# Many-Body Aspects of Collective Neutrino Oscillations

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# Neutrinos from core-collapse supernovae 1987A



 $\begin{array}{ccc} \bullet M_{prog} \geq & 8 \ M_{sun} \Rightarrow \Delta E \approx 10^{53} \ ergs \approx \\ & 10^{59} \ MeV \end{array}$ 

•99% of the energy is carried away by neutrinos and antineutrinos with  $10 \le E_v \le 30 \text{ MeV} \implies 10^{58} \text{ neutrinos}$ 



# The origin of elements



Neutrinos not only play a crucial role in the dynamics of these sites, but they also control the value of the electron fraction, the parameter determining the yields of the rprocess nucleosynthesis.

#### Possible sites for the r-process

Understanding a core-collapse supernova requires answers to a variety of questions some of which need to be answered, both theoretically and experimentally.





Energy released in a core-collapse SN: ∆E ≈ 10<sup>53</sup> ergs ≈ 10<sup>59</sup> MeV 99% of this energy is carried away by neutrinos and antineutrinos! ~ 10<sup>58</sup> Neutrinos! This necessitates including the effects of vv interactions!



The second term makes the physics of a neutrino gas in a core-collapse supernova a very interesting many-body problem, driven by weak interactions.

Neutrino-neutrino interactions lead to novel collective and emergent effects, such as conserved quantities and interesting features in the neutrino energy spectra (spectral "swaps" or "splits").

## Many neutrino system

This is the only many-body system driven by the weak interactions:

#### Table: Many-body systems

Nuclei	Strong	at most ${\sim}250$ particles
Condensed matter	E&M	at most N <sub>A</sub> particles
u's in SN	Weak	$\sim 10^{58}$ particles

Astrophysical extremes allow us to test physics that cannot be tested elsewhere!

MSW oscillations (low neutrino density)

Collective oscillations (high neutrino density)

> Proto-neutron star

Neutrinos forward scatter from each other

Neutrinos forward scatter from background particles

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = -i[H,\rho] + C(\rho)$$

#### H = neutrino mixing + forward scattering of neutrinos off other background particles (MSW) + forward scattering of neutrinos off each other

*C* = collisions



$$\hat{J}_{+} = a_{e}^{\dagger}a_{\mu} \qquad \hat{J}_{-} = a_{\mu}^{\dagger}a_{e}$$
$$\hat{J}_{0} = \frac{1}{2}\left(a_{e}^{\dagger}a_{e} - a_{\mu}^{\dagger}a_{\mu}\right)$$

These operators can be written in either mass or flavor basis

Free neutrinos (only mixing)

$$\hat{H} = \frac{m_1^2}{2E} a_1^{\dagger} a_1 + \frac{m_2^2}{2E} a_2^{\dagger} a_2 + (\cdots) \hat{1}$$
$$= \frac{\delta m^2}{4E} \cos 2\theta \left(-2\hat{J}_0\right) + \frac{\delta m^2}{4E} \sin 2\theta \left(\hat{J}_+ + \hat{J}_-\right) + (\cdots)' \hat{1}$$

Interacting with background electrons

$$\hat{H} = \left[\frac{\delta m^2}{4E}\cos 2\theta - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}G_F N_e\right] \left(-2\hat{J}_0\right) + \frac{\delta m^2}{4E}\sin 2\theta \left(\hat{J}_+ + \hat{J}_-\right) + \left(\cdots\right)''\hat{1}$$

Note that  $J_o = \frac{1}{2} \left( a_e^{\dagger} a_e - a_{\mu}^{\dagger} a_{\mu} \right)$   $N = \left( a_e^{\dagger} a_e + a_{\mu}^{\dagger} a_{\mu} \right) = \text{ constant}$ Hence  $P_0 \equiv \text{ Tr} \left( \rho J_0 \right)$  is an observable giving numbers of neutrinos of each flavor Neutrino-Neutrino Interactions

Smirnov, Fuller, Qian, Pantaleone, Sawyer, McKellar, Friedland, Lunardini, Raffelt, Duan, Balantekin, Volpe, Kajino, Pehlivan ...

$$\hat{H}_{vv} = \frac{\sqrt{2}G_F}{V} \int dp \, dq \left(1 - \cos\theta_{pq}\right) \vec{\mathbf{J}}_p \cdot \vec{\mathbf{J}}_q$$

This term makes the physics of a neutrino gas in a core-collapse supernova a genuine many-body problem

$$\hat{H} = \int dp \left( \frac{\delta m^2}{2E} \vec{\mathbf{B}} \cdot \vec{\mathbf{J}}_p - \sqrt{2} G_F N_e \mathbf{J}_p^0 \right) + \frac{\sqrt{2} G_F}{V} \int dp \, dq \left( 1 - \cos \theta_{pq} \right) \vec{\mathbf{J}}_p \cdot \vec{\mathbf{J}}_q$$
$$\vec{\mathbf{B}} = \left( \sin 2\theta, \ 0, -\cos 2\theta \right)$$

Neutrino-neutrino interactions lead to novel collective and emergent effects, such as conserved quantities and interesting features in the neutrino energy spectra (spectral "swaps" or "splits"). This Many-Body Hamiltonian follows from the Standard Model and it was re-derived by multiple authors.

I will next discuss a few aspects of it.

$$\begin{aligned} H_{\nu\nu} \\ &= \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}V} \int d^3p \, d^3q \big( 1 - \cos\theta_{\vec{p}\cdot\vec{q}} \big) \big[ a_e^{\dagger}(p) a_e(p) a_e^{\dagger}(q) a_e(q) \\ &+ a_x^{\dagger}(p) a_x(p) a_x^{\dagger}(q) a_x(q) + a_x^{\dagger}(p) a_e(p) a_e^{\dagger}(q) a_x(q) + a_e^{\dagger}(p) a_x(p) a_x^{\dagger}(q) a_e(q) \big] \end{aligned}$$

$$J_{+}(p) = a_{x}^{\dagger}(p)a_{e}(p), J_{-}(p) = a_{e}^{\dagger}(p)a_{x}(p), J_{0}(p) = \frac{1}{2}\left(a_{x}^{\dagger}(p)a_{x}(p) - a_{e}^{\dagger}(q)a_{e}(q)\right)$$

$$H_{\nu\nu} = \left( \begin{array}{c} \\ \\ \end{array} \right) \left[ N^2 - \left( \int d^3 p \frac{\vec{p}}{|\vec{p}|} N(p) \right) \cdot \left( \int d^3 p \frac{\vec{p}}{|\vec{p}|} N(p) \right) \right] + \frac{\sqrt{2}G_F}{V} \int d^3 p \, d^3 q \left( 1 - \cos \theta_{\vec{p} \cdot \vec{q}} \right) \vec{J}(p) \cdot \vec{J}(q)$$

Concerns were raised recently about the terms proportional to N (p). However, these terms do not contribute to the quantum evolution since

$$[N, H_{\nu}] = 0 = [N, \vec{J}(p) \cdot \vec{J}(q)]$$

$$\widehat{U} = e^{-i(\ )tN - iN^2 \int dt \,\mu} \,\widehat{V}$$

V includes terms independent of N. Hence

 $\rho = \widehat{U}\rho_i\widehat{U}^\dagger = \widehat{V}\rho_i\widehat{V}^\dagger$ 

$$H_{\nu\nu} = \frac{\sqrt{2}G_F}{V} \int d^3p \, d^3q \left(1 - \cos\theta_{\vec{p}\cdot\vec{q}}\right) \vec{J}(p) \cdot \vec{J}(q)$$

How do we get the mean-field from this many-body Hamiltonian? Procedure was already given by Balantekin and Pehlivan, J. Phys. G 34, 47 (2007). Introduce SU(2) coherent states (for two-flavors):

$$|z(t)\rangle = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\int d^3p \,\log(1+|z(p,t)|^2)\right)\exp\left(\int d^3p \,z(p,t)J_+(p)\right)\,\prod a_e^{\dagger}|0\rangle$$

Then write the evolution operator in the basis of SU(2) coherent states

$$\langle z(t_f) | \widehat{U} | z(t_i) \rangle = \int \mathcal{D}[z, z^*] e^{-i\mathcal{S}[z, z^*]}$$
$$\mathcal{S}[z, z^*] = \int_{t_i}^{t_f} dt \, \left\langle i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - H_{\nu} - H_{\nu\nu} \right\rangle - i \log \langle z(t_f) | z(t_f) \rangle$$

$$\mathcal{S}[z, z^*] = \int_{t_i}^{t_f} dt \, \left\langle i \frac{\partial}{\partial t} - H_{\nu} - H_{\nu\nu} \right\rangle - i \log \langle z(t_f) | z(t_f) \rangle$$

We then follow the standard procedure to find the stationary points of this action to obtain the Euler-Lagrange equations:

$$\left(\frac{d}{dt}\frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{z}} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z}\right)\mathcal{L}(z, z^*) = 0, \qquad \left(\frac{d}{dt}\frac{\partial}{\partial \dot{z}^*} - \frac{\partial}{\partial z^*}\right)\mathcal{L}(z, z^*) = 0$$

Solving Euler-Lagrange eqs. gives us the mean-field eqs. with  $z = \frac{\psi_x}{\psi_e}$ subject to  $|\psi_e|^2 + |\psi_x|^2 = 1$ 

Balantekin and Pehlivan, J. Phys. G 34, 47 (2007)

# How do you find many-body corrections to the mean-field? Expand the action around the stationary phase (mean-field) solution:

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{S}[z,z^*] &= \mathcal{S}[z_{sp},z_{sp}^*] + \frac{1}{2} \left( z - z_{sp} \right)^T \left( \frac{\delta^2 \mathcal{S}}{\delta z \delta z} \right)_{sp} \left( z - z_{sp} \right) + \left( z - z_{sp} \right)^T \left( \frac{\delta^2 \mathcal{S}}{\delta z \delta z^*} \right)_{sp} \left( z^* - z_{sp}^* \right) \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \left( z^* - z_{sp}^* \right)^T \left( \frac{\delta^2 \mathcal{S}}{\delta z^* \delta z^*} \right)_{sp} \left( z^* - z_{sp}^* \right) + \mathcal{O}(z^3) \end{split}$$

The Gaussian integral is then straightforward to calculate:

$$\left\langle z(t_f) \left| \widehat{U} \right| z(t_i) \right\rangle = \int \mathcal{D}[z, z^*] e^{-i\mathcal{S}[z, z^*]} \propto \frac{e^{-i\mathcal{S}[z_{sp}, z_{sp}^*]}}{\sqrt{\det\left(KM - L^T K^{-1} L\right)}}$$

$$K = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\delta^2 S}{\delta x \delta x} \right)_{sp} \qquad M = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\delta^2 S}{\delta y \delta y} \right)_{sp} \qquad L = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\delta^2 S}{\delta x \delta y} \right)_{sp} \qquad z = x + iy$$

The "pre-exponential" determinant has not been calculated in the most general case. Its calculation in the general case would be the only rigorous way to assess how much many-body case deviates from the mean-field results.

Balantekin and Pehlivan, J. Phys. G 34, 47 (2007)

## Including antineutrinos

$$H=H_{\nu}+H_{\bar{\nu}}+H_{\nu\nu}+H_{\bar{\nu}\bar{\nu}}+H_{\nu\bar{\nu}}$$

Requires introduction of a second set of SU(2) algebras!

#### Including three flavors

Requires introduction of SU(3) algebras.

Both extensions are straightforward, but tedious! Balantekin and Pehlivan, J. Phys. G **34**, 1783 (2007). This problem is "exactly solvable" in the single-angle approximation

$$H = \sum_{p} \frac{\delta m^{2}}{2p} \hat{B} \cdot \vec{J_{p}} + \frac{\sqrt{2}G_{F}}{V} \sum_{\mathbf{p},\mathbf{q}} (1 - \cos\vartheta_{\mathbf{pq}}) \vec{J_{p}} \cdot \vec{J_{q}}$$
$$H = \sum_{p} \omega_{p} \vec{B} \cdot \vec{J_{p}} + \mu(r) \vec{J} \cdot \vec{J}$$

Note that this Hamiltonian commutes with 
$$\vec{B} \cdot \sum_{p} J_{p}$$
.  
Hence Tr  $\left(\rho \vec{B} \cdot \sum_{p} J_{p}\right)$  is a constant of motion.  
In the mass basis this is equal to Tr( $\rho J_{3}$ ).

## **BETHE ANSATZ**

Single-angle approximation Hamiltonian:

$$H = \sum_{p} \frac{\delta m^2}{2p} J_p^0 + 2\mu \sum_{\substack{p, q \ p \neq q}} \mathbf{J}_p \bullet \mathbf{J}_q$$

Eigenstates:

$$|x_i\rangle = \prod_{i=1}^N \sum_k \frac{J_k^{\dagger}}{\left(\delta m^2/2k\right) - x_i} |0\rangle$$
$$-\frac{1}{2\mu} - \sum_k \frac{j_k}{\left(\delta m^2/2k\right) - x_i} = \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{1}{x_i - x_j}$$

Bethe ansatz equations

$$\mu = \frac{G_F}{\sqrt{2}V} \left\langle 1 - \cos\Theta \right\rangle$$



Pehlivan, ABB, Kajino, & Yoshida Phys. Rev. D 84, 065008 (2011) Two of the adiabatic eigenstates of this equation are easy to find in the single-angle approximation:

$$H = \sum_{p} \omega_{p} \vec{B} \cdot \vec{J}_{p} + \mu(r) \vec{J} \cdot \vec{J}$$

$$|j,+j\rangle = |N/2, N/2\rangle = |\nu_1, \dots, \nu_1\rangle$$
  
 $|j,-j\rangle = |N/2, -N/2\rangle = |\nu_2, \dots, \nu_2\rangle$ 

$$E_{\pm N/2} = \mp \sum_{p} \omega_{p} \frac{N_{p}}{2} + \mu \frac{N}{2} \left(\frac{N}{2} + 1\right)$$

To find the others will take a lot more work

Note that if you have N neutrinos, you do not only have total j=N/2, but you have total j = N/2, (N/2)-1, (N/2)-2, etc. You can not deduce the properties of an N neutrino system by studying j = N/2!

> Example: N neutrinos: true size of the Hilbert Space =  $2^N$ J=N/2: size of the Hilbert Space = 2j+1 = N+1 A severe truncation!

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 $|j,-j\rangle = |N/2, -N/2\rangle = |\nu_2, \dots, \nu_2\rangle$ 

$$E_{\pm N/2} = \mp \sum_{p} \omega_{p} \frac{N_{p}}{2} + \mu \frac{N}{2} \left(\frac{N}{2} + 1\right)$$

To find the others will take a lot more work

×10<sup>6</sup> Away from the mean-field: Neutrino number distributions 0.25 Adiabatic solution of the exact many-body Hamiltonian for 0.2 extremal states 0.15 0.1 Adiabatic evolution of an initial thermal distribution 0.05 (T = 10 MeV) of electron 0 0 20 40 neutrinos. 10<sup>8</sup> neutrinos distributed over 1200  $\times 10^{6}$ energy bins with solar 0.25 neutrino parameters and normal hierarchy. 0.2 0.15 0.1

Birol, Pehlivan, Balantekin, Kajino arXiv:1805.11767 PRD**98** (2018) 083002



## A system of N particles each of which can occupy k states (k = number of flavors)



Pick one of the neutrinos and introduce the reduced density matrix for this neutrino (with label "b")

$$\begin{split} \widetilde{\rho} &= \rho_b = \sum_{a,c,d,\dots} \langle \nu_a, \nu_c, \nu_d, \cdots | \rho | \nu_a, \nu_c, \nu_d, \cdots \rangle \\ & \text{Entanglement} \\ \text{Entanglement} \\ \text{entropy} \\ S &= -\text{Tr} \left( \widetilde{\rho} \log \widetilde{\rho} \right) \\ & \widetilde{\rho} = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbb{I} + \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{P}) \\ S &= -\frac{1 - |\vec{P}|}{2} \log \left( \frac{1 - |\vec{P}|}{2} \right) - \frac{1 + |\vec{P}|}{2} \log \left( \frac{1 + |\vec{P}|}{2} \right) \end{split}$$





#### Note: S = 0 for meanfield approximation

Cervia, Patwardhan, Balantekin, Coppersmith, Johnson, arXiv:1908.03511 PRD, **100**, 083001 (2019)

- Bethe ansatz method has numerical instabilities for larger values of N. However, it is very valuable since it leads to the identification of conserved quantities.
- For this reason, we also explored the use of Runge Kutta and tensor network techniques. This was both to check Bethe ansatz results for N less than 10 and to explore the case with N larger than 10.



Mean Field:  $\rho = \rho_1 \otimes \rho_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes \rho_N$ 

$$\omega_A = \frac{\delta m^2}{2E_A} \qquad \mathbf{P} = \operatorname{Tr} \left(\rho \mathbf{J}\right) \qquad \rho_A = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \vec{\sigma} \cdot \vec{P}^{(A)}\right)$$

## Mean-field evolution

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathsf{P}^{(A)} = (\omega_A \mathcal{B} + \mu \mathsf{P}) \times \mathsf{P}^{(A)}$$
$$\mathsf{P} = \sum_A \mathsf{P}^{(A)}.$$
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathsf{P} = \mathcal{B} \times \left(\sum_A \omega_A \mathsf{P}^{(A)}\right)$$

 $\mathcal{B} \cdot \mathsf{P}$  is a constant of motion.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathsf{P}^{(A)} = (\omega_A \mathcal{B} + \mu \mathsf{P}) \times \mathsf{P}^{(A)}$$
$$\mathsf{P} = \sum_A \mathsf{P}^{(A)}.$$

Adiabatic Solution: Each  $P^{(A)}$  lie mostly on the plane defined by *B* and P with a small component perpendicular to that plane.

$$\mathsf{P}^{(\mathcal{A})} = \alpha_{\mathcal{A}}\mathcal{B} + \beta_{\mathcal{A}}\mathsf{P} + \gamma_{\mathcal{A}}(\mathcal{B}\times\mathsf{P}),$$
$$\sum_{\mathcal{A}}\alpha_{\mathcal{A}} = 0, \quad \sum_{\mathcal{A}}\beta_{\mathcal{A}} = 1, \quad \sum_{\mathcal{A}}\gamma_{\mathcal{A}} = 0.$$

If initially all N neutrinos have the same flavor, then in the mass basis would be  $\alpha_0 = 0$ ,  $\beta_0 = 1/N$ , and  $\gamma_0 = 0$ .

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\mathsf{P} = \left(\sum_{A}\beta_{A}\omega_{A}\right)\left(\mathcal{B}\times\mathsf{P}\right) + \left(\sum_{A}\gamma_{A}\omega_{A}\right)\left[\left(\mathcal{B}\cdot\mathsf{P}\right)\mathcal{B}-\mathsf{P}\right]$$

Adopt for the mass basis and define  $\Gamma = (\sum_A \gamma_A \omega_A)$ . Unless  $\Gamma$  is positive the solutions for  $P_x$  and  $P_y$  exponentially grow.

$$P_{x,y} = \Pi_{x,y} \exp\left(-\int \Gamma(t)dt\right)$$
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\Pi_x = \left(\sum_A \beta_A \omega_A\right) \Pi_y, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\Pi_y = -\left(\sum_A \beta_A \omega_A\right) \Pi_x.$$

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In the mean-field approximation  $\Pi_x$  and  $\Pi_y$  precess around  $\mathcal{B}$  with a time-dependent frequency (through the time-dependence of  $\beta_A$ s). Then  $P_x$  and  $P_y$  also precess similarly while decaying due to the exponential terms. Hence asymptotically  $P_x$  and  $P_y$  tend to be very small. Then x and y components of each  $P^{(A)}$  are asymptotically very small. Since  $|P^{(A)}|^2 = 1$  for uncorrelated neutrinos, it then follows that

$$\left(\mathsf{P}_{z}^{(A)}\right)^{2}\sim1$$

asymptotically. Consequently allowed asymptotic values of  $P_z^{(A)}$  are  $\sim \pm 1$ . Since the constant of motion  $\sum_A P_z^{(A)}$  (in the mass basis) is fixed by the initial conditions, some of the final  $P_z^{(A)}$  values will be +1 and some of them will be -1. This is the "spectral split" phenomenon. Depending on the initial conditions, there may exist one or more spectral splits.



## We find that the presence of spectral splits is a good proxy for deviations from the mean-field results





Patwardhan, Cervia, Balantekin, arXiv:2109.08995 Phys. Rev. D 104, 123035 (2021)



Patwardhan, Cervia, Balantekin, arXiv:2109.08995

# What are the next steps?

 Explore the efficacy of tensor methods utilizing invariants obtained in the Bethe ansatz approach.
Cervia, Siwach, Patwardhan, Balantekin, Coppersmith, Johnson, Phys. Rev. D 105, 123025 (2022), arXiv: 2202.01865

#### Computation times:



Cervia, Siwach, Patwardhan, Balantekin, Coppersmith, Johnson, arXiv:2202.01865

# What are the next steps?

- Explore the efficacy of tensor methods utilizing invariants obtained in the Bethe ansatz approach.
  Cervia, Siwach, Patwardhan, Balantekin, Coppersmith, Johnson, Phys. Rev. D 105, 123025 (2022), arXiv: 2202.01865
- Explore the impact of using many-body solution instead of the meanfield solution in calculating element synthesis (especially r- and rpprocess).
  X. Wang, Patwardhan, Cervia, Surman, Balantekin, in preparation.
- There are three flavors of neutrinos, not two: qubits → qutrits Siwach, Suliga, Balantekin, Phys. Rev. D 107, 023019 (2023).



Time evolution for 12 neutrinos (initially six  $v_e$  and six  $v_x$ ). D is the bond dimension. The largest possible value of D is  $2^6$ =64.

#### Entanglement in three-flavor collective oscillations



Pooja Siwach, Anna Suliga, A.B. Balantekin Physical Review D 107 (2023) 2, 023019



# CONCLUSIONS

- Calculations performed using the mean-field approximation have revealed a lot of interesting physics about collective behavior of neutrinos in astrophysical environments. Here we have explored possible scenarios where further interesting features can arise by going beyond this approximation.
- We found that the deviation of the adiabatic many-body results from the mean field results is largest for neutrinos with energies around the spectral split energies. In our single-angle calculations we observe a broadening of the spectral split region. This broadening does not appear in single-angle mean-field calculations and seems to be larger than that was observed in multi-angle mean-field calculations (or with BSM physics).
- This suggests hybrid calculations may be efficient: many-body calculations near the spectral split and mean-field elsewhere.
- There is a strong dependence on the initial conditions.



Thank you very much!