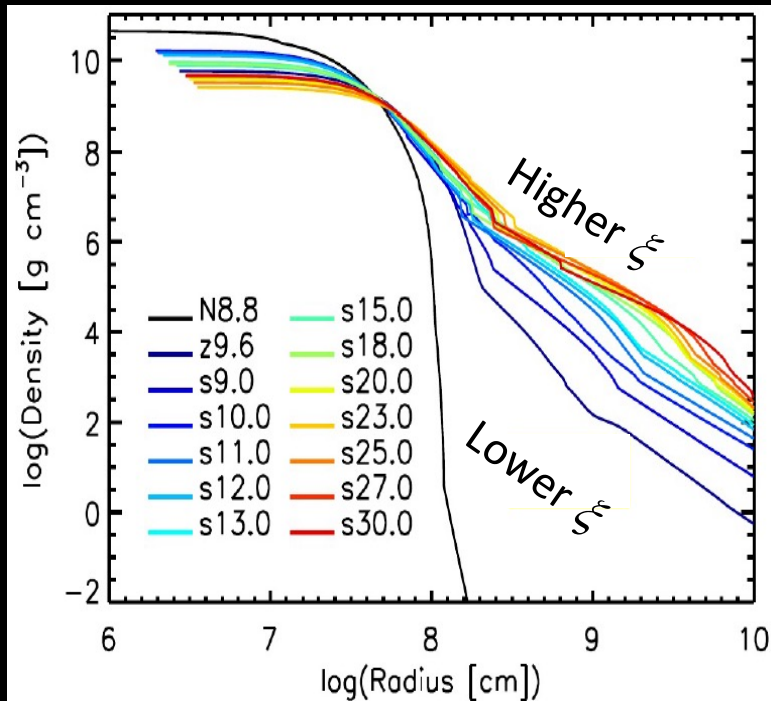


*Yuksel & Beacom (2007);
also Krauss (1987), Bahcall (1987),
Vissani (2015), others*

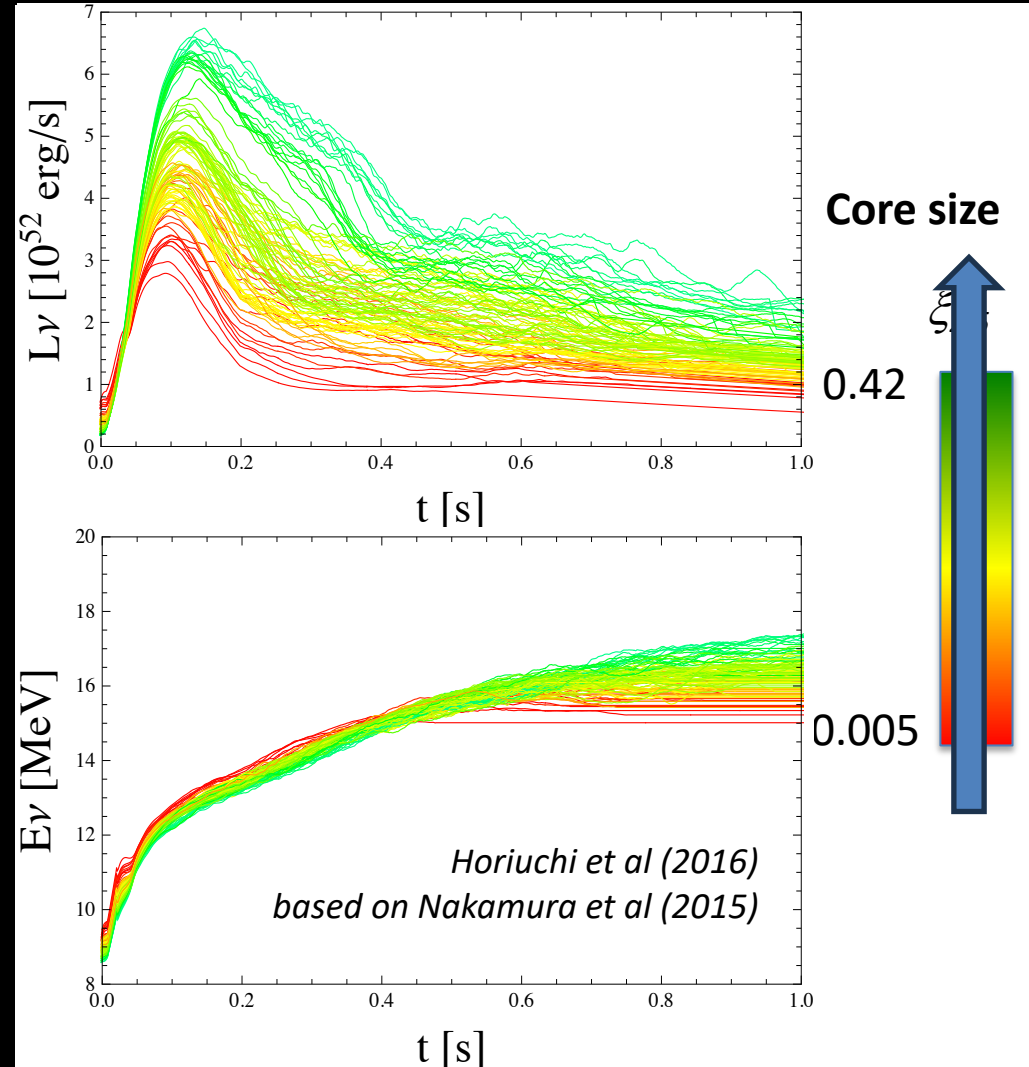


Not standard candles

Look to simulations for guidance: neutrino emission reflects the progenitor



$$\xi_M = \frac{M/M_\odot}{R(M_{\text{bary}} = M)/1000 \text{ km}} \Big|_t$$

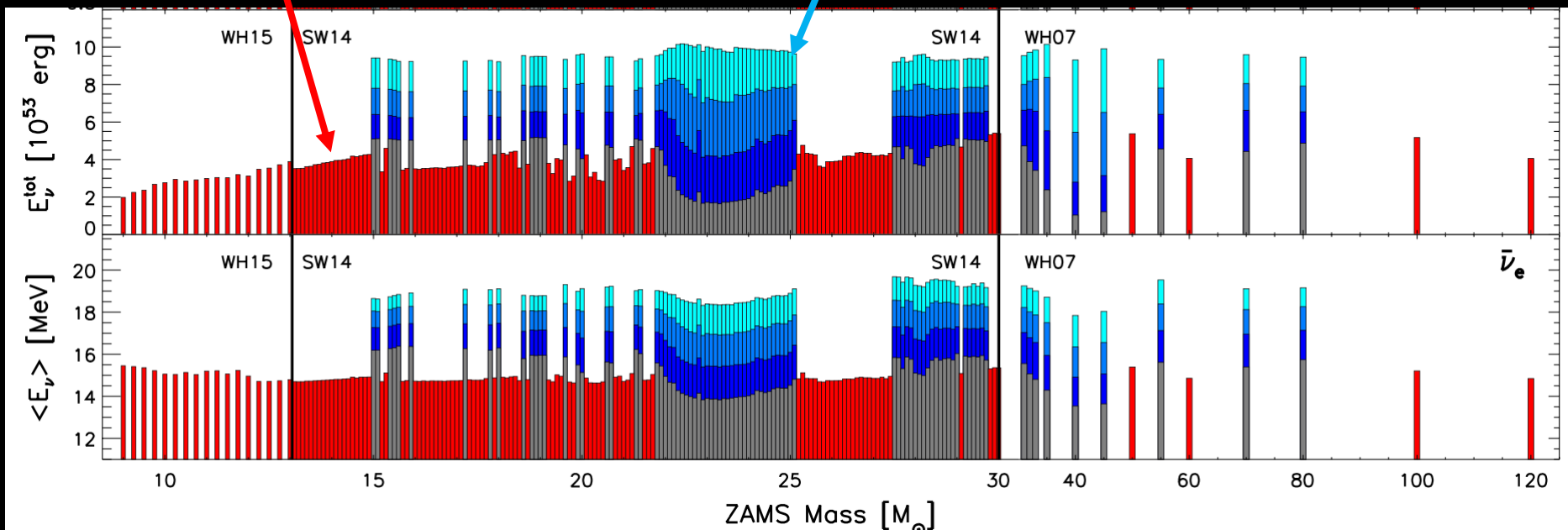


Neutrino emission synthesis

Challenge is long-term (~ 10 sec) simulations for multiple progenitors

1. Multi-D are computationally expensive, although large sets are becoming available
2. Useful are 1D “calibrated central neutrino engines”

Exploding cores **non-exploding cores (more later)**



Kresse et al (2021)

Making sense of neutrino emission

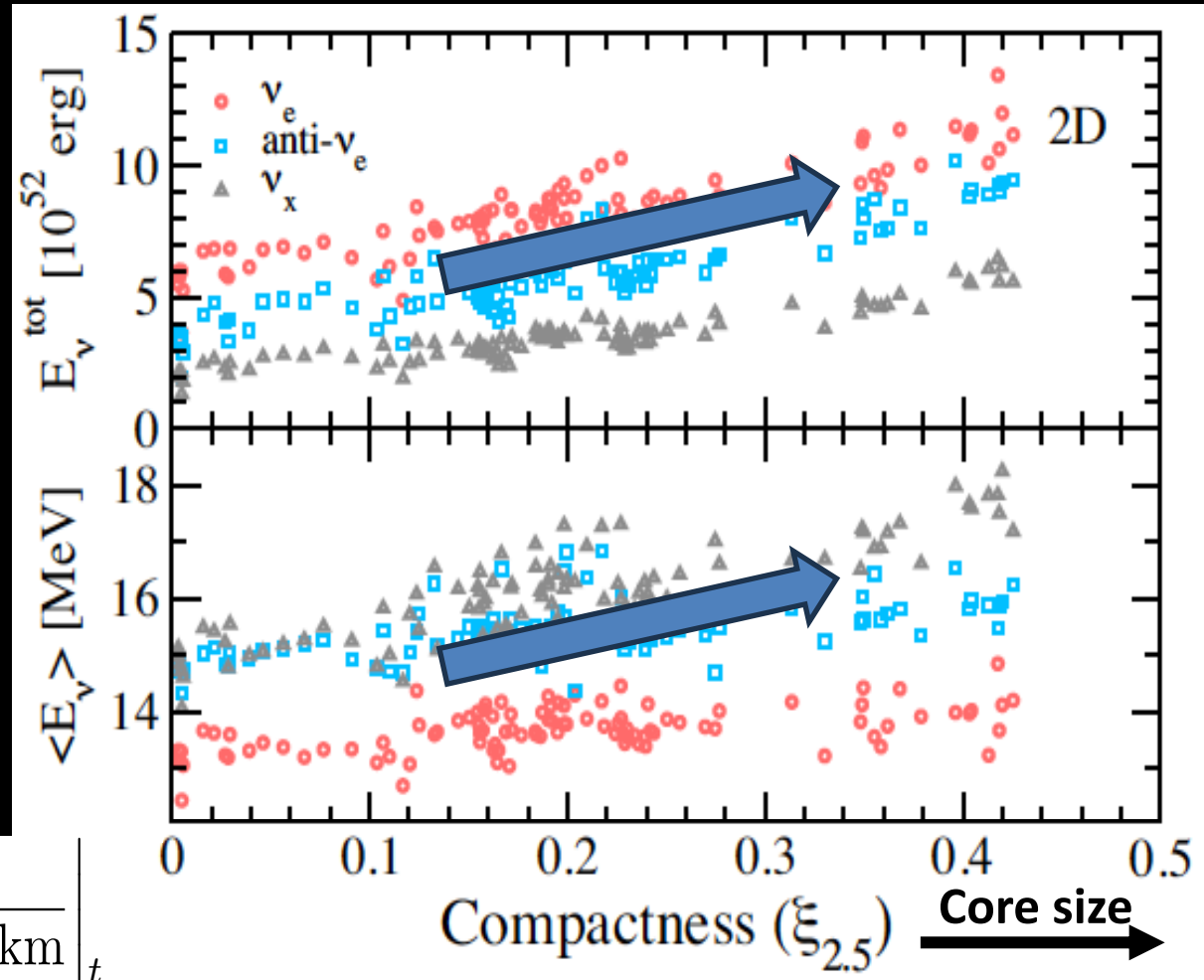
Systematic dependence on progenitor

Based on 100+ simulations (2D) of *Nakamura et al 2015*, 18 simulations (2D) of *Summa et al 2016*.

Higher mass accretion
→ More binding energy released
→ More neutrinos

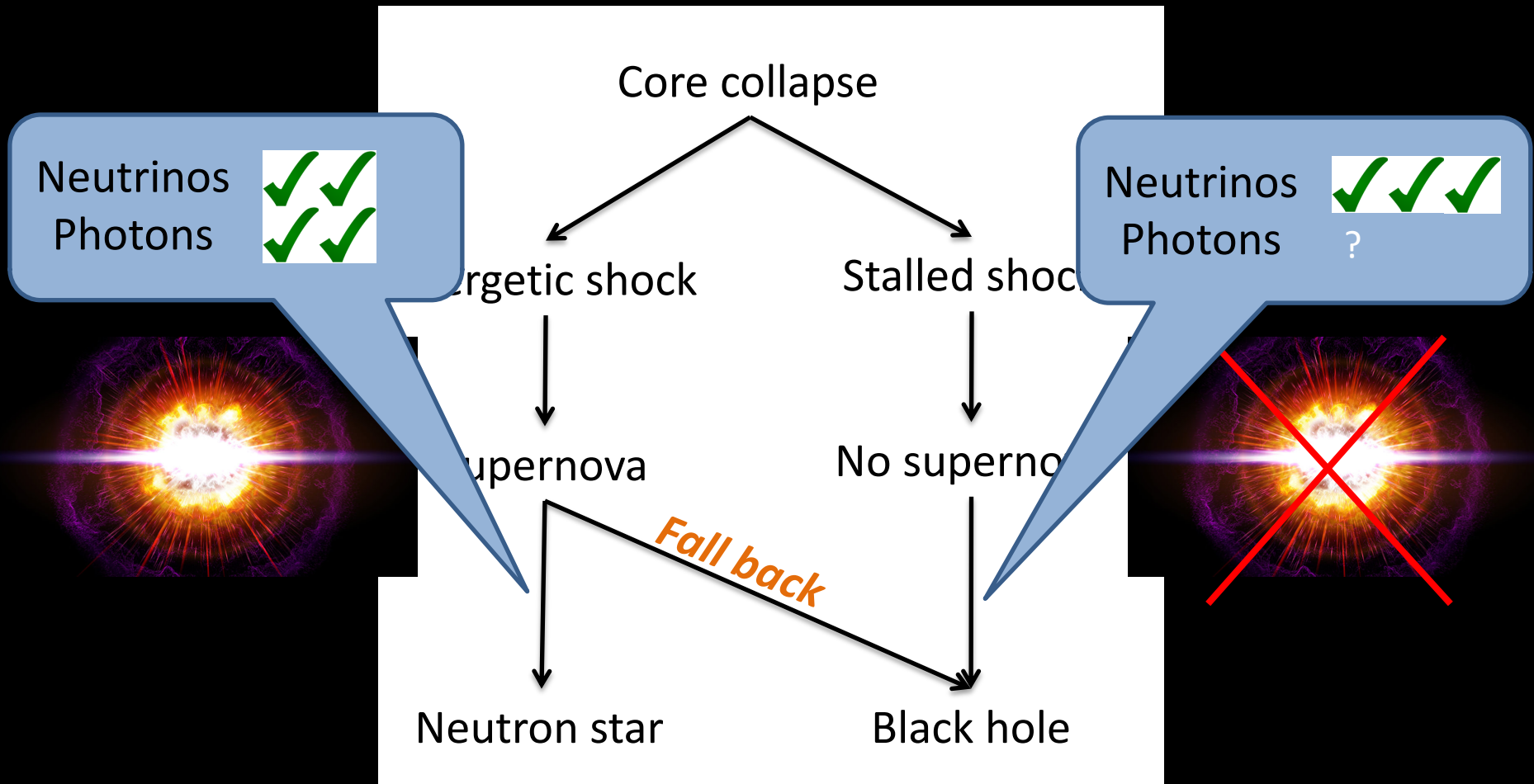
Compactness ξ :

$$\xi_M = \frac{M/M_\odot}{R(M_{\text{bary}} = M)/1000 \text{ km}} \Big|_t$$



Horiuchi et al (2018)

Extreme: collapse to black holes

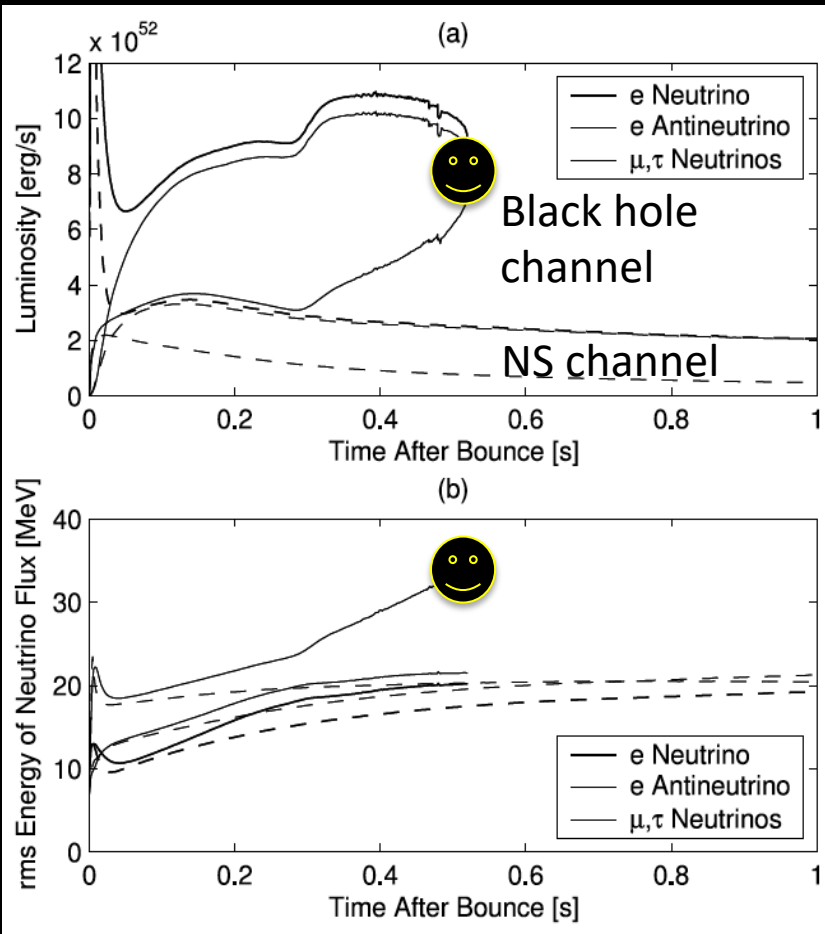


Black hole channel: simulations

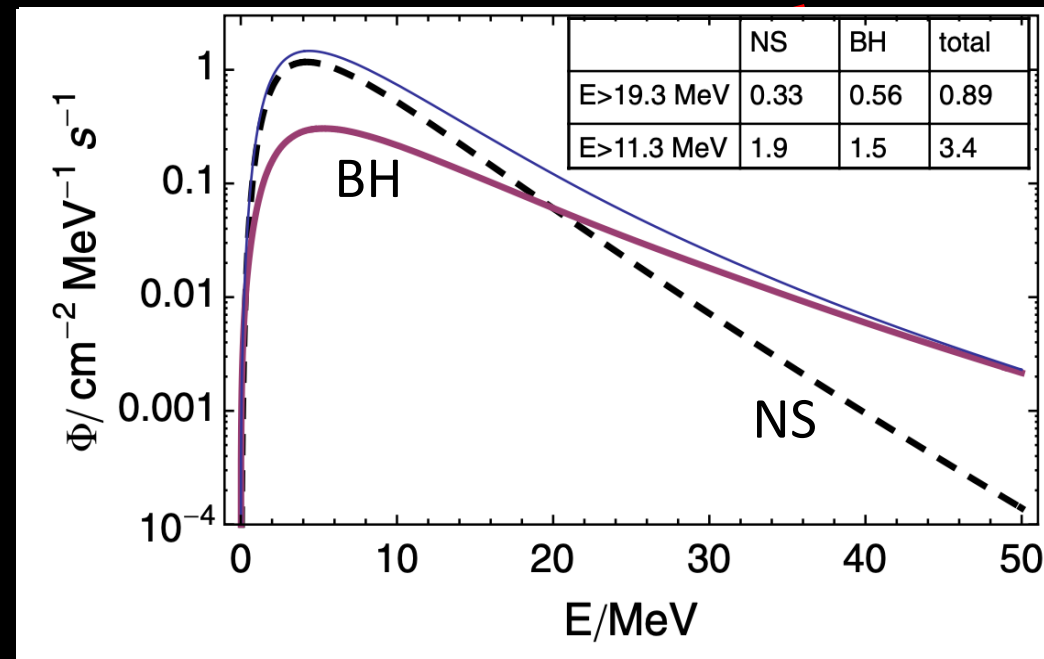
Look to simulations for guidance: collapse to black hole are different

- Neutrino luminosities all rise quickly 😊
- Some neutrino energies rise 😊
- Then abruptly terminate 😞

➔ **When time-integrated, shows a systematically higher energy spectrum**
So, important for the DSNB!



Liebendoerfer et al (2004); many others

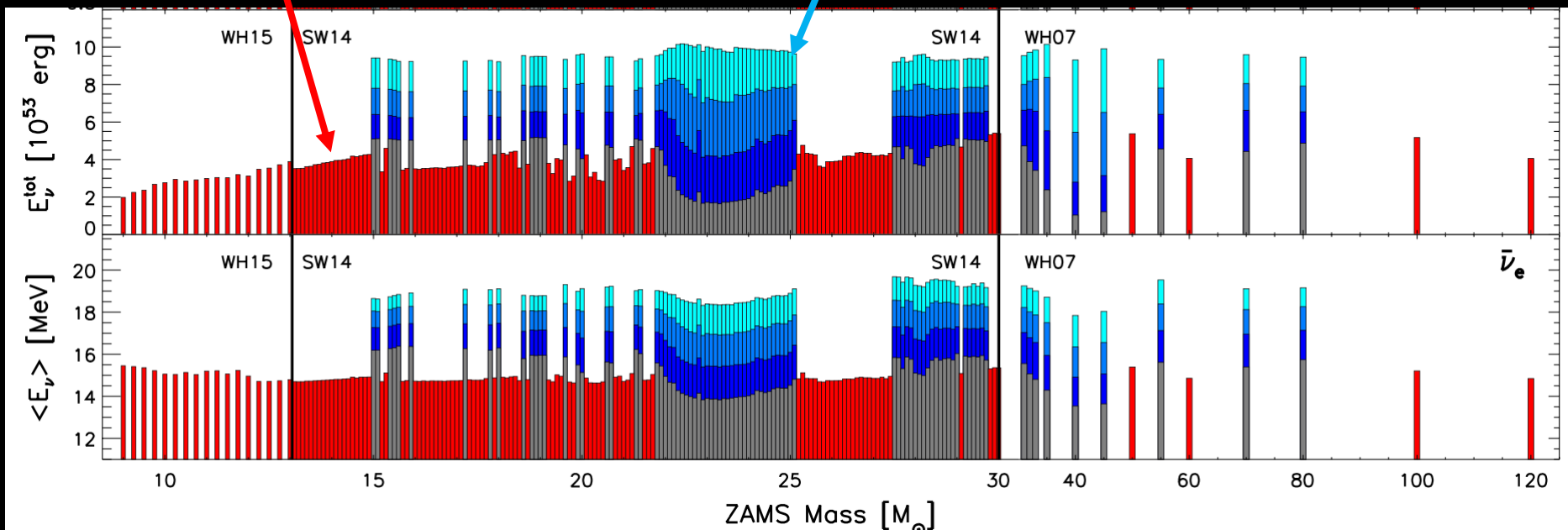


Neutrino emission synthesis II

Challenge is long-term (~ 10 sec) simulations for multiple progenitors

1. Multi-D are computationally expensive, although large sets are becoming available
2. Useful are 1D “calibrated central neutrino engines”

Exploding cores **non-exploding cores: a lot more neutrinos (depending)**



Kresse et al (2021)

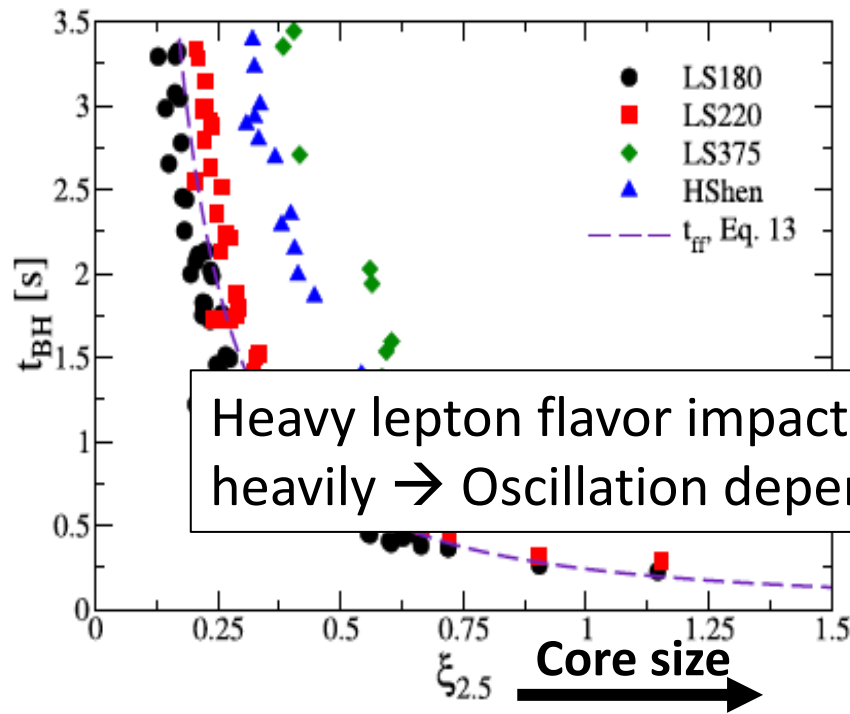
Making sense of neutrino emission II

Duration

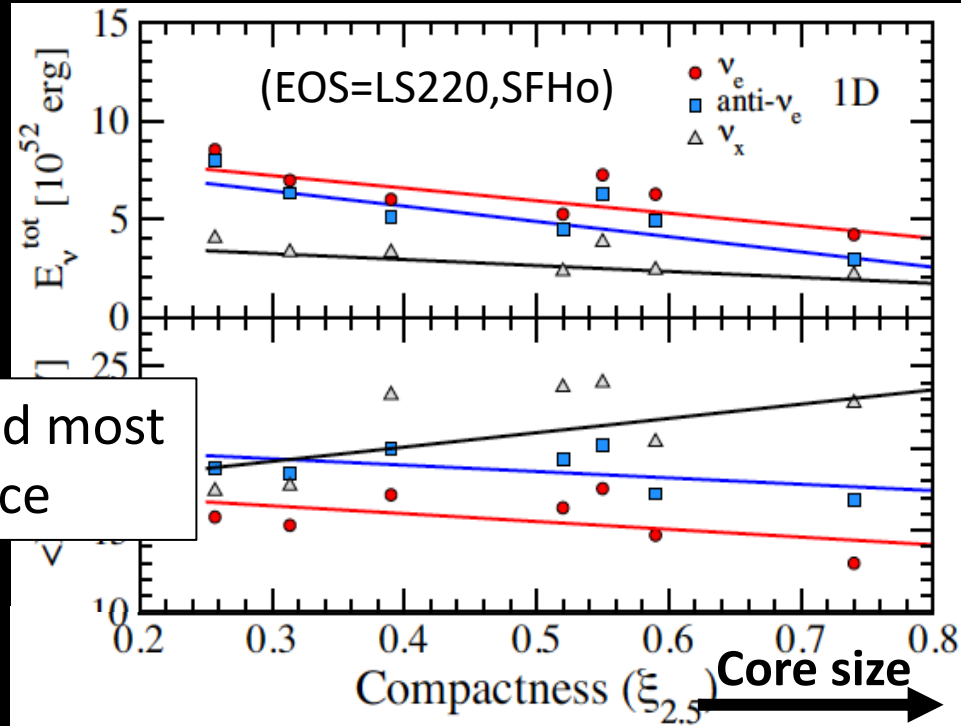
- Larger cores (=compactness)
- higher mass accretion
- earlier black hole formation

Time-integrated

- Larger cores (=compactness)
- higher L_ν but shorter duration
- net decline (except ν_x energy)



O'Connor & Ott (2011)

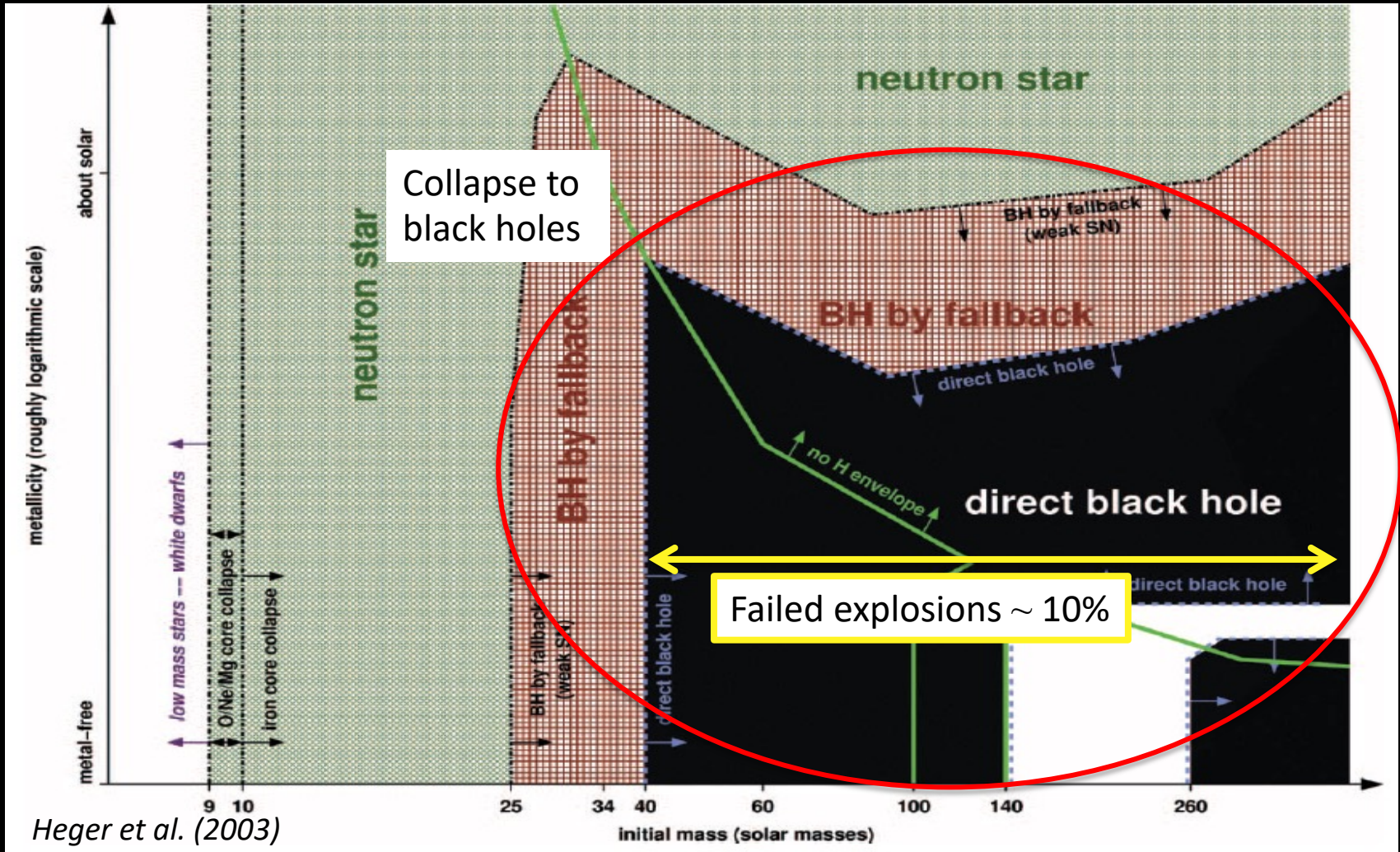


Horiuchi et al (2018)

Compactness ξ : $\xi_M = \frac{M/M_\odot}{R(M_{\text{bary}} = M)/1000 \text{ km}} \Big|_t$

Black hole prediction circa 2000

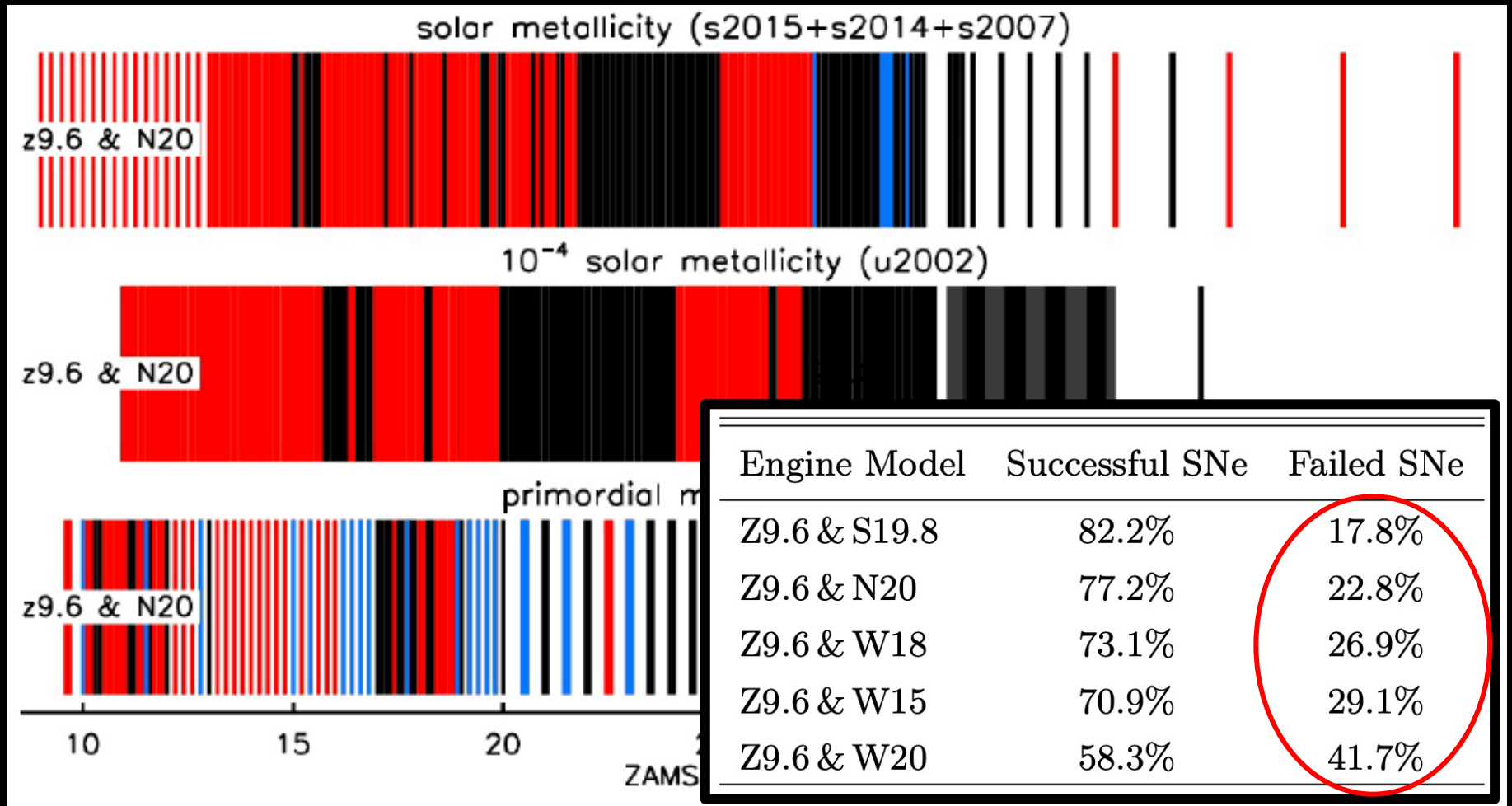
Based on simple stellar & neutrino mechanism



Qualitative expectations, no binaries, no rotation, metal-driven mass loss only

Black hole prediction updates

Neutrino mechanism predicts islands of successful explosions & implosions
(exact mass ranges subject to large uncertainties – more work ongoing)



Janka 2017; based on Ertl et al (2016); see also Ugliano et al (2012), Sukhbold et al (2016), Pejcha & Thompson (2015), Mueller et al (2016), Sukhbold & Adams (2019), Kresse et al (2021)

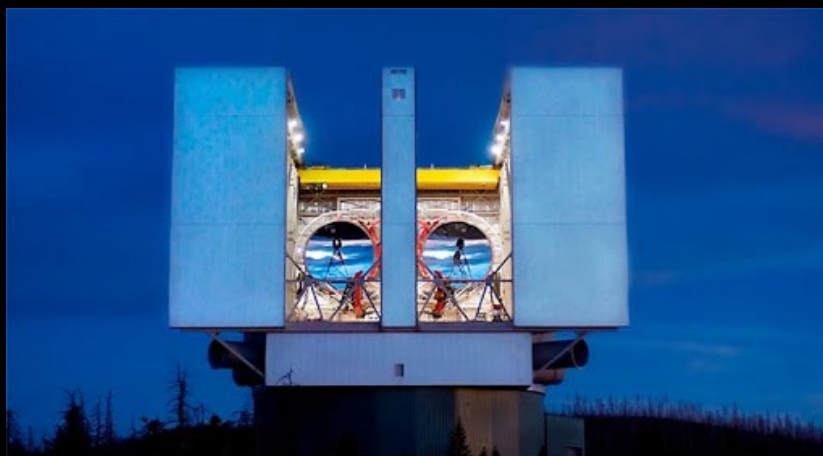
Finding collapse to black holes

Look for disappearance of stars

Monitor ~ 27 galaxies

- Survey $\sim 10^6$ progenitor stars
- Expect ~ 1 core collapse /yr
- In 10 years, sensitive to 20 – 30% failed fraction at 90% CL

Kochanek et al. (2008)



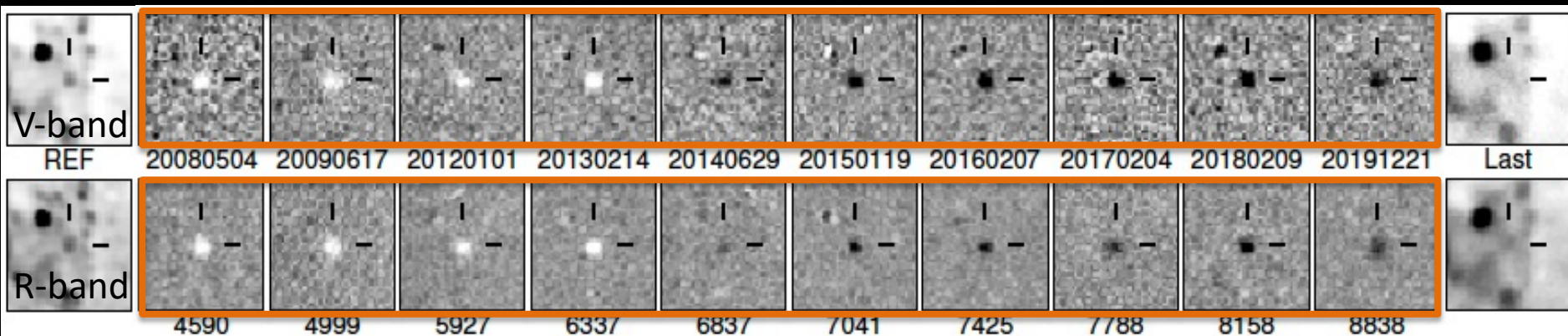
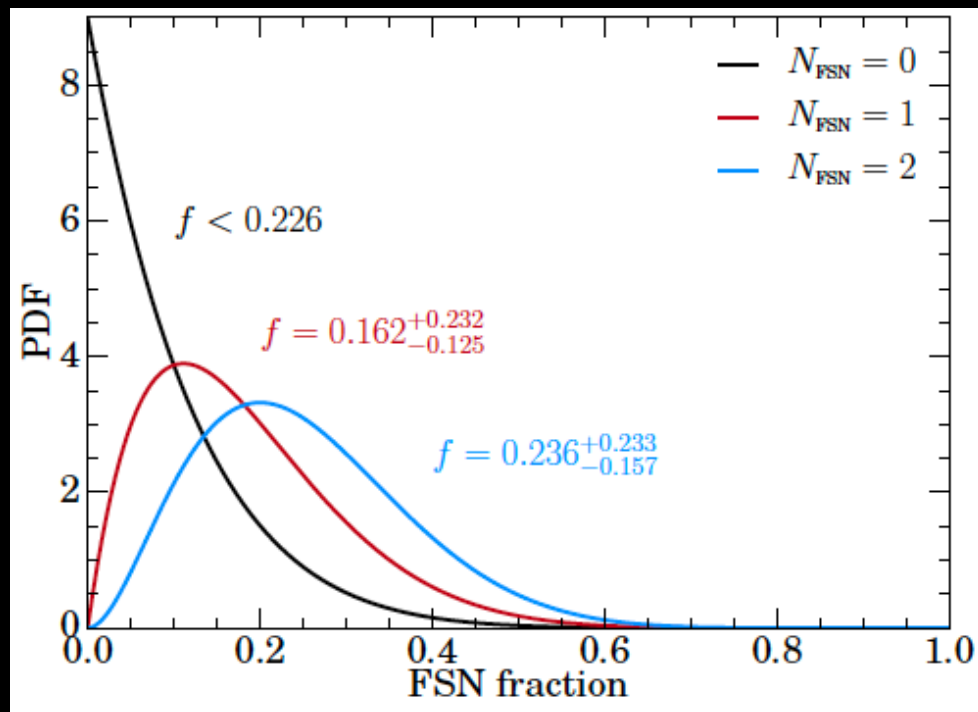
Looking for disappearing stars

In 11 years survey

- ✓ 9 luminous CC supernovae
- ✓ 2 implosion candidates
 - NGC6946-BH1: SED well fit by ~ 25 Msun RSG
 - M101-OC1: follow-ups

Neustadt et al (2021)

*Also: Gerke et al(2015), Adams et al (2017),
Reynolds et al (2016)*



More stellar diversity: binaries

Majority of massive stars evolve in binaries...

**Non-merger
systems**

Merger systems

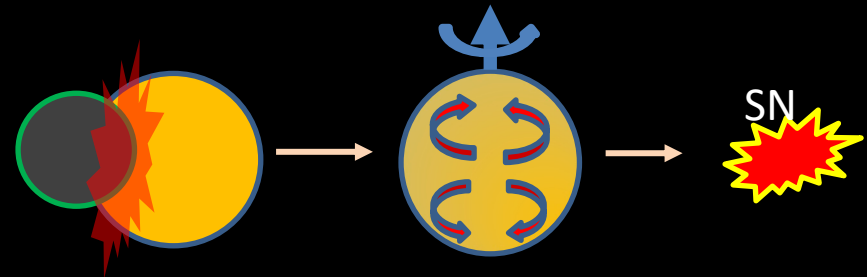
Single

Double

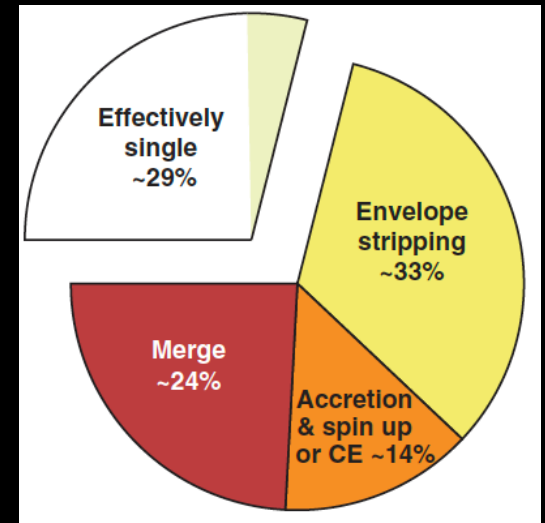
Spinning massive star



➔ Masses of stars changed!



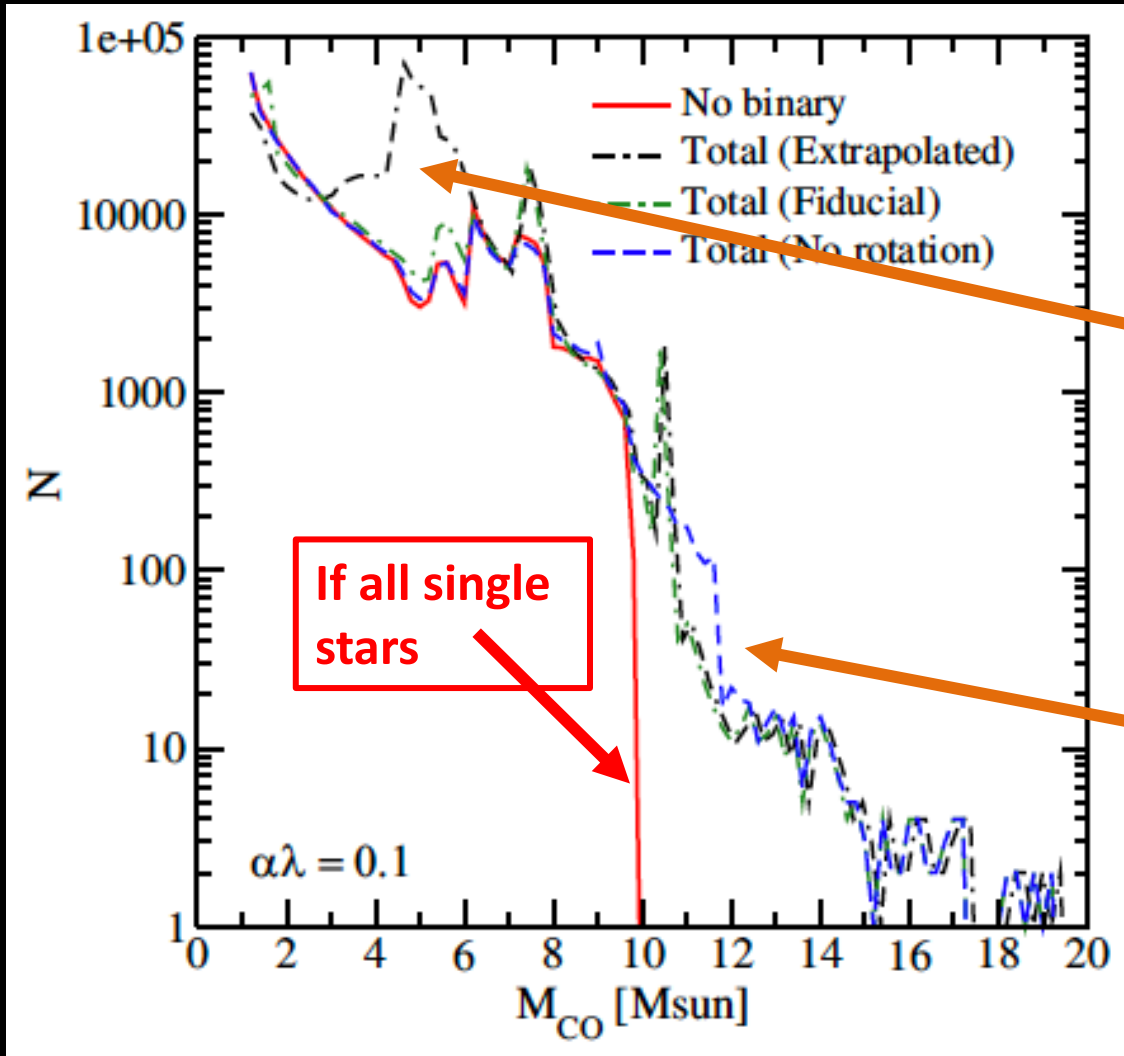
➔ Masses of stars changed!
number of stars changed!



Sana et al (2012)

Binary effects: progenitors

binary effect creates more and higher mass cores for collapse



Boost to number of progenitors due to mergers: ~25% more progenitors

Boost to masses of progenitors due to mergers and mass transfers (at the expense of donor's mass)

**More realizations ongoing

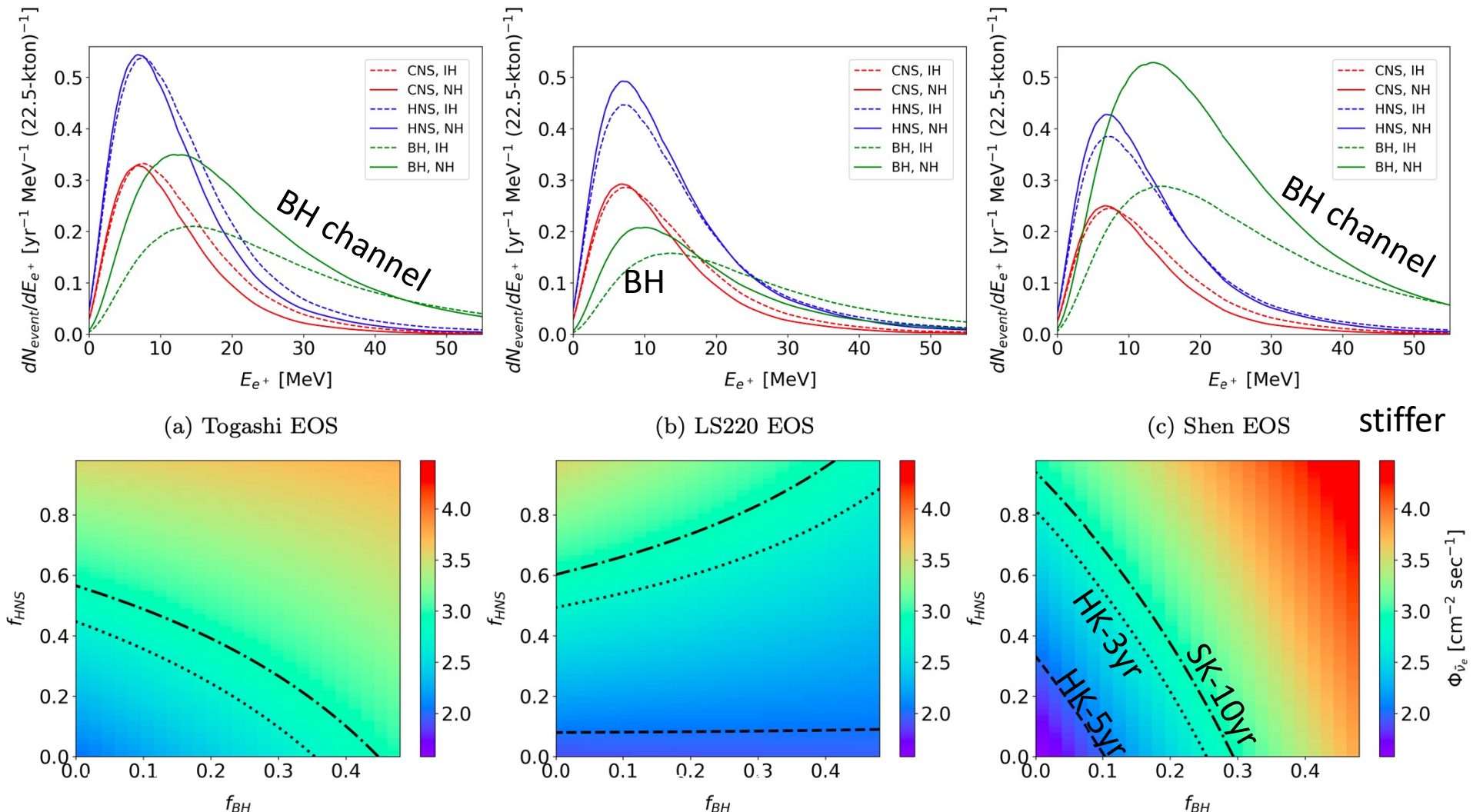
Horiuchi et al (2021)

Black hole contribution can be big

- Strong EOS dependence
- Can be driven by late-time accretion

Nakazato et al (2024)

Ashida & Nakazato (2022)




So where to now?

This is just my contribution to a much wider active field:

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **79**, 083013 (2009)




Diffuse supernova neutrino background is detectable in Super-Kamiokande

Shunsaku Horiuchi,^{1,2,3} John F. Beacom,^{2,3,4} and Eli Dwek⁵

- 
- Spherical symmetric simulations
 - Thermal neutrino spectra
 - No black hole considerations
 - Core-collapse rate sysmatics

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **109**, 023024 (2024)

Diffuse supernova neutrino background with up-to-date star formation rate measurements and long-term multidimensional supernova simulations

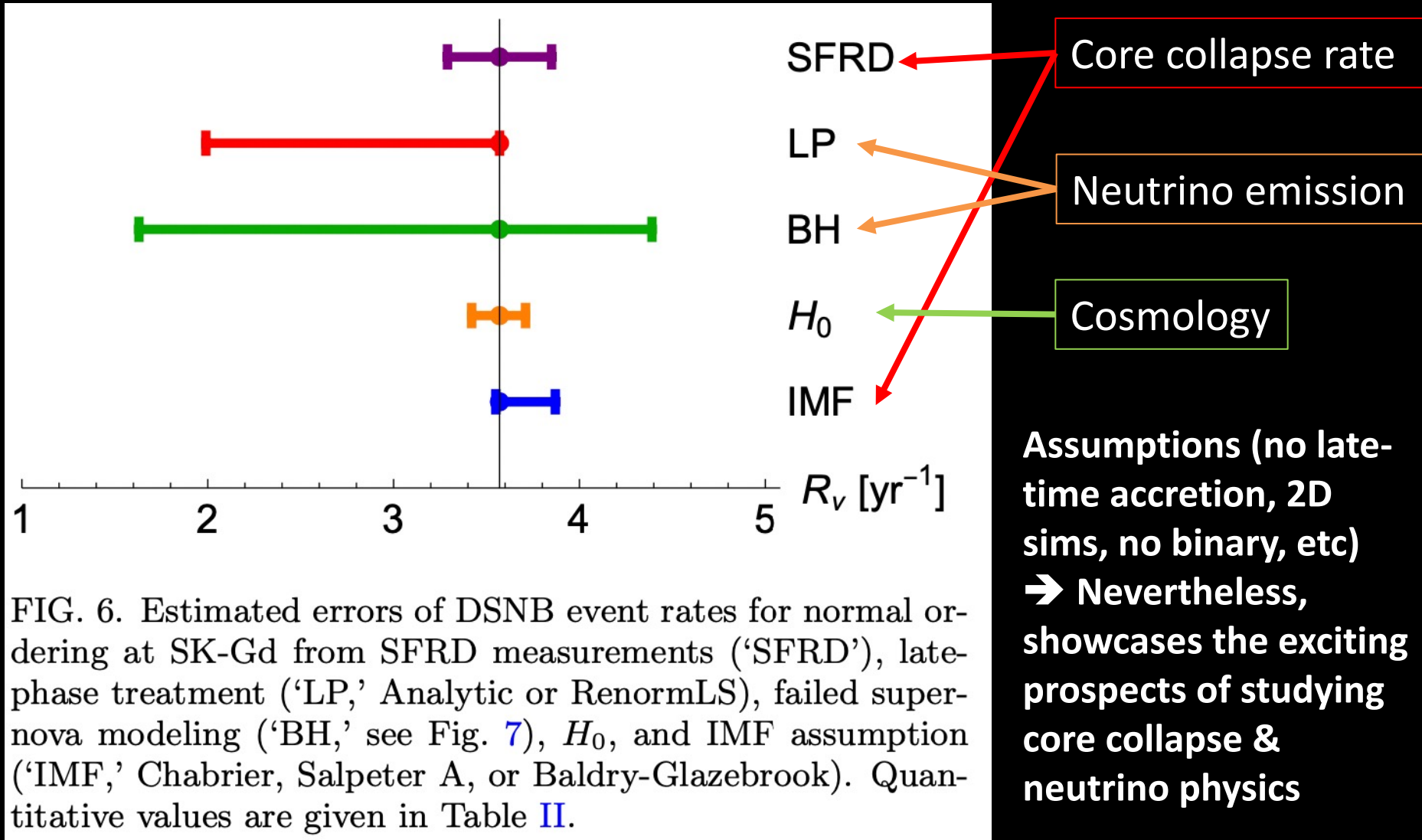
Nick Ekanger^{1,*} , Shunsaku Horiuchi^{1,2,†} , Hiroki Nagakura³ , and Samantha Reitz^{1,4}



- Multi-dimentional long-term simulation sets
- Accounting for stellar & collapse diversity
- Black hole considerations (but still rich!)
- Core-collapse rate well established and cross checked

So where to now?

An attempt at the error budget:



Assumptions (no late-time accretion, 2D sims, no binary, etc)
➔ **Nevertheless, showcases the exciting prospects of studying core collapse & neutrino physics**

Happy birthday, Mark

Thank you, Mark, for you and your team making the Gd dream.

As a theorist, I felt confident DSNB models will be tested, with you at the helm.

- **The DSNB is a guaranteed signal with a well-established canonical flux (and we continue to make it richer).**
- **DSNB neutrinos are there, in the data set! The Gd upgrade will allow it to be discovered.**
- **When discovered, these will be the first confirmed MeV neutrinos crossing cosmological distances, opening new windows into core collapse, neutrinos, and BSM physics.**